

**OSTS Lecture, Fall of 2024, 2nd term  
November 4th - December 2nd**

Course      **D**     ***Introduction to the Gospel of John (In-Class)***

Lecturer:   Jason Lamantia

Descriptor:

This course is an introduction to the study of the Gospel of John - its structure, cultural setting, and major theological themes. It will include exegesis of selected passages in the Gospel of John; with special attention given to the meaning of "light", "life", and "signs". (45 words)

Outline

Week 1:   Introduction to the Gospel of John - its authorship, cultural background, and structure, including major theological themes.

Week 2:   The meaning of "signs" in the Gospel of John. This class will explore John's use of signs versus miracles. The significance of the various signs found in the first half of the gospel as well as their meaning, will be explored.

Week 3:   This class will explore and discuss the significance and meaning of John's use of the metaphors of "light" and "life". What do they mean for John and why does he use them? Why are they important as a theme in his gospel?

Week 4:   Theological themes in the Gospel of John (1). This class will explore the themes of baptism (John 3) and the Eucharist (John 6). What does John mean by being "born of water and the spirit", as well as what is meant by John's phrase "the bread of life".

Week 5:   Theological themes in the Gospel of John (2). This class will explore the themes

of prayer and the Holy Spirit. How does John describe prayer in his gospel and what does that mean for us today? What role does John assign to the Holy Spirit and why is it important?

### Bio

Jason hails from Montreal and obtained degrees in history and English literature from the University of Ottawa. He also has a Masters in Theological Studies from Saint Paul University where he is currently completing a doctorate in theology. His research is in the area of Greek Patristics, where he studies the theology of repentance in Orthodox ascetic and monastic texts. He also researches early and medieval Church history as well as Orthodox theology and spirituality.