



Prior to holding the Regius Chair in Humanity at the University of Aberdeen, Fr John Behr spent twenty-five years teaching at St Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary in New York, where he also served as Dean for a decade. He has taught at other schools in the US, such as Harvard Divinity and Fordham University, and as the Metropolitan Kallistos Chair of Orthodox Theology at the Vrije Universiteit of Amsterdam.



Dr Mario Baghos is Lecturer in Theology (Patristics) and Church History. His research interests include patristic eschatology, representations of Orthodox Christian saints, and the role of religion (specifically Orthodox Christianity) in cities via art and architecture. He is also the Chief Publishing Officer of St Andrew's Orthodox Press.

### Accreditation

St Andrew's Greek Orthodox Theological College is accredited through the Sydney College of Divinity (SCD), a Higher Education Provider owned by an ecumenical consortium of private colleges, which are its Member Institutions.

The Sydney College of Divinity is listed on the National Register of Higher Education Providers as a Higher Education Provider with Self-Accrediting Authority. It is approved by the Commonwealth for FEE-HELP to eligible students.

St Andrew's offers undergraduate and postgraduate units of study towards SCD courses of study.

### Cross-Institutional Study

Students studying at university or any recognised tertiary institution may be eligible for cross-institutional enrolment whereby units completed through St Andrew's (Sydney College of Divinity) may be credited towards their own undergraduate or postgraduate awards, subject to the approval of their own Faculty Department.

# PATRISTIC STUDIES

## T8581 CHURCH FATHERS: AN INTRODUCTION



*Guest Lecturer:*

The Very Revd Professor John Behr  
School of Divinity, History and Philosophy  
University of Aberdeen, UK

*Unit Coordinator & Lecturer:*

Dr Mario Baghos

Semester 2, 2021

## Unit Objective

This graduate unit (AQF Level 8) engages the main themes and characteristics of Patristic tradition, which it examines within their historical context and from a comparative perspective. It assists students to appreciate the significance of various trends in traditional theology and spirituality for the general Christian experience.

## Learning Outcomes

1. Appreciate the historical and ecclesial contexts of various trends in early patristic tradition
2. Display an awareness of the main themes pertaining to early patristic tradition
3. Utilise primary and secondary sources in the analysis of patristic themes
4. Analyse themes pertaining to the early patristic tradition within their immediate and distant literary and historical contexts
5. Assess the relevance of patristic tradition to contemporary scholarship and the Christian experience

## Enrolment Options

This unit will be delivered by weekly Thursday lectures via Zoom, 5:00pm start time (Sydney time, AEST) until 8:00pm, beginning July 29.

Students are strongly encouraged to login and participate in real time (synchronous learning). But a student may also enroll and access the video recordings of the weekly Zoom classes and review these in their own time (asynchronous learning).

## Weekly Topics

(via Zoom video conferencing)

5:00-6:30pm – Very Revd Prof. John Behr

6:30-8:00pm – Dr Mario Baghos

1. Introduction and the Significance of the Patristic Tradition
2. Patristic Methodology
3. From Emmaus to Sardis: Melito of Sardis
4. St Ignatius of Antioch
5. St Irenaeus of Lyons: Scripture and Tradition
6. St Irenaeus of Lyons: The Economy
7. Origen of Alexandria: The Gospel
8. Origen of Alexandria: The Person of Christ
9. St Athanasius of Alexandria
10. St Basil of Caesarea
11. St Gregory of Nazianzus
12. St Gregory of Nyssa

## Essential Text and Preparatory Reading

The essential text is Formation of Christian Theology, Vol.1 The Way to Nicaea (SVS Press, 2001) by John Behr. Preparatory readings will be prescribed prior to the commencement of the semester, with a number of selected readings to be provided as pdf copies. Students are expected to have read the relevant document(s) before attending the corresponding Zoom lecture.

## Enrolment Period and Assessment Tasks

This unit is offered in Semester 2, 2021, which runs from 26 July until 5 November 2021. The three assessment tasks (e.g. critical book review, text analyses, take home exam) will be due at appropriate intervals throughout the duration of the semester.

## Tuition Fees

Degree Students:  
\$1,440

Non-Degree Students & Cross-Institutional Students:  
\$1,440

Fees may be paid by credit card (VISA or MasterCard, over the phone), cheque / money order (made payable to 'St Andrew's Theological College'), or direct deposit (using bank details on your invoice).  
FEE-HELP is available, subject to eligibility criteria.

Audit Students:  
\$450

Discounts are available for audit students who are Orthodox Clergymen (incl. wives & children), Saint Andrew's Alumni, and Church Volunteers. For details and an enrolment form please visit: [www.sagotc.edu.au/admission/audit-students](http://www.sagotc.edu.au/admission/audit-students)

**Enrolment closes Friday 9 July 2021.**

## For Further Information

Please contact:

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