REGENT COLLEGE SUMMER 2015 ONE PAGE SYLLABUS

HIST/THEO 568: MARTIN LUTHER: (FORGOTTEN) FATHER OF EVANGELICALISM

Ronald K. Rittgers June 29-July 3, 8:00-11:00 AM 1 or 2 graduate credit hours

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Most evangelicals know that the origins of evangelicalism can be traced back to the Reformation and more specifically to Martin Luther. However, few evangelicals possess more than a cursory understanding of Luther's theology and thus miss much of the richness that he has to offer the modern church. This course will provide an introduction to Luther's theology, showing how this (forgotten) father of evangelicalism defined the Protestant tradition, and how he can continue to inform and even challenge the contemporary evangelical movement he helped to found, even as it reflects critically on him.

CLASS OUTLINE

- Day 1 Course Introduction, Luther's Early Life and Career, The Indulgence Controversy
- Day 2 Luther's "Reformation Breakthrough"
- Day 3 The Theology of the Cross
- Day 4 Sacraments, Marriage and Family Life, The Two Kingdoms,
- Day 5 The Peasants' War, The Jews, The Task of Theology, Course Conclusion

REQUIRED READING (FOR ALL STUDENTS):

Luther, Martin. Three Treatises. Fortress Press, 1990. ISBN: 0800616391. \$28.99