

SG 102

Humility and Spiritual Guidance

Course Credit: 3 Semester Hours

I. Course Description

This course derives from selected portions of a classic of ascetic theology first published by the Italian monk Laurence (Lorenzo) Scupoli in 1589 as *Spiritual Combat*. Though this course is designed primarily for personal study and use, we believe significant value can be gained by its use by small groups studying together. Therefore the questions are so constructed that they may be used as either personal study guides or as means of entering into group discussion.

II. At the conclusion of this course, students will be able to

Initiate a path leading toward communion with God and the goals set forth in the Scriptures for our spiritual development.

III. Materials Needed

Unseen Warfare, Lorenze Scupoli. SVS Press.

IV. Course Content

Lesson I: Christian Perfection

Lesson II: Never Rely on Yourself in Spiritual Warfare

- Lesson III: Hope and Trust in God Alone
- Lesson IV: The Proper Scope of Self-Distrust
- Lesson V: Avoiding Worries and a Restless Heart and What to do when Wounded in Spiritual Warfare
- Lesson VI: The Devil's Tactics and Plan of Battle in Warfare: How He Tries to Keep Us in Slavery to Sin
- Lesson VII: Avoiding the Devil's Wiles and Turning Ourselves over to God and His Will
- Lesson VIII: Watching Out for the Devil's Deceitful Advice and Learning Not to Judge Others
- Lesson IX: Surrendering to the Will of God
- Lesson X: On Warmth, Coolness and Dryness of Heart

V. Assignments

For each lesson, write 250-500 words in total for each assignment in each lesson, double-spaced. Each lesson will account for 10% of your grade. Faculty will give substantive commentary on all assignments. Final exam details, if applicable, are explained in the virtual classroom content on moodle.com.

VI. Attendance

We do not have an official attendance policy due to the nature of being a self-paced course (faculty are expected to engage with each student at least once per week through moodle.com).

VII. Participation

All students must engage at least once per week in the asynchronous forum discussion group. Access is made available in the virtual classroom.