



NEW ORLEANS

BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Baptist Heritage HIST5223

Division of Theological and Historical Studies
North Georgia Regional Hub

Fall Term 2 2015
Sat, 2:00-5:50pm EST

Class meets on the following date: 8/29, 9/19, 10/17, 11/14

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Seminary Mission Statement

The Mission of the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary is to equip leaders to fulfill the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries

Core Value Focus

This year's core value is **Mission Focus**: *We are not here merely to get an education or to give one. We are here to change the world by fulfilling the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.*

Course Description:

This course surveys Baptist history, polity, and theology from 17th C origins to the present, with primary emphasis on developments in England and North America. Attention is given to Anabaptist and English Separatist antecedents, intellectual and social currents that have shaped Baptist life and thought, institutional developments, theological distinctives and crisis, the shaping of Baptist polity and contributions of selected Baptist leaders.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Identify and discuss the people and events important to Baptist formation and development
2. Understand and appreciate Baptist heritage
3. Understand and appreciate the heritage of other groups within the Baptist family
4. Interpret contemporary issues in Baptist life in light of their historical roots
5. Learn about the foundation and development of the Southern Baptist Convention and understand its role within the larger Baptist family

Course Teaching Methodology

This is an inquiry-based learning course which requires attainment of knowledge, reflection, questioning, and application for your ministry context. The course will involve reading, lectures, participation in discussion forums, quizzes to assess requisite knowledge, journal article critiques to develop your critical skills, and the submission of a major paper to demonstrate your competency in identifying competing viewpoints or theological development in a coherent and cogent constructive reflection.

A Note about Web-Based Learning

Web-based courses are, by nature, a different kind of learning experience than courses based in the traditional classroom. This reality does not mean that a web-based course cannot be successful in equipping you, the student, for effective, God-honoring ministry. It simply means utilizing a different strategy. Hybrid courses allow room for independent learners to thrive—to work at your own pace, to engage in student-led discussions, and to take ownership of the course content. Because of this structure, this web-based course is more reading and writing intensive than traditional classroom settings. Rigorous study of the deep things of God can be a rewarding experience for anyone who participates in it, but it also calls for extra diligence and integrity in completing the work. Note that your professor is praying for your success.

Required Texts:

There are three (3) required books for this class. These books complement one another as tools for understanding our Baptist heritage:

1. [L] Leonard, Bill. *Baptist Ways: A History*. Judson Press, 2003 ISBN 9780817012311
2. [W] Williams, Michael E., Sr. and Shurden, Walter B. *Turning Points in Baptist History: A Festschrift in Honor of Harry Leon McBeth* Macon, GA: Mercer University Press, 2008. ISBN 9780881461350
3. [N] Norman, R. Stanton. *The Baptist Way: Distinctives of a Baptist Church*. Broadman & Hol, 2005.

Website:

- Required: You must have access to the web and be able to play youtube. Check the syllabus for *required viewing*.
- Supplementary: You will access the following two (2) website for *supplementary* reading, etc.,
 1. <http://www.yellowstone.net/baptist/history.htm>
 2. <http://www.baptisthistory.org/bhhs/>

Requirements

Professor reserves the right to change the course requirements as needed

1. **Text book reading and Tests:** To insure that we cover the materials for this course you are expected to read the assigned materials. Furthermore, there will be 6 Unit quizzes. Each quiz will cover the reading material for that day as well as the notes from the previous class meeting. This is a “close source” quiz: that is, you **cannot** use any resources other than your memory.
2. **Baptist Distinctive Submission:** Read Norman’s *The Baptist Way*. The book review will be in two sections (1) a review of the book in general and (2) concentrated discussion of one

distinctive that you agree/disagree with and how important that distinctive is in your ministry and why.

3. **Turning Points In Baptist History Essay Reviews:** Each student will review three (3) essays of their own choosing from Michael E. Williams, Sr., *Turning Points in Baptist History: A Festschrift in Honor of Harry Leon McBeth*. Each review will be 2-6 pages double-spaced (no more or no less) of text. You can use reference list style for citations if you desire.
4. **Biography paper:** You will research and prepare a powerpoint or other media presentation for class on a significant person in Baptist History or Baptist historian. **DO NOT COPY WIKIPEDIA**. You should delineate between historical fact and legend and discuss the historical context and influence of your subject in church history. It will be written according to the latest Turabian and include a bibliography of at least six sources

Suggested figures:

| | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| John Smyth | Roger Williams |
| Harry Leon McBeth | Robert A. Baker |
| William H. Whitsitt | Robert G. Torbet |
| Winthrop S. Hudson | Thomas Helwys |
| John Clarke | Alexander Campbell |
| Charles H. Spurgeon | James Robinson Graves |
| Andrew Fuller | George Liele |
| Daniel Parker | J. M. Carroll |
| | Al Mohler |

5. **Interactive Essay:** Students will follow the directions to complete the following two interactive essays. Follow Turabian style (endnotes); New Times Roman, 12point, double spaced. Unless otherwise indicated no less than 2 pages and no more than 10 pages of running text (does not include front matter, endnotes page, and bibliography page). Choose two of the following topics:
 - a. You have been asked to write an opinion piece for your local newspaper. The topic you have been assigned is: What is the Baptist response to the question of LGBT and the gay marriage decision by the Supreme Court? [you will need to address the differences in the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship and Southern Baptist responses and their reason]
 - b. Southern Baptist missions agencies have had two policies: tongue speaking and divorce. Recently the IMB lifted has lifted the ban on people who have spoken in tongues or "private prayer language." Review the history of the ban and interact with the new proposed guidelines. How biblical are the guidelines and what affect will it have on the Southern Baptist Convention churches.
 - c. A pressing topic of your choosing. You must submit your topic and receive permission from the professor.

Course Policies

1. *Attendance and Participation:* Attendance at class sessions is mandatory. Please consult the catalogue for absence policy. A grade of “F” will be assigned to students who fail to attend class the required minimum number of hours. Should a student miss a class period, it is the responsibility of the student to obtain class notes. The professor does not provide copies of lecture notes.
2. *Use of Computers and Cell Phones in Class.* Unless otherwise directed by the professor, all computers must be turned off. Cell phones must be on vibrate and cannot be used for calls, texting, or surfing during class time. If this your family please step outside of the classroom.
3. *No Late Assignments Accepted:* No late assignments and/or tests will be accepted. The instructor may consider exceptions in cases of emergency or other extenuating circumstances. No extra points will be awarded for early submission. If no date is given then the assignment is due on the last day of class.
4. *Professor Availability and Feedback:* The professor will answer most emails within 24-48 hours.
5. **Plagiarism:** If you copy another author’s work and present it as your own, you will be caught, and the penalty could be failure on that assignment or the course or expulsion from the Seminary

Possible Points and Grading Scale:

| Item | | NOBTS Grading |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|---------------|
| Summary of Norman’s “Baptist Way” | 3% | A= 93-100 |
| Turning Points Review 1 | 3% | B= 85-92 |
| Turning Points Review 2 | 3% | C= 77-84 |
| Turning Points Review 3 | 3% | D= 70-76 |
| Biography Presentation | 15% | F=below 8=70 |
| Interactive Essay | 20% | |
| Unit Tests | 53% | |
| | | |
| Total Possible | 100% | |

Course Schedule

Saturday, 2:00-5:50 pm EST

Class meets on the following date: 8/29, 9/19, 10/17, 11/14

The professor reserves the right to change the schedule as he deems necessary

| Week | Due Date/Class Meets | Units | Assignments |
|------|----------------------|------------------------|--|
| 1+ | August 29 | Introduction to course | |
| 2 | September 5 | Unit 1 | N: Review on Norman's book due |
| 3+ | 12 | | Unit 1 test due |
| 4 | 19 | Unit 2 | Turning Points Essay critique #1 due Interactive Essay 1 presentations in class |
| 5 | 26 | | Unit 2 test due |
| 6 | Oct 3 | Unit 3 | Biography presentation all due |
| 7 | 10 | | Unit 3 test due |
| 8 | 17 | Unit 4 | Interactive Essay 2 due Biography presentation in class |
| 9 | 24 | | Unit 4 test due Turning Points Essay critique #2 due |
| 10 | 31 | Unit 5 | |
| 11 | Nov 7 | | Unit 5 Test due |
| 12 | 14 | Unit 6 | Turning Points Essay critique #3 due Biography presentation in class |
| 13 | 21 | | |
| 14 | 28 | | Unit 6 Test Due |

Emergency Plan

In the event of a hurricane or other emergency, go to the seminary web site for information: www.nobts.edu Also, students should use Blackboard to follow any announcements that may be posted. Students should ensure their current email address is updated on Blackboard.

Need technical assistance? Contact the ITC today!

Selfserve@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the Selfserve.nobts.edu site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.)

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BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Blackboard Learning Management System NOBTS.Blackboard.com.

ITCSupport@nobts.edu - Email for general technical questions/support requests.

504.816.8180 - Call for any technical questions/support requests.

www.NOBTS.edu/itc/ - General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.

Selected Bibliography Baptist History

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