

Module Title:	The Legacy of Augustine
Module Code:	703 TLAU
Level:	7
Credit Rating:	20 Credits
Duration:	Student Learning Time: 200 hours
Teaching Hours:	20 Hours
Academic Responsibility:	Thomas Herbst OFM D Phil

Module Aims:

The Augustinian legacy in Western theology and spirituality, with a particular emphasis on the synthetic development influential on the Franciscan School. The module begins with a systematic analysis of major themes in Augustinian thought with recourse to primary sources.

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this module, students will be able to:

1. Critically and synthetically evaluate unique aspects of Augustinian thought within the broader context of Augustine's social, religious and philosophical milieu.
2. Provide an in depth an advanced analytical critique of important Augustinian themes within the context of primary documents.
3. Analyse the seminal influence of Augustinian thought within the context of selected major authors such as Hugh and Richard of St. Victor, Alexander of Hales, and Bonaventure as well as demonstrate an ability to critically evaluate the synthetic nature of its development.
4. Critically examine the interpretive influence of Augustinian conceptions on the Protestant Reformers with recourse to primary sources.
5. Display an advanced awareness of the pervasive influence of Augustinian thought in the modern era with an advanced awareness of problematic aspects inherent in the same themes.
6. Display an advanced and critical understanding of the context in which the origin of Augustinian philosophical theology/spirituality occurred.
7. Demonstrate familiarity with and analysis of selected primary texts.
8. Demonstrate familiarity with and use of relevant secondary texts.
9. Articulate and differentiate characteristics within the broad context of the Augustinian legacy as well as distinguish the unique contribution made by Augustine himself.
10. Analyse critically special concerns and problems within the complex and evolving synthesis of the Augustinian legacy.
11. Compare and critically analyse the relevance and applicability of the Augustinian legacy within the broader context of the Church, particularly in modern times.

Indicative Module Content:

- I. Major themes in the primary thought of Augustine.
 - Augustine's experience of conversion with conceptions of introspective illumination.
 - The Neo-platonic basis of Augustinian thought with special emphasis on creation, the Fall, and redemption.
 - The place of scripture and exegetical methodology in Augustinian thought per his relationship with mentor, Anselm of Milan, and against the Manichaeans.
 - Developing notions of Ecclesiology and Grace against the Donatists.

- Developing notions of freedom, will, Grace and Predestination against Pelagius.
 - Developing notions of political theory, Church/State relations and analysis of the modern accusation of 'Augustinian dualism' in the context of De Civitatis Dei.
- II. Continuation of seminal Augustinian themes to their apogee in the High Middle Ages inclusive of:
- The Victorine synthesis with emphasis on the admixture of Dionysian apophaticism.
 - Articulation and popularisation by Anselm of Canterbury with attendant development of Neo-platonic philosophical themes.
 - Direct influence on the thirteenth century Franciscan School with particular emphasis on Alexander of Hales and Bonaventure.
 - The challenge of Aristotelian systematics.
- III. The pervasive influence of Augustinian thought regarding human freedom, will, Grace and Predestination on the Protestant Reformers.
- Luther's exegesis of Romans through an Augustinian lens inclusive of a systematic analysis of faith and justification.
 - Question for analysis- Was Calvin's reading of Augustine on Predestination correct?
- IV. The modern critique of the Augustinian legacy with analysis of the question as to its continuing relevance in regard to:
- Spiritual anthropology.
 - Psychology.
 - Rational-empirical materialism and the phenomenon of atheism.

Learning and Teaching Strategies:

The basic format of presentation will be weekly lectures systematically treating the subject matter as described in the Indicative Module Content. Students are given specific weekly reading assignments as well as directed toward extra-curricular reading proposed by the instructor. Research interests are quickly identified and tutorial sessions, depending on individual needs of the students, arranged for clarification and direction, inclusive of suggested extra-curricular reading. Within the classroom context of lectures, active participation of students in terms of questions and, especially, discussion is strongly encouraged as a primary way of developing analytical skills, critical thinking, and clarity of expression.

Assessment:

Students will be assessed by the writing of one essay of 4,000 words.

Illustrative Bibliography

Avis, O. (1981)	<i>The Church in the Theology of the Reformers.</i>	Marshal, Morgan and Scott.
Burnaby, J. (1991)	<i>Amor Dei: A Study of the Religion of St. Augustine.</i>	Canterbury Press.
Brown, P. (1967)	<i>Augustine of Hippo: A Biography.</i>	Faber & Faber.
Chase, S. (1995)	<i>Angelic Wisdom: The Cherubim and the</i>	Notre Dame.

Grace of Contemplation in Richard of St. Victor.

Chenu, M-D. (1997) *Nature, Man and Society in the Twelfth Century: Essays on New Theological Perspectives* Toronto.