



Exchange programme Vrije Universiteit

Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam - Exchange programme Vrije Universiteit - 2021-2022

Dogmatics

Course Code	G_BATRSPC113
Credits	6
Period	P5
Course Level	100
Language Of Tuition	English
Faculty	Faculty of Religion and Theology
Course Coordinator	prof. dr. H. van den Belt
Examiner	prof. dr. H. van den Belt
Teaching Staff	prof. dr. H. van den Belt
Teaching method(s)	Lecture, Seminar

Course Objective

Students will be able to:

- reflect on the character of academic theology in several historical contexts.
- explain how systematic theology as an academic discipline relates to the other theological disciplines.
- recognize important positions, movements and concepts in dogmatics and of key moments in its history.
- reflect systematically on the Christian faith and on a number of the dogmatic topics in their mutual relationships.
- give their justified opinion about contested issues in Christian dogmatics.
- read theological texts analytically.
- find relevant secondary literature and summarize it adequately.

Course Content

The content of Christian theology will be discussed from the textbook Christian Dogmatics. The topics include the prolegomena, the doctrines of God, revelation, covenant, christology, soteriology, pneumatology, scripture, and ecclesiology. In addition, the character of theology as an academic discipline in pre-modern, modern and post-modern contexts will be discussed.

Teaching Methods

In class the topics will be lectured on and discussed with the students. On Canvas theological texts will be made accessible. They will be discussed during the classes. In this way students will become familiar with texts from important theologians, who will briefly be introduced theologically.

Method of Assessment

Students will have to select an academic article in which one of the theological topics is discussed. They will write a QuARQu (Dutch: KAVV) about this article, in which they choose an important Quote, summarize the Argument, show the Relation with the textbook and formulate a Question.

This QuARQu will assess the student's ability to a) screen and assess relevant literature, and b) analyse a theological argument

The exam will have the form of a written exam or - in case the course is offered completely online - of an exam at home that has to be finished within a fixed period.

The exam will assess the student's ability to a) interpret theological texts, b) to assess these texts from existing theories, c) to articulate their own position, and d) to explain the relevance of systematic theology for theology in general and for societal issues

QARQ 30% / written exam 70%.

Literature

Gijsbert van den Brink and Cornelis van der Kooi, Christian Dogmatics:
An Introduction (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2017), ISBN: 9780802872654.