

Luther's Writings

Academic credits

2 KP (3 ECTS)

Prerequisites

Church History III (History of Reformation)

Approved by

Methodological Commission (August 2021)

Course Author and Lecturer

Dr. Guntis Kalme guntiskalme@hotmail.com

Content

An analysis of the evolution of M. Luther's theological thinking on the basis of viewing his main works, with a special focus on the so-called *early Luther*. It highlights his discussion with the scholastic paradigm and the importance of creating a new, Lutheran theological paradigm, pointing to the permanence of Luther's theological thinking from scholastic (nominalism), on the one hand, and originality in responding to the theological challenges of his own era, on the other. It is focused on Luther's contribution to a new paradigm of theological anthropology – *cross theology* – in the theological thinking of the West.

Aims

1. Build a Lutheran and academic understanding of the peculiarities of M. Luther's theological evolution by analyzing specific works by him.
2. Demonstrate the link between the themes of M. Luther's works and the ways to address the problems they contain and today's theological highlights.

Learning Outcomes

Knowledge

The students will know:

- | | |
|---|---------------|
| - The main stages of Luther's theological development and the logic of development. | Seminar, |
| - Basic thoughts of Luther's main writings | Presentation, |
| | Examination |

Skills

The students will be able to:

- | | |
|---|---------------|
| - identify the theological beliefs of early and late Luther and justify their reasoning | Seminar, |
| - explain the basic ideas of Luther's <i>cross theology</i> | Presentation, |
| | Report, |

Assessment

Competencies

The students will be able to:

- use the basic principles of Luther's theological guidelines in their theological discourse
 - use the basic ideas of Luther's main works in their practical service
- Seminar,
Presentation,
Report,
Examination

FULL-TIME STUDIES

Lesson Plan

| <i>Subject</i> | <i>Academic hours (45 min)</i> |
|---|------------------------------------|
| 1 Introduction. M. Luther's creation of a paradigm of theological thinking, <i>the early and late Luther</i> . Expenditure of M. Luther's works | 3 |
| 2 M. Luther's medieval roots – monasticism, mysticism and scholastics | 3 |
| 3 M. Luther's theological growth in the 1513-1518 s. <i>Lectures on Psalms, Comment of the Romans, Comment of Galatians 1516-7, Comment on the Hebrews.</i> | 3 |
| 4 Early works of M. Luther': <i>Dispute against Scholastic Theology in 1517 – 97, 95 theses, Sermon on Indulgences and Mercy 1518 g., 95 Theses explanation; Tower discovery</i> | 3 |
| 5 Seminar I | 3 |
| 6. <i>Heidelberg dispute 1518 - Luther cross theology</i> | 3 |
| 7. <i>Leipzig dispute 1519; M. Luther's 1520 works: To the Christian Nobility of the German Nation, On the Babylonian Captivity of the Church, and On the Freedom of a Christian.</i> | 3 |
| 8. <i>On the slavery of the will 1525 – basic ideas.</i> | 3 |
| 9. <i>Certificate on Holy Supper 1528 – basic ideas.</i> | 3 |
| 10. <i>On Councils and churches 1539 – basic ideas.</i> | 3 |
| 11. Seminar II | 2 |
| Examination | |
| <i>TOTAL</i> | <i>32</i> |

Individual study plan

| No. p. k. | Individual studies | Number of hours |
|-----------|---|-----------------|
| 1. | Preparing for 2 seminars, reading independently, studying literature | 12 |
| 2. | A paper on one of M. Luter's works, highlighting its basic thinking, reasoning, use in one's ministry; exploring and developing issues for presentation. Preparing a presentation handout worksheet | 32 |
| 3. | Presentation and defense of the paper (with a ppt presentation) in seminars I - II | 1 |
| 4. | Analysis of another student's work, evaluation of the progress of review for another student's presentation in seminars I - II | 1 |
| 5. | Peer assessment | 2 |
| | Total working hours | 48 |

Assessment

| Individual task No. | Learning Outcomes | | | % of final test rating |
|---------------------|-------------------|--------|------------|------------------------|
| | Knowledge | Skills | Competence | |
| 1. | + | + | | 10% |
| 2. | + | + | | 10% |
| 3. | + | + | | 10% |
| 4. | + | | + | 10% |
| 5. | + | | + | 10% |
| examination | + | + | + | 50% |
| Total | | | | 100% |

Readings

Mandatory Readings

- Luters, M. *Disputi pret Školastisko teoloģiju.* / Dr.Mārtiņa Lutera Darbu izlase, 1. sēj. Rīga: LMF, 2019, 37.-46.lpp. Turpmāk – Izlase.
- Brehts, M. *Mārtiņš Luters. Viņa ceļš uz reformāciju 1483.-1521.* 1. sēj. Rīga: LMF, 2018. Turpmāk – Brehts.
- Luters, M. *Aicinājums uz disputu par indulgenču sludināšanas pamatojumu;* Izlase 47.-58.lpp. Brehts, 1. Sēj., 191.-257.lpp.
- Luters, M. *Vācu nācijas kristīgajiem augstmaņiem;* Izlase 193.-274.lpp. Brehts, 1. sēj., 395.-404.lpp.
- Luters, M. *Par kristīga cilvēka brīvību;* Izlase 275.-298.lpp.

- Lutens, M. *Baznīca Bābeles gūstā*. Rīga: LMF, 2015; Brehts, 1. sēj., 405.-410.lpp.
- Lutens, M. *Par gribas verdzību*. Rīga: LMF, 2016; Brehts, 2. sēj., 269.-297.lpp.

Additional Readings

- Forde, G. *Kā kļūt par krusta teologu. Pārdomas par M.Lutera Heidelbergas disputa tēzēm*. Rīga: LMF, 2017.
- Kitelsons, Dž. *Luters – reformators*. Rīga: LMF, 2002.
- Kolbs, R. *Mārtiņš Lutens - pravietis, skolotājs, varonis. Reformatora tēli 1520-1620*. Rīga: LMF, 2018.
- Vīts, Dž. *Vieta, kur stāvēt. Dieva Vārds Mārtiņa Lutera dzīvē*. Rīga: LMF, 2007.
- Maldonis, V. *Mārtiņš Lutens. Dzīve un mācība*. Rīga: A.Raņķa izdevniecība, 1937.
- Rubenis, A. *Renesanses un Reformācijas laikmeta kultūra Eiropā*. Rīga: Zvaigzne, ABC, 2000.

Internet sources:

- Zasse, H. *Lutera mantojums kristietībai*, <https://www.ebaznica.lv/lutera-mantojums-kristietibai-5384/>