Welcome!

The purpose of this class will be for you to attain a knowledge of the main lines of modern and contemporary historical Christology, beginning with the "Old Quest of the Historical Jesus" and ending with the so-called "Third Quest." In the course of this process, we will take a close look at the questions revolving around the relationship of faith to history, asking in particular the question of the relation between Christological doctrine and modern and contemporary historical reconstructions of the life of Jesus. The ultimate goal of this course is for you, the student, to have a clear idea of the theological issues that are involved in the various "Quests" of the "historical Jesus," and to have arrived at your own "resolution" of the tension between both "faith and history" (the relation between what you believe by faith to what actually happened" in Palestine 2000 years ago) and "faith and historiography" (the relation of what you believe by faith to the results of critical-historical scholarship on Jesus of Nazareth).

Three major learning outcomes will help you to realize this goal: by the end of the course, you will have attained 1) a general knowledge of the thrust of the "Old" or "Liberal Quest" of the historical Jesus, its philosophical and theological presuppositions, the causes for its breakdown, and Bultmann's theological reaction to it; 2) an introductory knowledge of the hermeneutical principles of Hans Georg Gadamer and Paul Ricoeur, and their influence on the hermeneutics and methodology of Edward Schillebeeckx regarding the "historical Jesus" project, as well as more broadly on contemporary Roman Catholic biblical hermeneutics; 3) a working knowledge of a paradigmatic "Third Quest" study in the "historical Jesus" (James Dunn's Jesus Remembered), supplemented by some works by N.T. Wright, John Meier, Raymond Brown, E.P. Sanders, and Gerd Theissen/Annette Merz.

Your achievement of these outcomes will be assessed by your ability to write one six-to-eight page essay on each of them (the specific topics you may write on will be given to you during the course of the semester). The essays must reflect a knowledge of the required readings as well as the instructor's lectures (class attendance is, therefore, required), and should also reflect your own personal synthesis of the material. Alternatively, you may choose to write one 20 page research essay on a topic approved by the instructor; such an essay must reflect your knowledge of the three foci of the class listed above. Details regarding your essays and the instructor's grading policies are found on pages four and five.

Schillebeeckx' Jesus, an Experiment in Christology is out of print; students are encouraged to "surf the web" or visit the used bookstores on Telegraph Avenue to find used copies or to check out one of the four circulating copies (2 GTU, 1 SFTS, 1 Orthodox Institute) in the library.

The course will be centered around the instructor's lectures; questions relevant to the lectures or readings are always welcome, as are discussions that will enhance everyone's understanding of the material.

Details on assignments and grading will be found in the following pages. Note that the reading assignments are given with no dates attached; they should be read in sequence, depending upon how far we get on any particular day.

Instructor: Edward Krasevac, O.P., Professor of Theology
B.A. Philosophy, Santa Clara University; M.A. Philosophy, St. Albertus College; M.Div., Dominican School of Philosophy and Theology; S.T. Lic., Jesuit School of Theology, Berkeley; Ph.D., Graduate Theological Union.

Office Address: DSPT (corner of Vine & Arch), East Building, Second Floor, Room 200 (at far end).
Office Hours: Office Hours: Mondays 8:00-9:30 and 12:40-1:30; Thursdays 8:00-9:30
E-Mail (best way to contact me): ekrasevac@dspt.edu / Telephone: 883-2082

Please check your email on a daily basis; this is the primary way in which I will communicate with you regarding changes of reading assignments or in the event a class has to be canceled due to illness. If your email address changes during the semester, please notify me immediately.

Class will not be held on during Spring Recess (3/27), and perhaps not during the last week of class (5/22).

If you will need special arrangements for meeting course requirements for reasons of documented disability, please speak to the instructor early in the term so that arrangements can be anticipated and arranged. Students who have trouble climbing the stairs to my office may meet with me in a designated ADA room on the first level of the East Building.
THE MODERN "PROBLEM OF THE HISTORICAL JESUS"

Old Quest and its Breakdown in Schweitzer & Weiss / Wrede / Kahler / Troeltsch (1 2 classes)

Mark Allan Powell, Jesus as a Figure in History (Second Edition), Chapter 1, pp. 10-18 and 26-27 (Wrede)
**James Mackey, Jesus, the Man and the Myth, pp. 18-23 / 30-49
*Two pages of slightly different outlines on the three quests entitled "Questing for Jesus: A Summary"
*One two column page entitled "Modernity"
*Two page Outline of Schweitzer's Quest of the Historical Jesus
*One page entitled "Harvey, Van. The Historian and the Believer.
*One page entitled "Peter Burke, The Renaissance Sense of the Past.
*Two pages of quotations from Gordon Michelson's Lessing's Ugly Ditch
*Five pages of quotations from Alister McGrath's The Making of Modern German Christology
*One page of quotations entitled "Ritschl"
*One page entitled ADOLF VON HARNACK (1900). Das Wesens des Christentums
*Two pages on the Basic Principles of the Enlightenment and the breakdown of the >Old Quest'
*One page entitled "The Messianic Secret"
*One page entitled "Schweitzer on Johannes Weiss"
*Two pages of quotes from Schweitzer's The Quest of the Historical Jesus
*Two pages entitled "PRINCIPLE OF CRITICISM" on Troeltsch's three principles
  James Dunn, Jesus Remembered, pp. 71-73 (on Kahler and faith's "storm-free zone")
*One page entitled "Aftermath of the Old or Liberal Quest"
*One page entitled "TREES IN THE FOREST"

Dialectical Theology (1 2 class)

  James Dunn, Jesus Remembered, pp. 73-78 (on Bultmann)
*Two pages entitled "FORM CRITICISM"
*One page of texts from Karl Barth's Word of God and Word of Man
  Edward Krasevac, "Between the Scylla and Charybdis of Faith and Fact"Xhanded out in class

New Quest (brief mention)

Mark Allan Powell, Jesus as a Figure in History (Second Edition), Chapter 1, pp. 19-22 (New Quest)
James Dunn, Jesus Remembered, pp. 78-81 
*One page with handwritten "New Quest" at the top

HERMENEUTICS AND HISTORICAL METHODOLOGY: Gadamer / Habermas / Ricoeur / Schillebeeckx (3 classes)

*Two pages of quotations entitled "The Hermeneutical Circle" (see Dunn, Jesus Remembered, pp. 118-123)
*Ten pages of typed text entitled "Excerpts from Gadamer's Truth and Method"
*Thirteen pages of typed text beginning with the page entitled "HANS GEORG GADAMER: Excerpts from James DiCenso, Hermeneutics and the Disclosure of Truth."
*One page on wirkungsgeschichte and wirkungsgeschichtliches Bewusstsein
*One page entitled EFFECTIVE HISTORY, HISTORICAL CONSCIOUSNESS", etc.o
*Three pages of typed text from Georgia Warnke's Gadamer: Hermeneutics, Tradition and Reason
*Two pages of texts from Anthony Thiselton
*Schillebeeckx, The Understanding of Faith, pp. 128B130.
*Two pages of typed text from Paul Ricoeur, "Hermeneutics and the Critique of Ideology"
*Two pages entitled "IDEOLOGY"
*One page entitled "HERMENEUTICAL THEORY of PAUL RICOEUR" by Roger Haight
*One page entitled "Foundationalisn"
*Three pages of quotations from Thomas Guarino, "Between Foundationalism and Nihilism: Is Phronesis the Via Media for Theology?", lines 1B78 and 115B156
*Two pages of quotations from Guarino's, "Postmodernity and Five Fundamental Theological Issues."
*Two pages of quotations entitled "Excerpts from Thomas Guarino, "Betti and the Hermeneutics of Dogma"
*Two pages entitled "Summary of Key Ideas from Sandra Schneider's, The Revelatory Text"
*One page entitled "WORLD BEHIND THE TEXT"
*One page entitled "SENSES OF SCRIPTURE: Raymond Brown
(Schillebeeckx, Jesus, an Experiment in Christology, pp. 17-88 (89-102 recommended)

*One page of texts entitled Mary Catherine Hilpert, O.P. "Hermeneutics of History. . . ."

*Five pages of quotes beginning with SCHILLEBEECKX: THE HERMENEUTICAL PROBLEM IN REGARD TO THE PAST

*Two page synthesis of Jesus, pp. 575-94; recommended: Jesus, pp. 575-94

*One page entitled "Texts on Revelation and Interpretation"

*Two pages entitled "THE CREDIBILITY OF FAITH"

*One page entitled "Karl Rahner, Foundations of Christian Faith" on hermeneutics and fundamental theology

*One page entitled "Krausevac, 'Questing for Jesus: Need We Continue?'

*One page entitled "Criterions of Embarrassment" and a second entitled "164 Part II: Profile of a Prophet"

Mark Allan Powell, Jesus as a Figure in History (Second Edition), pp. 59-71 and 24 bottom–25 (Allison on memory)

*One page entitled "Criteria for Uncovering Historical Jesus"

*One page entitled "Joint criteria for Uncovering Historical Jesus"

*Dunn, Chapter 12, pp. 383-467

*Two pages entitled "Apocalyptic"

*One page entitled "Beatitudes"

*Dunn, Chapter 13, entire

*Three pages of texts entitled TABLE FELLOWSHIP / PURITY / SINNERS

*Craig Keener, The Historical Jesus of the Gospels, pp. 203-13

*Dunn, Chapter 14, entire

**Theissen, The Historical Jesus, Chapter 12, pp. 347-48 / 361-72 [Jesus and the Torah]

*One page from John Meier entitled "Passages from A Marginal Jew on the Eschatological Prophet"

*Two pages of quotations by Raymond Brown on the Infancy Narratives, "theologoumena," and "verisimilitude"

*One page on the dating of the ministry of Jesus according to John Meier

*Two pages of texts from John Meier's A Marginal Jew ("Roots of the Person")

*Dunn, Chapter 15, pp. 615-6 / 628-704

**Theissen, The Historical Jesus, Chapter 16, pp. 523-4 and 560-63 [implicit Christology and authority of Jesus]

*Dunn, Chapter 16, pp. 705-26 / 759-62

*Dunn, Chapter 17, entire

**Theissen, The Historical Jesus, Chapter 4, pp. 106-8 (#8) ["Explanatory" versus "productive" use of scripture in the New Testament]

*One page of quotes from Brown's, The Death of the Messiah, entitled "Temple Threats"

*Three pages of historical memories in the tradition of the Passion Narratives from Brown's, The Death of the Messiah
**Theissen, *The Historical Jesus*, Chapter 13, pp. 421-37 [The Last Supper]

**Theissen, *The Historical Jesus*, Chapter 14, pp. 458-69 [Passion]

Dunn, Chapter 18, pp. 825-40


*One page of typed quotations entitled "Walter Kasper's, *Jesus the Christ*, on Resurrection Appearances

**Theissen, *The Historical Jesus*, Chapter 15, p. 503 [Resurrection appearances]

Dunn, Chapter 19, entire

**Theissen, *The Historical Jesus*, Retrospect: A Short Life of Jesus, pp. 569-72

EDWARD SCHILLEBEECKX and WALTER KASPER [some Christological "loose ends"] (1/2 class)

*Jesus*, pp. 545-58, 602-3 (s2)

OVERVIEW OF CONTEMPORARY DEVELOPMENTS: The Third Quest for the Historical Jesus (1 class)

Mark Allan Powell, *Jesus as a Figure in History* (Second Edition): Chapters 7, 8, 9, 10, and Chapter 3 on Horsley/Downing/Chilton. (Chapters 4 and 5 on the Jesus Seminar and Crossan are recommended).

For Reference in Reader Number One (summaries of some important Third Quest books):

*E. P. Sanders, *The Historical Figure of Jesus and Jesus and Judaism* (3 pages)
*Gerd Theissen and Annette Merz, *The Historical Jesus* (3 pages)
*Paula Fredriksen, *Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews* (4 pages)
*N. T. Wright, *Jesus and the Victory of God* (5 pages)
*John Dominic Crossan, *The Historical Jesus* + criticisms from reviews (5 pages)
*Marcus Borg, *Jesus in Contemporary Scholarship* (1 page)
*James Charlesworth and Walter Weaver, eds. *Images of Jesus Today* (1 page)
*Luke Timothy Johnson, "The Real Jesus: Patterns and Narratives" (2 pages)
*Methodology Texts from N.T. Wright, John Meier, and Luke Timothy Johnson (2 pages)

REQUIRED BOOKS

! Mark Allan Powell, *Jesus as a Figure in History*, Second Edition (available new at [http://astore.amazon.com/dspt-20](http://astore.amazon.com/dspt-20) for $27.00).


! Edward Schillebeeckx, *Jesus, An Experiment in Christology* (out of print: please search for used copies on the Internet; many are available).

READERS

! *Reader Number One [non-copyrighted readings] (available at Copy Central, on Heart just west of Euclid)

Note: Reader Number One should always be brought to class

! **Reader Number Two [copyrighted readings] (available at Copy Central, on Heart just west of Euclid)
Course Requirements/Grades/Incompletes

1. Written Essays: Three essays (each 6-8 pages in length) will be assigned during the semester which will cover the three important segments of the class; although it is advisable that they be written when assigned and submitted in a timely fashion thereafter, they will not finally be due until the last day of the semester, May 23rd. A total of 20 pages of written material is required for the course; there is no term paper or final exam. (Alternatively, you may choose to write one 20 page research paper on a topic approved by the instructor; such an essay must reflect your knowledge of the three foci of the class listed above). The point of these essays is to help you understand, critically assimilate and express the important issues covered in the course in a concise and synthetic fashion; essays that are unable to do this in the allotted number of pages will be returned for editing. The essays and papers are to be considered formal writing and must be written according to the standards prescribed in the most recent edition of A Manual for the Writers of Term Papers, Theses and Dissertations, by Kate Turabian. Mistakes that show carelessness (such as typos, misspellings, sloppiness) will not be tolerated. Although the content of the written work is obviously of primary importance, the presentation of that content is important as well, particularly for those who will have careers in preaching or teaching. Proofread your work!

2. Grades will be determined primarily by the quality of the written essays, their content (how well they reflect your knowledge of the readings and lectures, your ability to recognize and develop the important principles contained in them, as well as your ability to think through the material synthetically) and their form (your ability to express in good written English, free of syntactical and grammatical error, what you know). In addition, class attendance is required (see DSPT Catalog). More than two no-shows for class will normally result in the reduction of your grade by one-third for each; if you have commitments that will cause you to miss more than two classes, or which do not give you leeway for missing class due to illness, you should consider not taking this class. Students are responsible for all material discussed in class, including changes in assignments, etc; if you miss a class, you should check with someone who was present. Active "speaking" participation is not required, although it is certainly encouraged.

3. Incompletes: If you have not turned in all of your essays by Friday, May 23rd, you must submit the form to take an incomplete by then. I will grant incompletes only if all the essays are turned in by May 30th; those that are not will lose one full grade, in fairness to those who did their work within the appropriate time period. Exceptions to this policy will only be granted for extraordinary circumstances (e.g., illness).

4. Plagiarism. Always use quotation marks around others' phrases that you use in your essays, and cite the reference in a footnote or parentheses. An instance of plagiarism will automatically result in a grade of "F" for the course.

5. ESL Students: If English is your second language, you may ask for and be given one extra week to complete each one of the essays; the final due date for all of them is still May 18th, however.

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1“Students are required to attend all regularly scheduled classes. . . . Students with a serious reason for missing a class are responsible for discussing the absence with the professor beforehand. Those whose absences exceed twenty percent of the scheduled class sessions will not be given credit for the course without the written permission of the Academic Dean. If this is not obtained. A grade of F will be recorded.”
General Criteria for Grading of Papers

A: Not only does the student's work reflect a correct understanding of the subject matter, but his or her efforts show something more: a certain and marked depth of understanding of the subject which allows its wider implications to be grasped and creatively applied to other areas of thought and life, an ability to discern and articulate the principles involved, as well as a talent to express oneself with both clarity and power. The writing is both fluent and without grammatical or syntactical error, and follows the standards prescribed in the most recent edition of A Manual for the Writers of Term Papers, Theses and Dissertations, by Kate Turabian.

A-: For work that falls somewhat short of the above.

B+: The student has demonstrated that he or she has correctly grasped the subject matter, free of error, and has expressed it articulately and well.

B: The student has correctly grasped the subject matter, and has articulated it in such a way that this is obvious to the instructor.

B-: Although the work shows a fundamental and a good understanding of the subject matter, some errors in understanding have been made, or perhaps the expression is such that some confusion results when it is read.

C+: The student's work shows effort, and some real understanding of the subject matter. However, there are some important errors or omissions, or the expression may make it difficult to determine just what the student indeed has grasped.

C: Again, effort has been demonstrated, but there are some serious errors or omissions that show that the student has not grasped important aspects of the subject matter, or has expressed them so poorly as to leave a serious question in that regard.

C-: The work is poor, in both understanding and expression, but effort to understand has been demonstrated.

D+: Not only is the work poorly done and poorly expressed, but it is obvious that the effort normally expected of a student has simply not been made. This would include poor class attendance.

D: The assignments have not been turned in and there has been poor class attendance.
READER NUMBER ONE AVAILABLE AT COPY CENTRAL (on Hearst Avenue, just west of Euclid)

*Two pages of slightly different outlines on the three quests entitled "Questing for Jesus: A Summary"
*One two column page entitled "Modernity"
*Two page Outline of Schweitzer's Quest of the Historical Jesus
*One page entitled "Harvey, Van. The Historian and the Believer."
*One page entitled "Peter Burke, The Renaissance Sense of the Past."
*Four pages of quotations from Gordon Michelson’s ‘Ugly Ditch’
*Five pages of quotations from Alister McGrath’s The Making of Modern German Christology
*One page of quotations entitled "Ritschel"
*One page entitled ADOLF VON HARNACK (1900). Das Wesens des Christentums
*Two pages on the Basic Principles of the Enlightenment and the breakdown of the >Old Quest’
*One page entitled "The Messianic Secret"
*One page entitled "Schweitzer on Johannes Weiss”
*Two pages of quotes from Schweitzer's The Quest of the Historical Jesus
*Two pages entitled "PRINCIPLE OF CRITICISM" on Troeltsch’s three principles
*One page entitled “Aftermath of the Old or Liberal Quest”
*One page entitled TREES IN THE FOREST
*Two pages entitled “FORM CRITICISM”
*One page of texts from Karl Barth’s Word of God and Word of Man
*One page with handwritten "New Quest” at the top
*Two pages of quotations entitled "The Hermeneutical Circle” (see Dunn, Jesus Remembered, pp. 118-123)
*Ten pages of typed text entitled "Excerpts from Gadamer’s Truth and Method”
Thirteen pages of typed text beginning with the page entitled "HANS GEORG GADAMER: Excerpts from James DiCenso,” etc.
One page entitled “EFFECTIVE HISTORY, HISTORICAL CONSCIOUSNESS”, etc.
Three pages of typed text from Georgia Warnke’s Gadamer: Hermeneutics, Tradition and Reason
Two pages of texts from Anthony Thiselton
Schillebeeckx, The Understanding of Faith, pp. 128B130.
Two pages of typed text from Paul Ricoeur, Hermeneutics and the Critique of Ideology
Two pages entitled “IDEOLOGY”
One page entitled “HERMENEUTICAL THEORY of PAUL RICOEUR” by Roger Haight
One page entitled “Fundamentalism”
Three pages of quotations from Thomas Guarino, “Between Foundationalism and Nihilism,” etc
*Two pages of quotations from Gaurino’s, “Postmodernity and Five Fundamental Theological Issues.”
Two pages of quotations entitled "Excerpts from Thomas Guarino, "Betti and the Hermeneutics of Dogma“
Two pages entitled “Summary of Key Ideas from Sandra Schneiders, The Revelatory Text
One page entitled “WORLD BEHIND THE TEXT”
One page entitled “SENSES OF SCRIPTURE: Raymond Brown
One page of texts entitled Mary Catherine Hilkert, O.P. "Hermeneutics of History, . . . “
Five pages of quotes beginning with SCHILLEBEECKX: THE HERMENEUTICAL PROBLEM IN REGARD TO THE PAST
Two page synthesis of Jesus, pp. 575-94
One page entitled “Texts on Revelation and Interpretation”
Two pages entitled “THE CREDIBILITY OF FAITH”
One page entitled “Karl Rahner, Foundations of Christian Faith” on hermeneutics and fundamental theology
One page entitled “Criteria for Uncovering Historical Jesus”
One page entitled “Criterion of Embarrassment” and a second entitled "164 Part II: Profile of a Prophet”
*One page of Old Testament passages regarding the “eschatological prophet”
*One page from John Meier entitled "Passages from A Marginal Jew on the Eschatological Prophet"
Two pages of quotations by Raymond Brown on the Infancy Narratives, “theologoumena,” and “verisimilitude”
*One page on the dating of the ministry of Jesus according to John Meier
*Two pages of texts from John Meier’s A Marginal Jew (“Roots of the Person”)
*Two pages entitled “Apocalyptic”
*One page entitled “Beatitudes”
*Three pages of texts entitled TABLE FELLOWSHIP / PURITY / SINNERS
*One page from John Meier on Jesus’ saying on divorce
*Two pages of texts from John Meier entitled “Texts on Double Commandment of Love”
*Three pages of quotes from Meier entitled "Some of the sayings that have a good probability of being words of the ‘earthly’ Jesus. . . .”
*One page of quotes from Brown’s, The Death of the Messiah, entitled “Temple Threats”
*Three pages of historical memories in the tradition of the Passion Narratives from Brown’s, The Death of the Messiah
*One page of typed quotations entitled “Walter Kasper's, Jesus the Christ, on Resurrection Appearances
*One page entitled “Walter Kasper, Jesus the Christ, Miscellaneous Texts”
One page entitled “Miscellaneous Texts on Christology”

*E. P. Sanders, The Historical Figure of Jesus and Jesus and Judaism (3 pages)
*Gerd Theissen and Annette Merz, The Historical Jesus (3 pages)
*Paula Fredriksen, Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews (4 pages)
*N. T. Wright, Jesus and the Victory of God (5 pages)
*John Dominic Crossan, The Historical Jesus + criticisms from reviews (5 pages)
*Marcus Borg, Conflict, Holiness and Politics in the Teachings of Jesus 1998 (3 pages)
*Marcus Borg, Jesus in Contemporary Scholarship (1 page)
*James Charlesworth and Walter Weaver, eds. Images of Jesus Today (1 page)
*Methodology Texts from N.T. Wright, John Meier, and Luke Timothy Johnson (2 pages)
Copyrided Readings:

**James Mackey, *Jesus, the Man and the Myth*, pp. 18-23 / 30-49


