

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	Allan Kährik
LEARNING OBJECTIVE	To provide an overview of the various understandings, different approaches and definitions of theology, its structure, methods, role, functions and tasks in the life, teaching and service of the church. Main theological concepts and general connections between the various fields and different subject areas of theology are discussed.
LEARNING OUTCOMES	On successful completion of the course student <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • knows basic specialty terminology and is able to use it in discussions about theological and church related issues; • can distinguish between different 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 (analysis and synthesis ability); • is able to find connections between theology and the daily life (church, society, local community); • understands the ways of applying theology to current basic problems of theology, church and society; • understands the needs and possibilities for cooperation in learning and training (teamwork); • can find and use relevant information (library, IT information search facilities); • dares to discuss the theological topics in the seminary (oral expression skills); • 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	During the course, the assumptions, prerequisites, and background systems for thinking and doing theology are identified, the concept of theology is defined, and the sources, structure and methods of theology are considered. Special attention has been paid to the necessity of theology for the life and functioning of the church and Christian life.
PREREQUISITE SUBJECTS	–
EDUCATIONAL LITERATURE, TEACHING MATERIALS	Mandatory study literature: Ford, David F. 2014. Teoloogia: Põgus sissejuhatus. Tartu: Tartu Ülikooli Kirjastus. Väljaõpe ordinatsiooniga seotud ametiks Evangeelsete Kirikute Osaduses Euroopas. 2012. https://eelk.ee/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/V%C3%A4lja%C3%B5pe-ordinatsiooniga-seotud-ametiks-Evangeelsete-Kirikute-Osaduses-Euroopas-2012.pdf , 14.01.2023

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	<p>Küng, Hans. 1975. Kristlaseks olemisest. (Study resource);</p> <p>Thielicke, Helmut.1962. Pisuke harjutus noortele teoloogidele (study resource);</p> <p>Theological concepts (study resource);</p> <p>For further reading:</p> <p>Aurelius, Erik. 1999. Jumala mäng. Tallinn: EPS;</p> <p>Sire, James W. 1997. Universumi ukse. Tallinn: Logos;</p> <p>Clarke, William Newton. 1908. An Outline of Christian Theology. Edinburgh: T.&T. Clark;</p> <p>Ford, David, F. 2013. Theology. A Very Short Introduction. Oxford: Oxford University Press;</p> <p>Karner, Karoly. 1950. Sissejuhatus Teoloogiasse. (study resource);</p> <p>Küng, Hans. 1975. On Being A Christian. New York: Doubleday & Company, Inc.;</p> <p>Hodgson, Peter, King, Robert (eds). 1982. Christian Theology: An Introduction to Its Traditions and Tasks. Fortress Press;</p> <p>McGrath, Alister E. 2017. Christian Theology: An Introduction. Oxford: Blackwell;</p> <p>Stott, John. 1993. Ristiusu alused. Tallinn: Logos;</p> <p>Thielicke, Helmut. 1962. A little exercise for young theologians. Michigan: Wm.B.Eerdmans Publishing Co;</p> <p>Whitehead, James D. 1999. Method in Ministry. Wisconsin: Sheed & Ward. pp 1-19.</p>
TEACHING METHODS	<p>Lectures; seminars; collective independent practical learning activities; Individual learning, based on texts and assessment tasks.</p>
ASSESSMENT METHODS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written exam with a presentation in seminary; • Collective information retrieval exercise in defining theology; • Test.
ASSESSMENT CRITERIA	<p>Proportions of the assessed assignments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Written exam - 80% (60% + 20%) 2. Collective exercise - 10% 3. Test - 10%

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1. Written exam with a presentation in seminary:
 - a. Questions based on Ford 2014. (60%)
 - i. All questions must be answered briefly.
 - ii. The student chooses one of the questions for a more comprehensive answer.
 - iii. The student prepares the presentation of this question and his/her answer in the seminary.
 - iv. The student presents his/her response to a small group (3-4 students).
 - v. The student also formulates two discussion questions that arise from his/her chosen question and the answer to this question.
 - b. Tasks based on the article "Training in ordination related professions in the Communion of Protestant Churches in Europe". (20%)
 - i. Based on the article, the student formulates the function of theology in the life of a Christian and in the ecclesiastical ministry.
 - ii. The student analyses the goals of his/her studies in the Institute of Theology based on the article.
 - iii. The student formulates a narrower field of theology that he/she wants to focus on in the future, and briefly justifies this choice.
2. Definition of theology (collective exercise). (10%)
 - i. The members of the whole group themselves plan the procedure for completing the exercise and decide who will formalize their work and submit it to the lecturer.
 - ii. Students find as many definitions of theology as there are members on the group (using all kinds of resources and aids).
 - iii. Each of the students formulates his/her own working definition, i.e. how he/she defines theology.
 - iv. Definitions are submitted electronically in one file.
3. Test on concepts. (10%)
 - i. Test is performed electronically in Moodle.
 - ii. There are multiple possibilities to take the test and answer the questions but every additional attempt will result in a potential diminishment of the actual score point given for this particular test question.

Assessment scale correlates with the classic, but slightly improved rating scale, according to which

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	<p>Positive result</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A - Excellent 90-100%B - Very Good 80-89%C - Good 70-79%D - Satisfactory 60-69%E - Weak 50-59% <p>Negative result</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">F - Insufficient 0-49%
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