CT2/3033W  Lives of Faith: Biography as Theology

Offered:  2016: Semester 1

This unit will examine the character of Christian faith as evident in the life stories of a number of theologians. It will draw specifically upon the methodology of James W McClendon to identify how the life-experience of these persons has influenced their distinctive approach to theology and Christian faith. It will also provide opportunity for each student to explore the theological significance of their own life story.

Upon successful completion of this unit, it is expected that students will be able to:
1. Explain critically McClendon’s methodology for using biography as theology;
2. Apply that methodology in the study of several biographies;
3. Outline and discuss the character of faith as seen in the life and work of one major theologian;
4. Identify possible implications for their own lives, as a source for theological reflection.
5. Level 3: Critically evaluate the use of life stories as a source for theology.

Prerequisites:
Level 2: 15 points in Systematic Theology (CT)
Level 3: 30 points in Systematic Theology (CT)

Class Time: 4 x weekends (Friday evening and Saturday morning)

Assessment:
Level 2: One 1,500 word book review (30%)
One 1,000 word seminar paper (20%)
One 2,500 word essay (50%)

Level 3: One 1,500 word book review (30%)
One 1,000 word seminar paper (20%)
One 3,000 word essay (50%)

Faculty: Frank Rees

Recommended Reading:
* = set texts recommended for purchase