

LOYOLA MARYMOUNT UNIVERSITY
Spring 2025
Eastern Orthodox Tradition

THST 1031 02

MDGK 1998 02

Tuesday/Thursday 6:00-7:40 PM

4 Semester Hours

Instructor: Fr. Michael K. Courey, D.Min.

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Office Location: UH 3731 (Enter at 3700: Huffington Ecumenical Institute)

Office Hours: Tuesday/Thursday 5:00-6:00 PM

University Core fulfilled: Foundations: Theological Inquiry

Course Description: This course introduces students to the primary theological teachings of the Eastern Orthodox Church. The student will explore theology through written sources and the living tradition of Orthodox communities. The readings cover the history, religious identity, tradition, human sexuality, and the meaning of community from the Eastern Orthodox perspective.

Student Learning Outcomes: Over the course of the semester, students will have the following opportunities for intellectual growth: 1) to gain and express their knowledge of the history, theology, and challenges of Eastern Orthodox Christianity; 2) to enhance their listening and communication skills through attentive participation in class discussions on aspects presented in a lecture format with an emphasis on a systematic theological approach to the field; 3) to be exposed to the writings of contemporary Orthodox Christian theologians; 4) to experience and reflect on an Eastern Orthodox worship service and various media presentations.

Prerequisites: None

Required Texts:

Thomas Arentzen, *Orthodox Tradition and Human Sexuality* (Fordham University Press, 2022)

Timothy Ware, *The Orthodox Church* (Penguin Books, 2015)

Kallistos Ware, *The Orthodox Way* (St. Vladimir's Seminary Press, 2019)

Coursework/Expectations: 4-CREDIT HOUR POLICY

At LMU, **one credit hour** is defined as a minimum of 3 hours of work by an average student per week for a 15-week semester. That means that a 4-unit class must average a minimum of 12 hours of work a week and a **minimum total of 180 hours of work for the semester (inclusive of class contact time)**. Typically, this will mean one hour of classroom instruction and two hours of out-of-class student work each week for each unit of a course. This course meets for three hours per week and **expects a minimum of 12 hours per week on class-related assignments.**