The Theology of Jan Hus
Western Reformed Seminary (www.wrs.edu)
Dennis W. Jowers, Ph.D.
Fall, 2006

Course Information

The objective of this course is to familiarize the student with the distinctive ideas of Jan Hus, the historical significance of Hus’ condemnation at the Council of Constance, and Hus’ contribution to late medieval proto-Protestantism.

Required Reading:

Evaluation: Write an essay of between 1,500 and 2,500 words about some aspect of Hus’ De Ecclesia. You could discuss, for example:

a) The extent to which Hus anticipated the sixteenth century Reformers in his ecclesiology;
b) Hus’ views on ecclesiastical polity;
c) Hus’ use of and attitude towards patristic authorities;
d) Hus’ views on the relation between church and state; or

e) Any aspect of De Ecclesia that interests you.

The entirety of your grade will be based on this essay. You are expected to discuss a topic relevant to Hus’ De Ecclesia, to write clearly, to argue cogently, and to abide by the laws of English grammar. You will be graded accordingly.

I recommend that you schedule your work as follows:

Week 1: read chapter 1 and the decrees of the Council of Constance
Week 2: read chapter 2 and begin thinking about your essay topic
Week 3: read chapter 3
Week 4: read chapter 4
Week 5: read chapter 5, settle on an essay topic, and begin preliminary outlining
Week 6: read chapter 6
Week 7: read chapter 7
Week 8: read chapter 8
Week 9: read chapter 9
Week 10: read chapter 10 and finish your outline
Week 11: read chapter 11
Week 12: read chapter 12
Week 13: read chapter 13 and finish at least the first 500 words of your essay
Week 14: read chapter 14 and finish the first draft of your essay
Week 15: revise your essay and submit it