THEO 612: Medieval Seminar  
Bonaventure’s Trinitarian Theology  
Fall 2008  

Professors: Jay Hammond and Wayne Hellmann  
Thursday, 1:00-3:45  
HU 245  

I. Seminar Description: This research seminar is ordered toward study and analysis of Bonaventure's texts on the Trinity in view of his development, use and application of the earlier tradition. Specifically the seminar will investigate how the Trinity simultaneously forms the structure to Bonaventure's entire theology (exit/efficient cause - medium/exemplar causereturn/ final cause), and functions as the operative hermeneutic through, in and by which he constructs his theological synthesis (Father/Primum - Son/Medium - Spirit/Ultimum). Based on the Father's primacy and fecundity, Bonaventure devises a theology of the Trinity argued from the metaphysics of the Good (Pseudo-Dionysius) and Love (Richard of St. Victor), which is unique in the Western tradition. Via a symbolic and analogical methodology, Bonaventure applies his Trinitarian insights to integrate other major components of his theology: Christology with the Uncreated, Incarnate, and Inspired Word; Anthropology with the mind's powers of memory, intellect and will; and to the theological virtues of faith, hope and love, etc.

II. General Doctoral Seminar Learning Outcomes and Indicators:  
A. Outcomes  
   • Students will make initial soundings into possible dissertation topics through presentations and research papers.  
   • Students will demonstrate strong research skills learned from the professor's modeling the theory and practice of active research; that is, how to pose research questions, frame and execute a project, and how to construct a publishable written piece.  
   • Students will gain competency in specific research topics related to the professor's research field.  
   • Students will gain an understanding of the logistics of submitting research to a peer review process.

B. Indicators  
   • At least one academic presentation from research completed in a seminar.  
   • Research paper or reports related to the period of study for each seminar.  
   • At least one submission for publication based on research completed in a seminar

III. Seminar Structure:  
   Part I: Orientation to Bonaventure's Trinitarian Theology (Secondary Sources)  
   Part II: The Sources of Bonaventure's Trinitarian Theology (Primary Sources)  
   Part III: Bonaventure's Writings (Primary Sources)

IV. Specific Seminar Goals and Outcomes:  
By the end of this seminar, students will be able to:  
   • Explain how Bonaventure uses earlier sources to construct his Trinitarian theology.
• Identify the theological insights and principles that form the inner dynamic of Bonaventure’s Trinitarian theology.
• Analyze how the Trinity structures the interconnecting dimensions of Bonaventure’s theological synthesis.
• Increase language proficiency by readings sources in Latin.
• Facilitate individual research to ward presentation and/or publication.

V. Methodology: Often the seminars sessions will be twofold: 1) Investigation of Bonaventure’s own thought via primary and secondary sources (participants will be assigned specific reporting responsibilities from the general readings). 2) Presentation and critique of participants’ ongoing research. As a seminar, the learning environment requires the active and collaborative effort of all participants. To be an active participant, you must come prepared to discuss the readings. The class will also entail presentations by the professor and regular student reports based on the selected readings.

VI. Requirements and Grading:
A. Readings:
a. Books to be Acquired:

b. Reading Packet (disseminated as .pdf via email):
Bonaventure, Sentence Commentary, selections from Book I (Latin, Quaracchi).
Breviloquium, Part I (English, Franciscan Institute)
Collationes in Hexaemeron, Collations 1, 8-12, 21 (English, Franciscan Press).
Itinerarium mentis in Deum (English, Franciscan Institute).

B. Grades: 50% -Participation (analysis of weekly readings and class presentations) and Progress in Research Projects (movement toward publication or presentation); 50% - Final Paper (8-10 pages): Engagement of course material in relation to the Itinerarium mentis in Deum (further guidelines forthcoming).
VII. Working Seminar Calendar

A. Readings

August  
28: Introduction, calendar assignments and reading from Hammond

September  
4 Hellmann  
11 Augustine  
18 Pseudo-Dionysius  
25 Richard of Saint Victor

October  
2 Peter Lombard  
9 Bonaventure, Sentence Commentary  
16 Bonaventure, Sentence Commentary  
23 Bonaventure, Sentence Commentary  
30 Bonaventure, Disputed Questions on the Mystery of the Trinity

November  
6 Bonaventure, Disputed Questions on the Mystery of the Trinity  
13 Bonaventure, Breviloquium  
20 Bonaventure, Itinerarium mentis in Deum  
27 Thanksgiving Break

December  
4 Bonaventure, Collationes in Hexaemeront  
11 Final Day

B. Research Presentations

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<td>September 18</td>
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