



ST. ATHANASIUS & ST. CYRIL  
COPTIC ORTHODOX THEOLOGICAL SCHOOL

## COURSE OFFERINGS Spring 2020

1. **ACTS 2001 INTRODUCTION TO THEOLOGICAL RESEARCH AND WRITING** with **Dr. Sarah Morcos (ASL)**. This seminar introduces seminary students to graduate-level research and writing skills with specific attention to academic writing, theological research, citations, and elements of writing style. The seminar introduces the nature of theological reflection and “thinking theologically” concerning various topics and issues they encounter in academic study and ministry.
2. **ACTS 3011 ADVANCED GREEK** with **Dr. Ramez Mikhail (ASL)**. This course provides a preliminary study of Koine based on the New Testament. The basic concepts of New Testament Greek grammar, syntax, and vocabulary are studied and applied to the text of the Gospels. This course is for students who have little or no prior knowledge of Greek. A basic outline of the Grammar, both in etymology and syntax, sufficient for earlier stages of the study with graduated exercises will be introduced. Examples to be studied will be taken primarily from the Scriptures and from the Greek language in the Coptic liturgy.
3. **ACTS 3023 BIBLICAL APOLOGETICS** with **Dr. George Tadros** and **Fr. Gregory Bishay (ASL)**. This course will explore how to defend the faith (1 Pet 3:15), answer every question (Col. 4:6), reason with others (Acts 18:4), and cast down arguments (2 Cor 10:5) regarding the basic principles of the faith. This course assists servants to reactively respond to questions by removing intellectual and existential barriers, while proactively sharing the relevant message of the Gospel.
4. **ACTS 3025 INTRODUCTION TO THE NEW TESTAMENT** with **Dr. Eugenia Constantinou, (SYN)**. Selected SATURDAYS 9:00 AM- 2:00 PM PST (Feb. 8, 15, 29; Mar. 14, 28; Apr 25, May 2 and May 9). This course is an introduction to the New Testament, the Orthodox understanding of the New Testament and its interpretation, as well as an introduction to the field of modern biblical studies. Together we will survey the history, culture, geography, literary aspects, authorship, theology and important themes of the New Testament and its books. We will also explore the formation of the New Testament canon, manuscripts and issues of translation. We will study the persons, interpretive style and techniques of important early patristic interpreters as well as the theories and methods employed in modern biblical studies.
5. **ACTS 3045 HOLY WEEK** with **Dr. Ramez Mikhail (ASL)**. This course is an examination of the origins and development of the Coptic liturgical tradition of Holy Week, comprising the services for Lazarus Saturday, Palm Sunday, Holy Week, and the Resurrection. An initial survey of liturgical time, the liturgical year, and the development of feasts in the Early Church paves the way for exploring the Coptic services of Holy Week as a unique expression of the paschal mystery in the life of Coptic Orthodox Christians reflected in medieval primary sources.
6. **ACTS 3055: INTRODUCTION TO APOLOGETICS** with **Fr. Gregory Bishay (ASL)**. Live sessions will be on WEDNESDAYS, 6:00 PM-9:00 PM PST but students who cannot attend live can view later. Live attendance is encouraged. This course will explore how to defend the faith (1 Pet 3:15), answer every question (Col. 4:6), reason with others (Acts 18:4), and cast down arguments (2 Cor. 10:5) regarding the basic principles of the Faith. This course assists servants to reactively respond to questions by removing intellectual and existential barriers, while proactively sharing the relevant message of the Gospel. This course will prepare and equip servants to respond to basic challenges of the faith.
7. **ACTS 3060 INTRODUCTION TO DOGMATICS** with **H.E. Metropolitan Serapion, H.G. Bishop Kyrillos, and Fr. Kyrillos Ibrahim** on SUNDAYS **(ASL)** This course introduces the dogmatic content of Orthodox theology, with a special focus on Trinitarian Theology and Christology.
8. **ACTS 3062 CREATION, DECREATION and RECREATION** with **H.E. Metropolitan Serapion and H.G. Bishop Kyrillos (SYN)**, MONDAYS, 6:00-9:00PM (Jan 13, Jan 20, Feb. 10, Feb. 17, Feb. 24, Mar 2, Mar 9, Mar 16, Mar 23, Mar 30; and April 20). Salvation is the very heart of the Gospel, the “good news” to mankind. Throughout the history of the Church, there were many debates concerning the meaning of salvation with some viewing salvation as our participation with Christ and others viewing salvation in a juridical way. At the heart of these various views of salvation are different understandings of the creation and fall of mankind. The dynamics of salvation are necessarily intertwined with the first and subsequent states of human beings in Paradise and after the Fall. For example, what was Adam’s nature before the Fall? How did it change after the Fall? In what way did Adam’s sin usher death and the consequences of death into the world? This course will examine the various perceptions of Adam’s sin and the Fall while connecting them to the different understandings of salvation throughout the history of the Church. At the end of the course, students will have a better comprehension of Orthodox anthropology and soteriology as well as other theological constructs of salvation.
9. **ACTS 3096 CHILD DEVELOPMENT** with **Fr. Jonah Labib, MACL, Psy.D.** THURSDAYS, 7:00-9:00PM **(SYN)** Child development covers the full range of childhood and adolescence chronologically, encompassing the prenatal period, infancy and toddler-hood, the preschool years, middle childhood, and adolescence. Within these periods, the text focuses on physical, cognitive, and social and personality development.

### IMPORTANT SPRING 2020 DATES

Dec. 1, 2019	Registration Opens	January 28	Payment due in full, or payment plan required
January 13, 2020	First Day of Classes	February 11	Last day for partial (50%) Refund
January 19, 2020	Eve of the Feast of Theophany, No classes	April 11-19	Holy Pascha Week, No classes.
January 28	Last day to Add/Drop	May 3-9	Finals Week

### Distributive Learning and Course Modalities

+ *Synchronously (SYN)*– Synchronous Learning Model a course where instruction takes place with student and instructor physically present or online at the same time. Attendance and participation are typically taken for these courses from the live sessions.

+ *Asynchronously (ASL)*- Asynchronous Learning model is a pre-constructed model where students watch pre-recorded material during the week and on their own time schedule such that they meet the weekly requirements in the syllabus. Instructors provide materials, lectures, tests, and assignments throughout the course.

+ *Intensive Courses* – a course where classes gather face-to-face over a short period of time, either live online or in person usually for 1 or 2 weeks, but other formats have been done. Almost all instruction is classroom-based, engaged in these intensive periods, this is a synchronous course.

+ *Hybrid Courses* – a course that meet 3 to 7 times live online or live on campus, on different days, plus online asynchronous learning.