CREDO Guideline

RP 700 Final Project/ Project

General Description

The Course 'Credo' is designed as an alternative course to Thesis & Writing and allowed exclusively to those students who are left with one semester for their completion of program. In many ways, if not all, the whole structure of this course is similar to the Thesis & Writing.

Like Thesis-takers, students who take this course are freed from the burden of participating physically in each class session. Instead, they may consult with supervisory professor on when & where they meet, what will be discussed and prepared, how to write and what to research, and etc.

There are purpose(s) why this course is newly introduced. The primary purpose is to help MA/MDiv students to review all the courses taken during their study in the specified degree programs. Modern days' theological education is to a significant degree subdivided and separately developed, and as a result it is hard for the students to put together what they learned from one course to another. By taking this course they will be ushered to occasions in which their fragmented or isolated knowledge is neatly out together in a coherent and holistic way. In Christian theological tradition training in theological doctrines has been considered as the best means of its members, we affirm that this is so.

Another purpose behind the introduction of this course has to do with the practical benefit of education. By taking this course students will be able to review, recall, and retrieve what they learned through their taking diverse courses. It is a sort of self-examination whether their theological training has been effective, or has met the expectation they had initially held. Credo writing is designed to serve this purpose.

The followings show students' responsibility, the procedure of this course, things provided by the school or the supervisor.

Procedure(진행순서)

1. Supervisor Appointed

Once the student's supervisor is appointed, the School of Divinity should contact the student this decision and provide basic information about the supervisor.

2. Arranging the First Meeting

The Student must contact their supervisor for the arrangement of the first meeting. The student must participate in this meeting for obtaining general information with regard to the course.

3. The First Meeting: Basic Education

In the first meeting, the supervisor shall offer the students initial education with respect to the credo composition. Though the items listed in the following are not exhaustive, they shall be included in the basic education session.

1) general information

2) resources(sample credos, doctrinal works, GCU style manual)

3) procedure(including due dates)

4) style issues

4. **Submission of the First Draft**

Students, when their credo writing is once completed, are to submit for review to the supervisor a copy of the draft form of credo at least one month prior to the final-exam week. The supervisor may arrange a meeting with the student for the revision of the contents, plots, stylistic issues, and etc. In case, the First Draft is not submitted to the due date, the students may not graduate from that semester. Once the student meets the supervisor's advice, the supervisor should notify the theology faculty to convene the committee and also notify the student to submit 3 copies of the Final Draft.

5. **Submission of the Final Draft**

Once the student has completed the revision of credo according to the supervisor's advice, or his/her First Draft is approved, he/she will be asked by the supervisor to submit to the supervisor 3 copies of the Final Draft 2 weeks prior to the final exam date specified in the school calendar, unless separately specified by the supervisor. If there is still any room for further revision, the committee may contact the student for another revision and inform him/her of the due date for the resubmission of the Final Draft. If there arises any grave concern about the student's credo, then the committee shall ask him/her to be present in a separate interview session. In this case the student must be present in this meeting for the approval of his/her Final Draft.

6. **Approval**

Once the Final Draft is approved, the student should submit 3 copies of the Final Credo to the supervisor no later than the first day(Monday) of the final exam week. Then, the supervisor will notify the committee that the student has completed his/her credo composition and has been qualified for graduation. The committee, upon the supervisor's notice, will send a written notice the Office of Academic Affairs that the student has completed his/her credo composition.

Resources for Guidance

1. Sample Confessions & Creeds

Westminster Confession of Faith

Nicene Creed

Constantinople Creed

The Creed of Chalcedon

TRACS Confession

2. Doctrinal Works

Millard J. Erickson, *Christian Theology*, 2nd. ed. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1998.

Stanley J. Grenz, *Theology for the Community of God*, Nashville: Broadman, 1994.

스탠리 그렌즈, *조직신학: 하나님의 공동체를 위한 신학*. 신옥수역. 서울: 크리스챤다이제스트, 2003.

Louis Berkhof, *Systematic Theology*, New Combined ed. with a New Preface by Richard A. Muller. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1996.

루이스 벌코프, *조직신학*. 권수경.이상원역. 서울: 크리스챤다이제스트, 2000.

John Calvin, *Institutes of the Christian Religion*. 1536 ed. trans. Ford Lewis Battles. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1986.

존 칼빈. *기독교강요*. 원광연역. 서울: 크리스챤다이제스트, 2004.

Herman Bavinck, *Our Reasonable Faith*, Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1956.

헤르만 바빙크, *하나님의 큰일*. 김영규역. 서울: 기독교문서선교회, 1984.

도날드 G. 블러쉬. *복음주의 신학의 정수*. 이형기.이수영역. 서울: 한국장로교회출판사, 1993.

3. **Style Issues**

Refer to GCU Style Manual or contact the supervisor for advice.

Things to be Included in Credo

The student, in composing Credo, should refer to the GCU Style Manual edited by Dr. Jong Sik Chang. The basic structure of Credo is in many ways very close to thesis writing. The followings are not an exhaustive list, but show some items most likely to be included.

1) Title page

From the GCU Manual, look for the section of title page. Then, change all the words of 'Thesis' into 'Credo.'

2) Table of Contents

Please refer to GCU Manual.

3) Body

There is no fixed rule about or which items to be included in the confession of faith. In reality, it may also vary according to the supervisor. For the purpose of guidance, we recommend that such items be included in the body of credo:

- The Triune God
- God the Creator
- Revelation
- The Bible and Its interpretation
- The Creation of the World & Humankind
- Sin
- The Kingdom of God & Redemption through Christ
- Redemption Applied by the Holy Spirit
- The Church
- The full Realization of the Kingdom & God's Glory

The length of the body of credo should at least be 20 pages long, but should not exceed 35 pages.

3) Bibliography

List all the works cited in the credo.