

**SYLLABUS**  
*Philosophy of Religion*

<b>CURRICULUM</b>	<b>Master's Studies in Christian Culture</b>
<b>NAME OF THE SUBJECT</b>	<b><i>Philosophy of Religion</i></b>
<b>CODE</b>	UTII/2.04.02
<b>VOLUME</b>	3 ECTS
<b>LECTURER</b>	Dr Theol Thomas-Andreas Pöder
<b>LEARNING OBJECTIVE</b>	Introduction to Philosophy of Religion, emphasis is laid on issues about the relationship between Christian theology and philosophy, and issues about ratio of philosophical and theological approaches to God and religion.
<b>LEARNING OUTCOMES</b>	On completion of the course student <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• knows well both classic and today's main problems and basic models of philosophy of religion;</li> <li>• discusses critically and argumentatively about the relationship between philosophy and theology;</li> <li>• combines theological and philosophical perspectives to better understand faith and life lived in faith.</li> </ul>
<b>DESCRIPTION OF THE CONTENT OF THE SUBJECT, MAIN TOPICS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Determined indeterminacy as a problem</li> <li>• Determining the Absolute</li> <li>• Difficulties in thinking of God</li> <li>• Determined thinking of God</li> <li>• Theological forms of thinking</li> <li>• Productive indeterminacy at the heart of Christianity</li> <li>• Theology and philosophy</li> <li>• Revelation, reflection, orientation in life</li> </ul> <p><i>Independently:</i> the meaning of God's presence or an overview of the main problems of philosophy of religion or a question what really is the philosophy of religion.</p> <p>Course structure and schedule:</p> <p>I Study session Lecture Introduction. God's thinking. What does it mean? Challenges and forms of thinking, 2/1 God's thinking. What does it mean? Challenges and forms of thinking, 2/2</p> <p>II Study session Seminar 1h: Introduction + 1. The Rationality of Theology 2h: 2. The Origins of Theology 3h: 3. Christian Theology 1h: 4. Perspectives and the Quest of Harmony 5. The Two-Books Model 6. The Nature-Grace Model 7. The Law-Gospel Model 2h: 8. The Reason-Revelation Model 9. The Difference-in-Unity Model</p>

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	<p>3h: 10. The Unity-in-Difference Model 11. Harmony without Identity</p> <p>III Study session Seminar</p> <p>1h: 12. Reflection and the Quest for Clarity 13. The Content of Revelation and the Knowledge of God 14. Types of Reflective Knowledge about God 15. Metaphysical Theology in the Paradigm of Reflection 16. Metaphysical Theology in the Paradigm of Self-Reflection</p> <p>2h: 17. Revelational Theology 3h: 18. Revelation and Orientation</p> <p>IV Study session Examination</p>
<p><b>PREREQUISITE SUBJECTS</b></p>	<p>–</p>
<p><b>EDUCATIONAL LITERATURE, TEACHING MATERIALS</b></p>	<p><u>Material forming basis for the seminars:</u> Ingolf U. Dalferth, <i>Theology and Philosophy, Signposts in Theology</i>, Oxford-New York: Basil Blackwell, 1988 (basic material for the seminar; one written assignment to be presented orally ca 10-15 min) (located in the course materials subsection at the library of the IT) Choose one book from the list below to write your report of reading (ca 5-7 pp, spacing 1,5, Times New Roman, deadline: 25.01.2016): David A. Palin, <i>Groundwork of Philosophy of Religion</i>, Epworth: London, 1986 /ca 240 pp/ (located in the course materials subsection at the library of the IT) Peter Fischer, <i>Philosophie der Religion</i>, Göttingen: Vandenhoeck &amp; Ruprecht, 2007 /ca 220 pp/ (located in the course materials subsection at the library of the IT) Ingolf U. Dalferth, <i>Becoming Present. An Inquiry into the Christian Sense of the Presence of God</i>, Studies in Philosophical Theology, Leuven-Paris-Dudley, MA: Peters, 2006 /ca 270 pp/ (located in the course materials subsection at the library of the IT) Ingolf U. Dalferth, "I. Orientierungsphilosophische Religionsphilosophie", in: <i>Die Wirklichkeit des Möglichen. Hermeneutische Religionsphilosophie</i>, 1-206 (located in the course materials subsection at the library of the IT) + Hermann Deuser, "Einleitung", in: <i>Religionsphilosophie</i>, de Gruyter Lehrbuch, Berlin-New York: Walter de Gruyter, 1-55 (located in the course materials subsection at the library of the IT)</p> <p><u>Recommended literature:</u> The Blackwell guide to the philosophy of religion, Mann, William E., editor, Malden (MA), Oxford, Carlton (Australia): Blackwell Publishing, 2005 (located in the course materials subsection at the library of the IT) <i>Reason and Religious Belief. An Introduction to the Philosophy of</i></p>

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	<p>Religion, ed. by Peterson, M. <i>et al.</i>, 3rd edition, Oxford UP, 2003 (University of Tartu library) Jean-Luc Marion, God without being, translated by Thomas A. Carlson; with a foreword by David Tracy, Chicago-London: University of Chicago Press, 1991 (National Library of Estonia) Friedo Ricken, Religionsphilosophie, Grundkurs Philosophie, Bd. 17, Stuttgart: Kohlhammer, 2003 (located in the course materials subsection at the library of the IT)</p>
<b>ASSESSMENT METHODS</b>	Written examination.
<b>ASSESSMENT CRITERIA</b>	<p>Requirements for taking the examination: participation in lectures and seminars; written assignment to be presented orally in the seminar (see below; should be prepared in written!); report of reading (see below). Possibilities to submit undone assignments later: must be agreed with the lecturer.</p>
<b>TEACHING METHODS</b>	<p>1. Lectures 2. Seminars 3. Independent assignments: 1) Working through the material forming basis for the seminars (ca 200 pages) + preparation of one written assignment (ca 10-15 min). 2) Working through the second book from the given selection (ca 220-270 pages) + preparation of report of reading (ca 5-7 pages).</p> <p>Between study sessions I-V: read the introduction to the material forming basis for the seminars and chapters 1-11 (ca 150 pages) + the second book (see the choice given below).</p> <p>Between study sessions V-VI: read the chapters 12-17 of the material forming basis for the seminars (ca 50 pages) + the second selected book .</p> <p>Between study sessions VI-VII: read the second selected book and prepare the report of reading (ca 5-7 pages by January 25 the latest) + revision for the examination.</p>