Comprehensive Examination Reading List
Joint MA in Philosophy and Theology

Note 1: The reading list will be comprised of the below texts, which are required of all students, and five or six more texts that will be selected from the readings found on the syllabi of courses a student has taken in his/her chosen area of concentration.

Note 2: The examination is to be scheduled during or after the final semester of the student’s work in the program. In consultation with a faculty member specialized in that area of concentration, the director(s) of the program will formulate four questions that suggest answers requiring recourse to both dimensions of the overall reading list. Students will be given one week to write answers, which are to be given to the director(s) on email attachment. An oral examination of 60 minutes will then be scheduled at a suitable date and time before or else during examination week. At the examination, the director(s) and at least one faculty member working in the student’s area of concentration will pose questions formulated in response to a reading of the written answers. The faculty will then vote on a grade of either Fail, Pass or Pass with Distinction.

Standard Reading List

I. Theology

A. Required

- Athanasius, *On the Incarnation*
- Augustine, *Confessions*
- Anselm of Canterbury, *Proslogion* and *Cur Deus Homo*
- Thomas Aquinas, *Summa Theologicae*, I, q 1-31, 43 (God); I-II, q 62, & II-II, q 1-7, 23-27 (theological virtues); I-II, q 109-114 (grace); III, q 1-26 (Christ)
- Martin Luther, “On Christian Liberty” and “Open Letter to Pope Leo X”
- Teresa of Avila, *Interior Castle*
- Karl Barth, *Church Dogmatics*, selections from I/1 *The Doctrine of the Word of God* and IV/1 *The Doctrine of Reconciliation*; or *Dogmatics in Outline*

B. One each of the following sets of three

1.

- Elizabeth A. Johnson, *She Who Is: The Mystery of God in Feminist Theological Discourse*
- James H. Cone, *A Black Theology of Liberation*

2.

- Vladimir Lossky, *The Mystical Theology of the Eastern Church*
- John D. Zizioulas, *Being as Communion: Studies in Personhood and the Church*
II. Philosophy

A. Required

- Plato, *Republic*
- Aristotle, *Nicomachean Ethics*
- Descartes, *Meditations on First Philosophy*
- Kant, *Grounding of the Metaphysics of Morals*
- Hegel, *Introduction to the Philosophy of History*
- Nietzsche, *Genealogy of Morality*

B. One each of the following sets of three:

1.  
   - Foucault, *A History of Sexuality*, vol. I

2.  
   - Austin, *How to Do Things with Words*
   - Wittgenstein, *Philosophical Investigations*
   - Frege, "On Sense and Reference"; Moore, *Principia Ethica*, chapters I and V.

[September 1, 2015, lightly revised August 30, 2018]