



Wood-panel  
Pentecost by Duccio  
(1308-11).  
Note the tongues of fire  
and the presence of the  
Madonna who is  
absent from Acts 2.



**T\*211 Holy Spirit and the Church**  
Winter 2010  
3 Credit Hours

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**1.0 Course Description**

“An in-depth study of the person and work of the Holy Spirit, with particular attention to a Pentecostal interpretation. Included are the gifts and fruit of the Spirit, and the doctrine of Divine Healing.”

**2.0 Course Texts**

Elowsky, Joel C., ed. *We Believe in the Holy Spirit*. Ancient Christian Doctrine vol. 4. IVP Academic, 2009.

Warrington, Keith. *Discovering the Holy Spirit in the New Testament*. Peabody: Hendrickson, 2005.

**3.0 Course Objectives**

By the end of this course, we hope you will better:

- **understand** the Holy Spirit as portrayed in Scripture and Christian teaching, including the Pentecostal understanding of the Spirit;
- **appreciate** that the Holy Spirit has a history and has been perceived differently at different times and by different groups;
- **recognize** that the Spirit is a presence in you and in the world, and
- **desire** to become ever more aware of that presence.

**4.0 Course Outline**

This course falls into three units:

Unit	Description	Reading
Unit One: The Holy Spirit in Christian History and Theology	We will examine how the Christian church came to understand the Holy Spirit, evidence of the Spirit's miraculous manifestations throughout history, and how the Holy Spirit can be considered doctrinally today particularly in light of Pentecostal and charismatic renewal.	We will assign selected readings from Elowsky and from additional sources.
Unit Two: The Holy Spirit in Scripture	We will examine the Holy Spirit in the Old and New Testaments, focusing mostly on the New.	You are required to read Warrington's text.
Unit Three: The Holy Spirit in Christian Experience	We will consider manifestations of the Spirit especially in light of the Pentecostal and charismatic	We will assign certain short readings (some in-class). You are required to attend and

renewal. Our discussion will centre round the Pentecostal doctrinal distinctive of the initial evidence of speaking in tongues.	take notes on the Discipleship Summit, 1-3 March 2010 at Horizon College.
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## 5.0 Assignments

### 5.1 Response to Warrington (20%)

Write a two-page summary of and response to Warrington's book. Note what things new you learned about the Holy Spirit, what things Warrington confirmed, and points you disagree with Warrington or found him unhelpful.

### 5.2 Perceiving the Spirit (25%)

Throughout the semester, log your perception of the Spirit's activity – or lack thereof – in the world and in your life. Note the Spirit's activity or perceived absence in these four areas (each is worth 5%):

- the world of nature
- the world of politics (national and/or international)
- Horizon College
- your local church
- your life

Write a 2-page reflection for each of the above areas. Use **specific, concrete examples** and **clear explanations** of how and why you perceive the Spirit in these areas. Alternatively (or additionally), reflect on why the Spirit is apparently *absent* from these areas. This assignment clearly requires of you **active** contemplation in the above areas. You may need to read the newspaper or even (shudder) spend time outside! You will be graded on the concreteness of your examples, the clarity of your explanations, and the depth of your reflection.

### 5.3 Research Paper (35%)

Using **at minimum** 5 sources (no, the Bible doesn't count), research some aspect of the Holy Spirit and present it in a well-written 7-page paper. It's of course a good idea to check your topic **and** sources with us first.

### 5.4 Discipleship Summit (20%)

Attend and participate at the Discipleship Summit hosted at Horizon College **1-3 March**. Submit **typed** notes from the conference and at least **three** questions you raised at the conference. Include your **reflections** on the conference: ways the conference challenged you in your thinking about the Spirit, about you life under the Spirit's guidance, about the church, or any other areas that seem relevant.

## Prayers to the Holy Spirit

O God, send forth your Holy Spirit into my heart that I may perceive, into my mind that I may remember, and into my soul that I may meditate. Inspire me to speak with piety, holiness, tenderness and mercy. Teach, guide and direct my thoughts and senses from beginning to end. May your grace ever help and correct me, and may I be strengthened now with wisdom from on high, for the sake of your infinite mercy. Amen.

~Saint Anthony of Padua (1195-1231)

Breathe into me, Holy Spirit,  
that my thoughts may all be holy.

Move in me, Holy Spirit,  
that my work, too, may be holy.

Attract my heart, Holy Spirit,  
that I may love only what is holy.

Strengthen me, Holy Spirit,  
that I may defend all that is holy.

Protect me, Holy Spirit,  
that I may always be holy.

~St Augustine of Hippo (354-430)

Holy Spirit, powerful Consoler, sacred Bond of the Father and the Son, Hope of the afflicted, descend into my heart and establish in it your loving dominion. Enkindle in my tepid soul the fire of your Love so that I may be wholly subject to you. We believe that when you dwell in us, you also prepare a dwelling for the Father and the Son. Deign, therefore, to come to me, Consoler of abandoned souls, and Protector of the needy. Help the afflicted, strengthen the weak, and support the wavering. Come and purify me. Let no evil desire take possession of me. You love the humble and resist the proud. Come to me, glory of the living, and hope of the dying. Lead me by your grace that I may always be pleasing to you. Amen.

~St Augustine of Hippo (354-430)

O Heavenly King, the comforter, the spirit of Truth, Who art present everywhere and fillest all things; Treasury of Blessings and Giver of Life; come and abide in us and cleanse us from every stain, and save our souls, O Gracious One.

Orthodox prayer book