

Course Syllabus
TRH2311 – Fundamentals of Orthodox Spirituality
Trinity College
Toronto School of Theology
Fall 2020

July 24, 2020.

Instructor Information

Instructor:	Dr Paul Ladouceur
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Interviews:	Appointment by e-mail. Video connection by Zoom or MS Teams.

Basic Course Information

Course Number:	TRH2451
Course Title:	Fundamentals of Orthodox Spirituality
Course Delivery:	Online only – Course Quercus website and live sessions. Participation in live sessions is encouraged. Recordings of live sessions will be posted to Quercus. Live sessions Monday evenings 7:00-9:30 p.m. EDT: September 14, 28, October 12, 26, November 9, 23.
Prerequisites:	None

Course Description

This course will explore Orthodox spirituality from both thematic and historical perspectives, drawing on the principal writings that have contributed to its development, primarily from Biblical times to the fourteenth century. From a consideration of the goal of Orthodox spirituality as union with God or deification (*theosis*), the course will examine the contributions of the Old and New Testament; the experience of early Church; monasticism; ancient philosophy; liturgical and sacramental elements; mystical and contemplative aspects; and patristic theology.

Students will be evaluated on their participation in online discussion forums (15%), a seminar presentation on one of the assigned readings (15%), a book review (30%), and a research essay (40%).

Expanded Course Description

Spirituality is primarily faith lived in the search for God and the experience of God, what the ascetic Fathers called *theologia*, beyond "theology" as abstract or theoretical knowledge of God.

This course will explore Orthodox spirituality from both thematic and historical perspectives, drawing on the principal writings that have contributed to its development over the centuries. From a consideration of the goal of Orthodox spirituality as union with God or deification (*theosis*), the course will examine the contribution of the Old and New Testament; the experience of early Church; monasticism; ancient philosophy; liturgical and sacramental elements; the mystical and contemplative aspects; and patristic theology. Among the essential theological elements of Orthodox spirituality is patristic anthropology, man as "image and resemblance" of God; the tripartite nature of man; the imperfect state of humanity; the Incarnation of the Word of God and the salvific role of Christ; and the distinction between the divine essence and divine energies.

On this basis, the Fathers developed an ascetic theology which includes such key notions as the "passions" and the stages of temptation and sin; repentance or conversion (*metanoia*); the concurrence of divine and the human elements in the spiritual life (*synergy*); the heart and the guarding of the heart (*nepsis*). These elements of spirituality constitute a framework for the "practice" (*praxis*) of the spiritual life: the acquisition of virtues, particularly the fulfillment of the commandment of love; communal or liturgical prayer; personal prayer and participation in the sacraments, especially the Eucharist; fasting; Biblical and spiritual reading; and spiritual direction.

The end of the spiritual journey is the Kingdom of God, which we approach progressively by means of the traditional stages of the spiritual life, purification, illumination and perfection. The Kingdom of God is both present here and now, and yet is hoped for, not yet realised.

Particular attention will be given to several broad themes, such as the development of hesychastic spirituality, the Jesus Prayer, the idea of "interiorized monasticism", the domestic church and the theology of laity. Throughout the course, themes will be illustrated and deepened by the readings from the great classics of Orthodox spirituality.

Course Resources

Required Course Readings

Course pack of selected readings: *"My Burden Is Light": Readings in Orthodox Spirituality to the Fourteenth Century*. Available online (pdf) (Quercus) or in print (fee).

One of the books indicated in the Book Review List.

Book Review List

Origen, *Origen* [Selections].

(New York: Paulist Press, 1979). "Exhortation to Martyrdom" and "On Prayer" (pp. 41-170). ISBN: 9780809121984

BR65.O52 1979 TRIN/SMC/Regis BR65 O52 1979 McLennan & Birks & Presbyterian College

Athanasius of Alexandria, *The Life of Antony and the Letter to Marcellinus*.

(New York: Paulist Press, 1980). "The Life of Antony" and "The Letter" (pp. 1-130). ISBN: 9780809122950

BR1720 .A6 A8313 1980 TRIN/SMC/Regis/ROB BR1720 A6 A8313 Birks & Presbyterian College

Pseudo-Macarius, *The Fifty Spiritual Homilies and The Great Letter*.

(New York: Paulist Press, 1992). Homilies 1-25 (pp. 37-164). ISBN: 9780809133123

BR65 .P823 S6513 1992 SMC/Regis/ROB BR65 P823 S6513 Birks

Evagrius of Pontus, *The Greek Ascetic Corpus*.

(Oxford University Press, 2003).

Chapters 1 to 4 and 7 (pp. 1-90 and 136-182). ISBN: 9780199259939

BR65 .E92 E54 2003 SMC/ROB+Online BR65 E92 E54 McLennan

Gregory of Nyssa, *The Life of Moses*.

(New York: Paulist Press, 1978). Books I and II (pp. 1-132). ISBN: 9780809121120 BS580

BS580.M6 G713 1978 TRIN/SMC/Regis/ROB BS580.M6 G713 Birks & Presbyterian College

John Cassian, *The Institutes*.

(New York: Newman Press, 2000). Books 5 to 10 (pp. 113-238). ISBN: 9780809105229

BR60 .A35 no.58 TRIN/SMC/Regis/ROB BR60 A35 no.58 McLennan

John Cassian, *The Conferences*.

(New York: Paulist Press, 1985). Conferences 2, 3, 9, 10, 11, 14 and 15 (pp. 60-182).

ISBN: 9780809126941

BX2435 .C3213 TRIN/SMC/Regis 1985BX2435 C3152513Birks

Maximus the Confessor, "Four Centuries on Love" in E. Kadloubovsky and G.E.H. Palmer, *Early Fathers from the Philokalia* (London: Faber and Faber, 1954). (pp. 281-346).

BV4495 .P513 TRIN/SMC/Regis/ BR60 .P413 ROB BR60 P413 McLennan

Also in Volume II of the *Philokalia*: G.E.H. Palmer, Philip Sherrard and Kallistos Ware, trans., *The Philokalia: The Complete Text* (London: Faber and Faber, 1979-1995).

BV4495 .P56 1979 TRIN/SMC/Regis/ROB

John Climacus, *The Ladder of Divine Ascent*.

(New York: Paulist Press, 1982). Steps 1 to 13 and 27 to 30 (pp. 71-164 and 261-292).

ISBN: 9780809123308

BX382 .J613 1982 TRIN/SMC/Regis/ROB BX382 J613 1982 Birks & Presbyterian College

Symeon the New Theologian, *The Discourses* (New York: Paulist Press, 1980).

Discourses 1 to 10 (pp. 41-167). ISBN: 9780809122301

BV5039 .G7 S913 1980 TRIN/SMC/Regis/ROB BV5039 G7 S913 Birks

Gregory Palamas, *The Triads. Apology for the Holy Hesychasts*

(New York: Paulist Press, 1983). ISBN: 9780809124473

BX384.5 .G742513 1983 SMC/Regis/ROB/Emmanuel

Nicholas Cabasilas, *The Life in Christ*.

(Crestwood NY: St. Vladimir's Seminary Press, 1974). ISBN: 9780913836125

BT767.7 .C313 1982 TRIN Storage/SMC/Regis BX382 C3 L5 Birks BX382.C3 L5

Recommended Secondary Sources

Élisabeth Behr-Sigel, *The Place of the Heart: An Introduction to Orthodox Spirituality* (Torrance CA: Oakwood Publications, 1992; Yonkers, NY : St Vladimirs Seminary Press, 2012).
ISBN: 978-088141-4523 25
BX382 .B4413 2012 TRIN BX383 .B42 1992 SMC
Le Lieu du cœur : Initiation à la spiritualité de l'Église orthodoxe, Cerf, 1989; 2004. 158 p.
ISBN: 978-2204-040020

Placide Deseille, *Orthodox Spirituality and the Philokalia* (Wichita KS: Eighth Day Press, 2008).
BX382 D4713 2008 TRIN
La spiritualité orthodoxe et la Philocalie, Albin Michel, 2003. 282 p. ISBN: 978-2226-137227

Paul Evdokimov, *The Ages of the Spiritual Life* (Crestwood, NY: St. Vladimir's Seminary Press, 1998).
BX382 .E9213 SMC/ROB.
Les Âges de la vie spirituelle, Lethielleux, 2009. 236 p.

Georges Florovsky, *The Byzantine Ascetic and Spiritual Fathers* (1933),
in *The Collected Works of Georges Florovsky*, Vol. 10 (Vaduz: BUCHER-VERTRIEBSANSTALT, 1987).
BX260 .F5513 v.10 SMC
Online at: www.holytrinitymission.org/books/english/fathers_florovsky_4.htm.

Jean Meyendorff, *St Gregory Palamas and Orthodox Spirituality* (Crestwood NY: St Vladimir's Seminary Press, 1974).
BX395.P3 M42813 1998 SMC
Saint Grégoire Palamas et la mystique orthodoxe, Seuil, 2001.

A Monk of the Eastern Church [Fr Lev Gillet], *Orthodox Spirituality: An Outline of the Orthodox Ascetical and Mystical Tradition* (Crestwood, NY: St. Vladimir's Seminary Press, 1996).
BX382 .M65 1978 TRIN/SMC/Regis
Un Moine de l'Église d'Orient [père Lev Gillet], *Introduction à la spiritualité orthodoxe*, Desclée de Brouwer, 1983.116 p.

Dumitru Staniloae, *Orthodox Spirituality: A Practical Guide for the Faithful and a Definitive Manual for the Scholar* (South Canaan PA: St Tikhon's Seminary Press, 2002).
BX382 .S7313. TRIN/SMC
Dumitru Staniloae, *Théologie ascétique et mystique de l'Église orthodoxe* (Paris: Éditions du Cerf, 2011). 480 p. ISBN : 978-2204090445.

Course Quercus Website

This course will make extensive use of the University of Toronto's Learning Portal known as Quercus. To access Quercus using your UTORid and password, go to the UofT Quercus login page: q.utoronto.ca.

For further instructions, see this page: <https://qstudents.utoronto.ca/how-to-login-to-quercus/>.

The **My Courses** module provides links for all your Quercus-based courses.

Please ensure that you are familiar with how to access Quercus and navigate through it. Please do not ask the instructor for assistance with Quercus – use the Quercus help facilities. If you are unable to log into Quercus, please seek assistance from Sydney Yeung, Faculty Administrator, Faculty of Divinity, Trinity (416-978-2133 | sydney.yeung@trinity.utoronto.ca).

Quercus may be used in the following ways:

- Keeping an updated version of the course syllabus and calendar
- Providing course readings, bibliographies and other handouts
- Sharing additional online resources
- Communicating class notices, updates, assignment guidelines and deadlines (generally by e-mail).
- Delivering course lectures and seminars
- Enabling student participation and interaction in discussion forums and other online communications.

Auditors who do not have a UTORid will receive a temporary identifier and password for access to the course Quercus website.

Online communication must be carried out respectfully and civilly at all times. Discussion forums are not an excuse lack of proper reflection or uncivil language. Arguments must be carefully crafted, respectfully presented and grounded in source texts and solid reflection.

Course Learning Objectives

Basic Degree Level Outcomes

(A) IN RESPECT OF GENERAL ACADEMIC SKILLS

Students successfully completing this course will be able to demonstrate the following learning outcomes:

- the ability to distinguish primary sources from secondary sources;
- the ability to provide a plausible analysis of a primary source in theological studies according to its genre, purpose, assumptions or tendency, and intended audience;
- the ability to give an accurate summary of the substance of a secondary source in theological studies, to give a plausible account of its place in the discussions or controversies of an academic or faith community, and to evaluate whether its approach to solving a problem is appropriate
- the ability to pose a clear substantial question for reflection or research;
- the ability to gather information in theological studies;
- the ability to write an academic essay with a clear thesis statement, an expository outline dependent on the thesis statement, a selection of primary evidence appropriate to the exposition, persuasive interpretations and arguments, and reference to alternative possible interpretations of the primary evidence;
- the ability to apply learning from one or more areas outside theological studies;
- an understanding of the limits to his or her own knowledge and ability, and an appreciation of the uncertainty, ambiguity and limits to knowledge and how these might influence analyses and interpretations;
- qualities and skills necessary for ministry, further study, and community involvement;
- the ability to exercise initiative, personal responsibility, and accountability in both personal and group contexts;

- the ability to work effectively with others;
- the ability to manage his or her own learning;
- behaviour consistent with academic integrity and social responsibility.

(B) IN RESPECT OF THE UNDERSTANDING OF THE CONTENT OF ONE OR MORE THEOLOGICAL DISCIPLINES

Students successfully completing this course will be able to:

- Describe and explain the Biblical and historical foundations of Christian spirituality in general and Orthodox spirituality in particular;
- Summarize and analyze key component elements and phases of the Christian spiritual life as described by the principal Eastern Christian teachers and authors;
- Identify and discuss the main Eastern Christian pastoral and spiritual writings and authors to the 14th century;
- Discuss and assess, by a critical reading and review, of one of the major spiritual texts from this period;
- Identify and appraise the principal primary and secondary sources pertinent to one of the topics covered in the course.

(C) IN RESPECT OF PERSONAL AND SPIRITUAL FORMATION

Students successfully completing this course will be able to:

- employ insights gleaned from Orthodox spirituality during the first millennium in their own spiritual life and formation, especially their participation in the life of the Church.

(D) IN RESPECT OF MINISTERIAL AND PUBLIC LEADERSHIP

Students successfully completing this course will be able to:

- articulate and apply the wisdom of Orthodox spirituality during the first millennium to their pastoral ministry or service within the Church, and in public fora.

Evaluation

Requirements – Online (Fall 2020)

The final grade for the course will be based on the following:

Quercus Participation	15%
Seminar Presentation	15%
Critical book review of	30%
Research Essay	40%

All assignments must be completed and delivered (e-mail) no later than ***December 15, 2020***.

- **Quercus Participation (15%):** Students will be graded in terms of both quantity and quality of posts to the forums on the course Quercus website.
- **Seminar Presentation (15%):** Students will introduce one selected reading from the Course Reader (*My Burden Is Light*). Selected readings available for seminar presentations are indicated with an asterisk (*) in the course outline below. The assigned reading should **not** be an extract from the book selected for the student's book review.
- **Book Review (30%):** Students will prepare a book review on one of the books listed above, or the portion of the book indicated. In addition to the main text, students will read any Prefaces, Introductions etc. and consult the references, footnotes and bibliography (secondary material). The book review should be a minimum of 2,000 words and a maximum of 3,000 words.
- **Research essay (40%):** Students will prepare a research essay. The subject and the initial bibliography for the written essay will be selected during the course in consultation with the instructor., using the Essay Proposal Form (see Annex 1) The essay should be a minimum of 3,000 words and a maximum of 4,000 words.

Examples of essay topics:

1. The life, writings and teachings of one of the major authors contained in the book of readings (other than the author whose book the student is reviewing).
2. One of the topics covered in the lecture material (see Course Outline).
3. A topic pertaining to the subject of the course of special interest to the student.

Grading System - Basic Degree Students

1000, 2000 and 3000 level courses use the following numerical grading scale (see section 11.2 of the BD Handbook):

90-100 (A+)	Exceptional
85-89 (A)	Outstanding
80-84 (A-)	Excellent
77-79 (B+)	Very Good
73-76 (B)	Good
70-72 (B-)	Acceptable
0-69 (FZ)	Failure

Please see the appropriate handbook for more details about the grading scale and non-numerical grades (e.g. SDF, INC, etc).

Late work (BD). Basic Degree students are expected to hand in assignments by the date given in the course outline. [The instructor should stipulate the penalty for late work.] The absolute deadline for the course is the examination day scheduled for the course or the last day of exam week for the semester in which the course is taught, whichever is sooner.

This penalty is not applied to students with documented medical or compassionate difficulties or exceptional reasons (e.g., a death in the family or a serious illness); students facing such difficulties are kindly requested to consult with their faculty adviser or basic degree director, who should make a recommendation on the matter to the instructor and request an SDF. The absolute deadline for obtaining an SDF for the course is the examination day scheduled for the course or the last day of examination week, whichever is sooner. An SDF must be requested from the registrar's office in the

student's college of registration no later than the last day of exam week in which the course is taken. The SDF, when approved, will have a mutually agreed upon deadline that does not extend beyond the conclusion of the following term. If a student has not completed work but has not been granted an SDF, a final mark will be submitted calculating a zero for work not submitted.

Course grades. Consistently with the policy of the University of Toronto, course grades submitted by an instructor are reviewed by a committee of the instructor's college before being posted to ACORN. Grades are not official until they are posted to ACORN. Course grades may be adjusted where they do not comply with University Assessment and Grading Practices Policy found at www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/Assets/Governing+Council+Digital+Assets/Policies/PDF/grading.pdf, policies found in the TST conjoint program handbooks, or college grading policy.

Policy on Late Assignments

Arrangements must be made in advance for work submitted after the deadline. If circumstances (such as medical or compassionate difficulties) require that work be turned in late, contact the instructor at the earliest possible juncture to agree on a new time-line and other details.

Students who for exceptional reasons (for instance, a death in the family or a serious illness) are unable to complete work by this date may request an extension (SDF = 'standing deferred') beyond the term. An SDF must be requested from the registrar's office in the student's college of registration no later than the last day of classes in which the course is taken. The SDF, when approved, will have a mutually agreed upon deadline that does not extend beyond the conclusion of the following term. If a student has not completed work but has not been granted an SDF, a final mark will be submitted calculating a zero for work not submitted.

Course Grades

Consistently with the policy of the University of Toronto, course grades submitted by an instructor are reviewed by a committee of the instructor's college before being posted. Course grades may be adjusted where they do not comply with University grading policy (<http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/grading.htm>) or college grading policy.

Policies

Accessibility. Students with a disability or health consideration are entitled to accommodation. Students must register at the University of Toronto's Accessibility Services offices; information is available at <http://www.accessibility.utoronto.ca/>. The sooner a student seeks accommodation, the quicker we can assist.

Plagiarism. Students submitting written material in courses are expected to provide full documentation for sources of both words and ideas in footnotes or endnotes. Direct quotations should be placed within quotation marks. (If small changes are made in the quotation, they should be indicated by appropriate punctuation such as brackets and ellipses, but the quotation still counts as a direct quotation.) Failure to document borrowed material constitutes plagiarism, which is a serious breach of academic, professional, and Christian ethics. An instructor who discovers evidence of student plagiarism is not permitted to deal with the situation individually but is required to report it to his or her head of college or delegate according to the TST *Basic Degree Handbook* (linked from <http://www.tst.edu/content/handbooks>) and the University of Toronto *Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters* <http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/AssetFactory.aspx?did=4871>. A student who plagiarizes in this course. Students will be assumed to have read the document "Avoidance of plagiarism

in theological writing” published by the Graham Library of Trinity and Wycliffe Colleges
(http://www.trinity.utoronto.ca/Library_Archives/Theological_Resources/Tools/Guides/plag.htm).

Other academic offences. TST students come under the jurisdiction of the University of Toronto Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters <http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm>).

Back-up copies. Please make back-up copies of essays before submitting them.

Obligation to check email. The course instructor may send out important course information by email using the Quercus email facility, which will send messages only to utoronto addresses. All credit students should have a valid utoronto email address entered in the ROSI system. Information is available at www.utorid.utoronto.ca. Auditors will have a temporary utoronto email address.

The course instructor will not be able to help you with email issues. 416-978-HELP and the Help Desk at the Information Commons can answer questions about your UTORid and password. *Students should check utoronto email regularly* for messages about the course. Students may forward utoronto.ca email to another preferred email account. Students are responsible to insure that messages from utoronto.ca to another email address are not filtered as spam or junk mail.

Email communication with the course instructor. The instructor aims to respond to email communications from students in a timely manner. *All email communications from students should be sent from a utoronto email address, or another email address communicated to the instructor at the beginning of the course.* Students are responsible to insure that course communications via email are not filtered as spam or otherwise discarded inadvertently.

Course Schedule

Subjects and readings are tentative.

COURSE OUTLINE	RELATED TEXTS FROM THE COURSE READER (printed page nos. in the Reader)
UNIT 1	
I. INTRODUCTION TO THE COURSE.	
1. Course requirements and outline.	Course Outline.
2. What is spirituality?	
3. The goal of Orthodox spirituality	
II. COMPONENT ELEMENTS OF ORTHODOX SPIRITUALITY.	
1. Biblical Foundations.	1. The Bible and Orthodox Spirituality (p. 7).
UNIT 2	
2. The Early Church.	8. Cyril of Jerusalem (p. 99). 11. John Chrysostom (p. 161) 12. Theodore of Mopsuestia (p. 167A)

3. Monasticism.	3. Desert Fathers (p. 27). 9. Basil the Great (p. 111). 14. Palladius (p. 196).
UNIT 3	
4. Monasticism.	4. Athanasius of Alexandria (p. 51).
5. Liturgy.	27.1. Nicholas Cabasilas – Divine Liturgy (p. 326).
6. The Greek Heritage.	2. Origen (p. 8). 7.1. Evagrius Ponticus - Foundations (p. 79).
UNIT 4	
7. Theological Elements: The Trinity, Christ, the Holy Spirit, the Church.	
8. Patristic Anthropology:	
1) Image and Resemblance.	6. Ephrem the Syrian (p. 77).
2) Humans Are Composite Beings	
UNIT 5	
3) The Faculties (or Parts or Powers) of the Soul	
4) The Mind (<i>noûs</i>) and the Heart.	7.4 Evagrius Ponticus – On Prayer (p. 89). 5. Macarius the Great (p. 68).
5) Synergy.	
9. The Stages or Modes of the Spiritual Life.	
UNIT 6	
III. PURIFICATION.	
1. The Passions.	7.2 Evagrius Ponticus - Practicos (p. 83) 20.1 Maximus the Confessor (p. 251).
2. Stages of Temptation and Sin.	22. Hesychius of Batos (p. 281). 23. Philotheus of Sinai (p. 288).
3. Repentance.	19. Sophronius of Jerusalem (p. 244). 24. Andrew of Crete.
4. Mastery of the Passions.	13. John Cassian (p. 168). 17. Dorotheus (p. 216).
5. Attention (<i>nepsis</i>) or Custody of the Heart.	22. Hesychius of Batos (p. 281). 23. Philotheus of Sinai (p. 288).

UNIT 7	
6. The Acquisition of Virtues.	7.3 Evagrius Ponticus – On the Virtues Opposed to the Vices” (p. 88A). 28. Vespers of First Week in Lent (p. 348).
UNIT 8	
7. Spiritual Practices (praxis).	16. Barsanuphius and John (p. 204). 18.1. Isaac the Syrian (p. 226). 27.2. Nicholas Cabasilas – Life in Christ (p. 337).
UNIT 9	
IV. ENLIGHTENMENT.	
1. The Gifts of the Holy Spirit.	Dumitru Staniloae, <i>Orthodox Spirituality</i> (p. 195).
2. Contemplation of God in Creation.	Kallistos Ware, “Through Creation to the Creator.”
UNIT 10	
3. Spiritual Understanding of Scripture.	10. Gregory of Nyssa (p. 118).
4. Apophatic Knowledge of God.	15. Pseudo-Dionysius (p. 200).
UNIT 11	
V. PERFECTION.	
1. Detachment and Inner Peace (apatheia).	21. John Climacus (p. 260).
2. Pure Prayer.	18.2. Isaac the Syrian (p. 235). 26. Gregory Palamas (p. 317).
UNIT 12	
3. Love of God and Love of Neighbour.	20.2. Maximus the Confessor (p. 253).
4. Knowledge or Vision of God - the Divine Light (theoria or theologia).	25. Symeon the New Theologian (p. 302).

Please note that this syllabus is subject to change in accordance with the regulations in the TST *Basic Degree Handbook*.

Annex 1.**Orthodox School of Theology at Trinity College**

Dr. Paul Ladouceur

123thabor@gmail.com

450-834-7203

416-978-2170 (in-session only; no voice mail) (n/a 2020)

Research Essay Proposal

Prepare a one- or two-page proposal for your research essay with the following elements:

1. Describe the ***Field of Study*** or the ***Problem*** that you wish to address in your research essay (maximum 200 words).
2. Formulate the ***Research Question*** derived from the Field of Study or the Problem that will drive your research.
3. Develop a preliminary ***Thesis Statement*** that you think may be the answer to your Research Question.
4. Compose a tentative essay ***Title*** (no more than 10 words).
5. Develop a ***Preliminary Outline*** (titles only) of your oral presentation and essay.
6. Include a ***Preliminary Bibliography*** (*minimum* of 10 items and *maximum* of 15 items (books and articles or essays), divided into Primary Material and Secondary Material (if appropriate).

Please include the ***course number and name***, your ***name and e-mail address*** and the ***date***.

Additional information concerning the requirements for the Research Essay, format and criteria for assessment is available in the Course Syllabus.

You can use the headings below as a template for your proposal.

Research Essay Proposal

Date:

Course number and Name:

Name and e-mail:

Field of Study or Problem:

Research Question:

Thesis Statement:

Tentative Essay Title:

Preliminary Outline:

Preliminary Bibliography: