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**TERM 2**  
**Spiritual Theology**  
January - May 2027

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Instructor: Dr. Richard Hovey  
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Retreat Dates/Location:  
April 22-25, 2027 on Deer Island, NB

Note: For our Retreat Weekend arrival is on Thursday evening (April 22) for a time of welcome, settling in and an opening devotion time together. We will end our retreat time with lunch on Sunday (April 25).

**Course Description:** Our doctrines formulated from Scripture are truths to live by – transformative truths which call believers to live faithfully in response. Theology is the attention we give to understanding God as revealed in scripture; the term 'spiritual' refers to the living out of what we have come to understand about God. This course looks at the practical side of Christian doctrine, which involves not only a proper understanding of God but also conversion in our day to day lives.

**Objectives:**

- To enable the student to recognize and comprehend the basics of Christian theology as developed from Scripture through Church History and see how these truths translate into practical living.
- To encourage students in the application of Christian beliefs to their own behavior – living their lives as a response to the truths of God as revealed in Scripture.
- To enrich the students' awareness of God in the activities of day to day life.

**Course Texts** (in reading order):

*Way of Love: rediscovering the heart of Christianity* by Norman Wirzba

*Streams of Living Water* by Richard Foster

*Head, Heart & Hands* by Dennis P. Hollinger

*With: reimagining the way you relate to God* by Skye Jethani

### Assignments:

- After reading through Foster's *Streams of Living Water*, write a reflective paper indicating which "stream" you most comfortably find yourself in and ways in which you could incorporate some of the other "streams" into your life. In writing, also include a brief overview of the six streams Foster covers in the book. (1000 words). Due: March 31 2027.
- Based on the contents of this course (readings, discussions, retreat), write a reflective paper on your understanding of God, including your experience of relating to God and responding to God. Include your ideas and perceptions concerning God and how they impact your life with God. (1500 words). Due: June 15 2027.

### Devotional Reading/Small Group Involvement:

Another element of 'Consumed' is having an active devotional life which finds expression in community. Throughout the program participants will be encouraged to work through the Renovaré Spiritual Formation Guides as well as *Spiritual Classics* and *Devotional Classics*. There are four books in the Spiritual Formation Guides: *Learning from Jesus*, *Connecting with God*, *Prayer and Worship*, and *Living the Mission*. Over the duration of year one in Consumed, students will work through the first two of these books, meeting weekly with a small group via Zoom to discuss and encourage one another in the devotional material as well as the course texts.

#### Devotional Reading Year 1:

- *Learning from Jesus* - Fall 2026
- *Connecting with God* - Winter 2027

