

Concordia Theological Seminary
Continuing Education

LUTHER, ISLAM AND THE WEST

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Course Description

Since the late seventh and early eighth century, as the nascent Muslim state burgeoned into an empire, Christians have had significant and sustained contact with Muslims. The greatest conflict between Islam and the West, however, occurred during the Lutheran Reformation when the Ottoman Empire began its rapid expansion into Eastern Europe. This course surveys Luther's multi-faceted approach to what has been characterized as the Turk's "great *jihād par excellence*" on Europe with a view towards assessing his contribution to the history of Christian approaches to Islam.

Course Outline

1. The Rise of Islam

Read: Goddard, *A History of Christian-Muslim Relations*, 5-78

2. Islam and Medieval Europe

Read: Goddard, *A History of Christian-Muslim Relations*, 79-108

3. Islam and the Reformation

Read: Goddard, *A History of Christian-Muslim Relations*, 109-123

4. Luther on the Turks

Read: Goddard, *A History of Christian-Muslim Relations*, 109-123

Miller, "Luther on the Turks and Islam," 79-97.

Francisco, "Luther's Critique of and Response to Islam," 119-136.

5. Luther on Islam

Read: Goddard, *A History of Christian-Muslim Relations*, 109-123;

Miller, "Luther on the Turks and Islam," 79-97.

Francisco, "Luther's Critique of and Response to Islam," 119-136.

6. Modern Christianity and Islam

Read: Goddard, *A History of Christian-Muslim Relations*, 123-176

7. Christianity and the Challenge of Islam

Read: Goddard, *A History of Christian-Muslim Relations*, 177-198

Pre-Course Assignments

Read: A.S. Francisco, "Luther's Critique of and Response to Islam," in *Theologia et Apologia: Essays in Reformation Theology and Its Defense*, ed. Francisco et al. (Wipf & Stock, 2007), 119-136.

H. Goddard, *A History of Christian-Muslim Relations* (New Amsterdam, 2000).

Gregory Miller, "Luther on the Turks and Islam," *Lutheran Quarterly* 14 (2000): 79-97.

Required Texts

A.S. Francisco, "Luther's Critique of and Response to Islam," in *Theologia et Apologia: Essays in Reformation Theology and Its Defense*, ed. Francisco et al. (Wipf & Stock, 2007), 119-136. [**Copies of essay will be supplied.**]

H. Goddard, *A History of Christian-Muslim Relations* (New Amsterdam, 2000).

Gregory Miller, "Luther on the Turks and Islam," *Lutheran Quarterly* 14 (2000): 79-97.

Suggested Reading

T.E. Burman, *Reading the Qur'ān in Latin Christendom, 1142-1560* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2007).

A.S. Francisco, *Martin Luther and Islam: A Study in Sixteenth-Century Polemics and Apologetics* (E.J. Brill, 2007).

B. Lewis, *Islam and the West* (Oxford University Press, 1994).

J.V. Tolan, *Saracens: Islam in the Medieval European Imagination* (Columbia University Press, 2002).