

# Patriarch Athenagoras Orthodox Institute

## Fall 2016 Course Offerings



### **LSRA 4230 Life Cycles in Liturgy and Art**

**Drs. John Klentos and Rossitza Schroeder, Tuesday 9:40 – 12:30**

This course will consider how various stages of human life from birth to death are represented in the liturgical texts and visual arts of the Orthodox Church. Format will be primarily discussion, with occasional lectures. Students will learn to read and interpret visual arts and poetic texts as a way into understanding how people have understood their place within the matrix of nature, their particular culture, and faith. Specific topics will include Birth, Baptism, Marriage, Monastic Life, Illness and Healing, Death, and Burial. The students will write a research paper and give an illustrated oral presentation. The course is intended for advanced MDiv, MA, MTS, and PhD students.



### **STLS 4955 Healing, Death, and Dying**

**His Eminence Metropolitan Nikitas, Thursday 12:40 – 3:30**

An examination of healing and restoration (spiritual and physical) through the various rituals and practices of the Eastern Orthodox Christian tradition. Students will also study the services and rites associated with dying and death, as well the theological understanding of life, death and the afterlife. Students will read various services, Patristic commentaries, and contemporary theological reflections on matters related to these issues. The course will follow a lecture-discussion format and emphasis is given to class participation. A well-developed paper is required (15-20 pages) in which students reflect on a subject, as agreed on with instructor.

**STLS 4322 Orthodox Christian Theology of Person**  
**Dr. John Klentos, Thursday 9:40 – 12:30**

Using a combination of liturgical, patristic, and modern texts, this course will explore how the Eastern Orthodox Church understands the human person and the person's place in creation. Topics include creation according to God's image and likeness, the fall, salvation, and eschatological vocation. In addition to addressing the striking differences between traditional Eastern and Western understandings of the human person, it will also address areas such as salvation, the environment, gender, and sexuality. Liturgical texts offer a popular vision of the human situation and the Christian ideal. Ecumenical statements and modern writers bring traditional theological perspectives into dialogue with today's issues. Seminar format. Evaluation will be based on classroom participation, weekly written reflections, and one synthesis paper (presented to the class).

