

SYLLABUS
Introduction to Theology

CURRICULUM	Theology, Professional Higher Education
NAME OF THE SUBJECT	<i>Introduction to Theology</i>
CODE	RAK/1.01.03
VOLUME	3 ECTS
LECTURER	MA Allan Kährik
LEARNING OBJECTIVE	To provide an overview of the different approaches and definitions of theology, and its structure, methods and role, as well as of its function in the church life. Main theological concepts and general relationships between the various fields of theology are dealt with.
LEARNING OUTCOMES	On completion of the course student <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • knows the main specialty terminology and is able to use it; • can make difference between various starting points and sources of theologizing; • knows the main components and structure of theology as a discipline and can see the main connections between the theological disciplines (can analyse and synthesise); • can understand the means of implementation of theology and topical main problems; • is able to find connections between theology and the daily life (church, society, local community), and common activities; • understands the needs and possibilities for cooperation in education and training (team work); • knows how to find and use relevant information (library, IT facilities in searching for information); • dares to discuss the theological topics (oral expression); • has acquired the principles of preparation and submission of written assignment (written academic self-expression skills).
DESCRIPTION OF THE CONTENT OF THE SUBJECT, MAIN TOPICS	The course identifies the assumptions and background systems for theological thinking, defines the concept of theology, and considers the theological sources, structure and methods. Special focus is laid on the necessity of theology in the Church and Christian life and activities.
PREREQUISITE SUBJECTS	–
EDUCATIONAL LITERATURE, TEACHING MATERIALS	<u>Compulsory literature:</u> Ford, David F. Teoloogia: Põgus sissejuhatus. Tartu: Tartu Ülikooli Kirjastus 2014. Theological concepts; Training in ordination related professions in the Communion of Protestant Churches in Europe. http://kjt.ee/2014/09/valjaope-ordinatsiooniga-seotud-ametiks-evangeelsete-kirikute-osaduseseuroopas-1-osa/ ; http://kjt.ee/2014/10/valjaope-ordinatsiooniga-seotud-ametiks-evangeelsetekirikute-osaduses-euroopas-2-osa/ 04.10.2014

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	<p><u>Recommended literature:</u> Aurelius, Erik. Jumala mäng. Tallinn: EPS; Sire, James W. Universumi ukseksel. Tallinn: Logos, 1997; Clarke, William Newton. An Outline of Christian Theology. Edinburgh: T.&T. Clark. 1908; Karner, Karoly. Sissejuhatus Teoloogiase. Manuscript at the IT; Küng, Hans. Kristlaseks olemisest. 1975 (translated by IT); Hodgson, Peter, King, Robert (eds), Christian Theology: An Introduction to Its Traditions and Tasks. Fortress Press, 1982; McGrath, Alister E. Christian Theology: An Introduction. Oxford: Blackwell, 2011; Stott, John. Ristiusu alused. Tallinn: Logos, 1993. Thielicke, Helmut. Pisuke harjutus noortele teoloogidele (translated by IT); Whitehead, James D. Method in Ministry. Wisconsin: Sheed & Ward. 1999, pp 1-19.</p>
<p>ASSESSMENT METHODS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written examination • Oral presentation and participation in discussion • Written exercise on method • Collective exercise in seeking information • Test
<p>ASSESSMENT CRITERIA</p>	<p>a) Written examination</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Questions based on Ford 2014 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All questions must be answered briefly. • The student chooses one of the questions for a more comprehensive answer. • The student prepares the presentation of the question and his/her answer in the seminary. • The student presents his/her response to a small group (3-4 students). • The student also formulates two discussion questions that arise from his/her chosen question and the answer to this question. 2. Article "Training in ordination related professions in the Communion of Protestant Churches in Europe" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The student formulates the function of theology in Christian life and church service activities on the basis of the article. • The student analyses the objectives of his/her studies in the IT on the basis of the article. • The student formulates a narrower field of theology, which he/she wants to focus on in the future, and briefly justifies the choice. <p>b) Exercise on method – an analysis of one theological problem from the point of view of different areas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students read through the text “Everyday Theology”. • Students implement the described four-part method in an analysis of one religion/theology related problem. <p>c) Definition of theology (collective assignment)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group members decide themselves the procedure for doing the

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	<p>exercise and they also decide who finalizes the assignment and presents their work to the lecturer.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The students find ten definitions of theology (using all kinds of resources). • Each student formulates his/her own working definition, i.e. how he/she defines theology. <p>Definitions are presented electronically.</p> <p>d) Test about knowledge of concepts. For this multiple-choice test, the number of points received for correct answers is in correlation with classical but slightly upgraded grading scale by the teacher, whereby</p> <p>A - excellent -90-100% B - very good -80-89% C - good - 70-79% D - satisfactory -60-69% E - sufficient - 50-59% F - insufficient -20-49% G - terrible - 0-19%</p> <p>A final grade follows the same scale.</p> <p>Proportions of the assessed assignments: Written examination - 70% Exercise on method - 15% Collective assignment - 10% Test - 5%</p>
TEACHING METHODS	<p>Independent studies with texts and composition of texts based on the reading; lectures; seminars; collective independent practical learning activities.</p>