Introduction to Theology and Theological Method **STH-D503**
Juliet Mousseau, RSCJ **3 Credits**

DESCRIPTION
An introduction to the discipline of theology, through an examination of fundamental issues such as faith, revelation, scripture, tradition, doctrine, and dogma, and theological method. The course will also provide an overview of selected classical, modern and contemporary theologians and the differing methodologies which they use in doing theology. The course aims to create a foundation for further course work in systematic theology, and to assist the student in developing a basic theoretical framework essential for investigating theological issues critically to formulate appropriate pastoral responses.

OBJECTIVES
1. To understand what theology is in a global, pluralist society
2. To explore how the person functions theologically in today's context
3. To distinguish various theological methods or approaches
4. To clarify the meanings of basic beliefs theologically
5. To understand and interconnect the areas of theological study in a systematic whole for ministry

PROCEDURES
Students will complete most course requirements asynchronously. Assignments will include online discussion group participation, recorded lectures with accompanying PowerPoint presentations, and completion and peer critique of written assignments.

EVALUATION
Student progress is evaluated through online discussion group participation, participation in the Intensive Seminar, written assignments, and final project or examination.

****Please note:** We will have four online "live" meetings throughout the semester, each from 6:30 pm to 8 pm. They are scheduled for February 7, March 7, April 3, and April 25. **If you are unable to do at least three of these please contact the professor when you register for the course**. An alternative assignment will be given.

REQUIRED TEXTS
Firoenza, Francis Schüssler, and John P. Galvin, eds. *Systematic Theology: Roman Catholic Perspectives*. 2nd edition. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2011.