



ANSWERING GOD'S CALL

**Systematic Theology 2 THEO5301-01**  
**New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary**  
**Theological and Historical Studies Division**  
**Fall 2021 - Online**

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**Mission Statement**

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Leavell College prepare servants to walk with Christ, proclaim His truth, and fulfill His mission.

**Course Description**

This second course in systematic theology introduces the student to the doctrines of the work of Christ, salvation and the Christian life, the Holy Spirit, the church, and last things (eschatology). The biblical foundation and the relevant historical developments are considered in developing a comprehensive statement of Christian teaching concerning construction of a Christian understanding of each doctrine.

**Student Learning Outcomes**

The student, by the end of the course, should:

1. Be able to understand theological method and the doctrines of the work of Christ, salvation, the Holy Spirit, the church, and last things biblically, historically, and systematically.
2. Be able to apply theology by integrating these doctrines into a coherent, comprehensive, and consistent Christian worldview.
3. Be able to communicate these doctrines in the particular ministry calling and context of the learner.

**Embedded Assignment**

No embedded assignments

**Textbooks**

**Required Textbooks**

1. The Bible
2. Erickson, Millard J. *Christian Theology, 3rd ed.* Grand Rapids, 2001. ISBN # 978-0-80-3643-9 This is an excellent standard theological textbook from a mildly reformed position. If you purchase another edition please follow the topics.

### Supplemental Textbooks

No prerequisite courses are required. However, if you have not completed THEO5300 Systematic I or BSHS5310 Introduction to Biblical Hermeneutics, I would strongly recommend that you read both of the following books:

1. Geisler, Norman L. *Systematic Theology in One Volume*. Minneapolis: MN, 2011. ISBN# 978-0-7642-0603-0. Dr Geisler is a conservative evangelical scholar known first and foremost as a classical Christian apologist. His work is a great counter-balance to that of Erickson with an apologetic bent.
2. Macgregor, Kirk R. *Contemporary Theology: An Introduction*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2019. ISBN: 978-0-310-53453-2. This book is a great introduction to the various theologians and theological systems. Your textbooks assumes that you are familiar with these theologians and theologies.
3. Fee, Gordon and Douglas Stuart. *How to Read the Bible for All its Worth: Fourth Edition*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2014. ISBN# 978-0-310-51782-5. This is an excellent introduction to the field of hermeneutics.

### Course Teaching Methodology

The course will involve the following methodologies:

1. Reading of all assigned materials. This course is structured to correspond with specific chapters in the textbooks. Likewise, the tests are based upon your reading, Blackboard provided video lectures as well as the PowerPoints.
2. Tests. There are tests to assess requisite knowledge. Much of theological studies involves understanding concepts and terminology. A study guide has been provided to assist you in mastering specific concepts and vocabulary.
3. Integrative papers. The purpose of this exercise is to assist you to synthesize and then integrate the lesson from theology into your life and ministry. Integrative papers are NOT opinions but rather carefully thought out arguments.
4. BlueJeans. I will schedule at least 6 ***non-mandatory*** BlueJeans meetings for those who want to have the opportunity to meet face-to-face and discuss difficult concepts as well as to answer questions and concerns you might have. Remember this is ***voluntary***- you are not required to attend.

### Course Requirements

All assignments are due on or before class begins of the due date listed in the course schedule below.

1. **Reading and Quizzes:** Students are expected to read the required textbooks. Quizzes will cover the assigned reading materials, notes (see study guide below). The Quizzes are 10-15 minutes in length depending upon the number of questions. The Quizzes must be completed on or before 10pm of each week. **All quizzes are to be taken without the benefit of any study aids or text books.** Without comprehensive exams these quizzes are the primary evaluation of comprehension of the required materials covered in this course. The test will be open at the beginning of the semester but will close after due date.
2. **Self-Reflection Paper (Required from all):** This assignment addresses how the course enhanced your personal life and ministry. In 950 words or less, share how this course enhanced your personal life and ministry. That is, how was this course helpful to you and your ministry? Was there a specific topic that you felt contributed to your theological and spiritual growth.

3. **Doctrinal Sermon/Teaching (Required from all): This assignment allows you the opportunity to share what you have learned within your ministry context.** Write a doctrinal manuscript for a preaching or teaching on any doctrine addressed in this section of Systematic Theology. Each manuscript should contain an introduction, a main idea, explanation of the biblical text, illustrations, applications, and a conclusion/invitation. Students who preach or teach their lesson in a church context by the end of the semester and upload their sermon or teaching or who provide a one-page summary of their feedback from a listener in their congregation can receive 15 extra-credit points on the grade of this assignment. NOTE: This assignment must be shared with all members of the class
4. **Written Assignment – Integrative Assignments [use Integrative Assignment Rubric].** Students are required to submit two (2) integrative assignments. The integrative assignments are designed to integrate cognitive learning and ministry application. Use the Bible, the two textbooks as well as at **least 4 other sources**. Unless otherwise indicated, you should stay under 10 pages of double-spaced running text (use endnotes). Each of the essays are persuasive essays – you must arrange your argument in such a manner as to persuade the reader/listener to accept your point of view. **Choose any two (2) from the following options:**
  1. **Option 1: This assignment addresses the death of Jesus and the theories of the atonement.** Non-Christians and Christians alike ask the question, “Why did Jesus have to die on the cross? Could not God have done it another way? If God loves us, like the Bible says, why could He not just forgive us?” Formulate in your own words your doctrinal conviction about why Jesus had to die in a logically consistent and adequate way, organizing your conclusions in ways you can explain clearly, support biblically, communicate effectively, and persuade the reader/listener. You must address the various theories of the atonement and indicate why your choice is the best.
  2. **Option 2: This assignment addresses the understanding of justification.** Theologians such as N.T. Wright, John Piper, Millard Erickson for example, differ on the understanding of biblical justification. Much of the debate centers on some crucial passages such as Romans 2. Formulate in your own words your doctrinal conviction about justification in a logically consistent and adequate way, organizing your conclusions in ways you can explain clearly, support biblically, communicate effectively, and persuade the reader/listener. You would need to enter into a conversation with the major theologians listed above.
  3. **Option 3: This assignment addresses the traditional Baptist formulation of eternal security of the believer or “Once saved, always saved.”** Professing believers sometimes ask, “Can I lose my salvation?” The 2000 BF&M states: “All true believers endure to the end. Those whom God has accepted in Christ, and sanctified by His Spirit, will never fall away from the state of grace, but shall persevere to the end. Believers may fall into sin through neglect and temptation, whereby they grieve the Spirit, impair their graces and comforts, and bring reproach on the cause of Christ and temporal judgments on themselves; yet they shall be kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.” But not all scholars are in agreement. Read the essay by I. Howard Marshall, “The Problem of Apostasy in New Testament Theology,” and formulate in your own words your doctrinal conviction on the perseverance of the believer in a logically consistent and adequate way, organizing your conclusions in ways you can explain clearly, support biblically, communicate effectively, and persuade the reader/listener.
  4. **Option 4: This assignment addresses personal eschatology and the intermediate state.** Using your textbooks, the Bible, and other resources

formulate your doctrinal conviction on the intermediate state in a logically consistent and adequate way, organizing your conclusions in ways you can explain clearly, support biblically, communicate effectively, and persuade the reader/listener.

- Option 5: Choose a pressing topic that you are interested in learning more about.** Formulate the research question that you want to answer. You will need the prior approval of the professor.

### Evaluation of Grade

The student's grade will be computed as follows:

Item		NOBTS Grading
Reading/Quizzes	38%	A= 93-100
Self-Reflection Paper	5%	B= 85-92
Integrative Assignments (3)	45%	C= 77-84
Doctrinal Sermon/Teaching	12%	D= 70-76
		F=below 70
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	

### Technical Assistance

For assistance regarding technology, consult ITC (504-816-8180) or the following websites:

- [Selfserve@nobts.edu](mailto:Selfserve@nobts.edu) - Email for technical questions/support requests with the [Selfserve.nobts.edu](http://Selfserve.nobts.edu) site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.)
- [BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu](mailto:BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu) - Email for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Blackboard Learning Management System [NOBTS.Blackboard.com](http://NOBTS.Blackboard.com).
- [ITCSupport@nobts.edu](mailto:ITCSupport@nobts.edu) - Email for general technical questions/support requests.
- [www.NOBTS.edu/itc/](http://www.NOBTS.edu/itc/) - General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.

### Writing Style Guide

A copy of the approved NOBTS Style Guide can be found in the course Blackboard shell, or can be located online at the Writing Center's page on the seminary website at:

<https://www.nobts.edu/resources/pdf/writing/StyleGuide.pdf>

### Expectations

**Late assignments/tests:** As a rule no late assignments/tests will be accepted. But sometimes life happens. At those times you need to write me and provide an explanation and request permission to submit the assignment/tests later than on the due date.

### Help for Writing Papers at "The Write Stuff"

NOBTS maintains a Writing Center designed to improve English writing at the graduate level. Students can receive writing guides, tips, and valuable information to help in becoming a better writer.

### Plagiarism on Written Assignments

NOBTS has a no tolerance policy for plagiarism. Plagiarism in certain cases may result in expulsion from the seminary. See the NOBTS Student Handbook for definition, penalties, and policies associated with plagiarism.

**Study Guide – This is not an exhaustive study guide.**

<b>Concepts, Theologians, Terms and Bible List for Quiz</b>		
<p><u>Unit 1: Introductory Reading and Lecture: Erickson Part 1 &amp; Part 8</u></p> <p>Definition of theology (Erickson, Grudem, Kendrick)            Purpose of theology (Kendrick)            What are the “senses of theology?”            What is the starting point of theology? What is Erickson’s starting point of theology?            Characteristics of modernism, postmodernism and their effect on theology.            Define Foundationalism, neofoundationalism            What does Erickson mean by “unrepentant modernism?”            Identify the process of doing theology            Degrees of authority of theological statements            Identify the three approaches to contextualizing theology            Identify the procedure for studying the person and work of Christ            Prologomena and its importance            Identify the evangelical preconditions            Theological triage</p>	<p><u>Unit 2: [E8] The work of Christ :</u></p> <p>Identify and discuss the functions of Christ            Identify and discuss the stages of Christ’s work            Identify and discuss the five theories of the atonement (concept, author, criticism of)            For what did Christ atone?            Identify and evaluate for whom did Christ die?            Imputation            Propitiation            Recapitulation            Resurrection            Substitutionary atonement            Session            What are the view of universal and particular atonement and what problems can be drawn from their conclusions?</p>	<p><u>Unit 3 [Powerpoint] Theologies of Liberation and the Work of Christ</u></p> <p>Identify the major liberation theologians (Latin American, Black, Feminist, Korean)            Definition of Liberation Theology as stated by Gutierrez            Identify the major characteristics of a liberation hermeneutic            What is the Liberation Theologies answer to the Fundamental Questions in theology, e.g, who are we? Where are we? What is wrong? What is the solution?</p>
<p><u>Unit 4: [E15, 42-43] Election/Predestination</u></p> <p>What are the four differing views of divine sovereignty and human freedom?            How would you explain the difference between, foreordain and predestinate?</p>	<p><u>Unit 5: [E44] Beginning of Salvation; Subjective Aspects : [E45] Beginning of Salvation: Objective Aspects</u></p> <p>Of what significance is the order of effectual calling, conversion, and regeneration?</p>	<p><u>Unit 6: [E46]:The Continuation of Salvation</u></p> <p>Define, identify and discuss the characteristics of sanctification as well as the two views            Adoption            Apostasy            Assurance of salvation            Communion of saints            Eternal security of the</p>

<p>How would you explain the difference between compatibilism and molinism?</p> <p>What are the differing current conceptions of salvation?</p> <p>What are the differing views on predestination, eg. Calvinism, Arminianism, Karl Barth?</p> <p>What are the differing logical order of God's decrees, e.g., supra,infra, sublapsarianism?</p>	<p>Arminianism  Augustinianism  Effectual calling  Grace  Irresistible grace  Plagiarism  Penance  Regeneration  Repentance  Semi-Plagiarism</p>	<p>believer  Justification  Merit  Perfectionism  Perseverance  Sanctification</p>
<p><u>Unit 7: [E47]: The Completion of Salvation:[E48] The Means and Extent of Salvation</u></p> <p>Differentiate between the Calvinist and Arminian views of perseverance and resolve the conflicting views</p> <p>Define and describe the doctrines of perseverance and glorification</p> <p>Differentiate the views for the means of salvation,e.g., liberation, sacramental, evangelical</p>	<p><u>Unit 8: [E: Part 11-The Church]</u></p> <p>Identify and differentiate the definitions of the church as outlined by Erickson</p> <p>Identify and discuss the biblical images of the church</p> <p>Discuss the church and the Kingdom; the church and Israel; church visible and the church invisible</p> <p>Identify and describe the four functions of the church</p> <p>Identify and evaluate the four forms of church government</p> <p>Identify and differentiate the four different views of baptism; means of saving grace, sign and seal of the covenant, token of salvation, and the occasion of salvation</p> <p>Identify the major views of the Lord's Supper</p>	<p><u>Unit 9: [E:Part 9] The Holy Spirit</u></p> <p>Discuss the final state of the believer and the unbeliever/</p> <p>Where is the location of heaven and hell?</p>
<p><u>Unit 10: [E: Part 12]; The Last Things]</u></p> <p>Identify and differentiate the six modern treatments of eschatology</p> <p>Identify and different the various views on the intermediate state as well as Erickson's suggested</p>		

resolution Identify the character of the second coming Identify and differentiate the differing millennial views		
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## Course Schedule

### THEO5301 Systematic Theology Online Schedule

\*The Professor has the discretion to change this schedule. For those of you interested in apologetics, I have provided Geisler as a supplemental reading but will not be on the test.

WA = Written Assignment

***All work is due on or before 10pm Saturday of the due date- Absolutely No Late Assignments***

Wk	Test Due Dates	Subject	Assignments/ Quiz	Reading
Semester Begins Monday August 16				
1	Aug 21	Unit 1: Introduction to the Course & Review [really important if you have not taken Systematic Theology I HIST 5300  Part 1: Studying God [Review] Part 7: The Person of Christ [Review]	Review the assigned chapters from Erickson	E: Part 1: Studying God E: Part 7: The Person of Christ G: Appendix 1: Christology  The Christological Councils <a href="http://www.pbcc.org/dc/creeds/councils.html">http://www.pbcc.org/dc/creeds/councils.html</a> or for more in-depth <a href="http://www.ccel.org/ccel/schaff/npnf214.toc.html">http://www.ccel.org/ccel/schaff/npnf214.toc.html</a>  I will conduct a Voluntary BlueJeans meeting
2	Aug 28		Q1 – Unit 1	
3	Sep 4			
4	Sep 11	Unit 2: Work of Christ	Q2-Unit 2	E: Part 8: The Work of Christ G: Part 6: Salvation
5	Sep 18	Unit 3: Theologies of Liberation and the Work of Christ	Q3-Unit 3	E: pages -32,51,39-51,598,821,827-832 G: Appendix 9: Liberation Theology
6	Sep 25	Unit 4: Election/Predestination	Q4 - Unit 4 Writing Assignment 1 Due	E: Chp 15 God's Plan, Chp 42: Conceptions of Salvation & Chp 43: The Antecedent to Salvation: G: Chp 64-66
7	Oct 2	Unit 5: Salvation: Subjective & Objective	Q5 -Unit 5	E: Chp 44: The Beginning of Salvation: Subjective Aspects & Chp 45: The Beginning of Salvation: Objective Aspects G: Vol 3; Part 1; Chp 2: Sinner's Conversion and Regeneration & Chp 3: The Believer's

				Justification and Reconciliation
Fall Break Oct 4-8				
8	Oct 16	Unit 6: Continuation of Salvation	Q6 - Unit 6 Writing Assignment 2 Due	E:Chp 46: The Continuation of Salvation G:Vol 3; Part 1; Chp 3:The Believer's Justification and Reconciliation
9	Oct 23	Unit 7: The Completion of Salvation & The Means and Extent of Salvation	Q7 - Unit 7	[E] 47 The Completion of Salvation; 48 The Means and Extent of Salvation G: Vol 3 Part 1; Chp 4 The Sanctification and Perseverance of the Justified
10	Oct 30		Preaching or Teaching	
11	Nov 6	Unit 8: The Church	Q8 – Unit 8 Doctrinal Sermon/Teaching due  If you post your sermon or teaching online you will receive 15 additional points	[E]: Part 11 The Church G: Vol 3 Part 2 Social Transformation (includes chps 5 & 6)
12	Nov 13	Unit 9: Work of Holy Spirit	Q9 - Unit 9	E: Part 9: The Holy Spirit [includes chps 39,40,41] Also familiarize yourself with Chp 52, 53
13	Nov 20	Unit 10: The Last Things	Q10- Unit 10	E: Part 12 The Last Things [includes chps 54-58] G: Vol 3 Part 3 Future Culmination
Thanksgiving Break Nov 22-26				
14	Dec 4		Self Reflection Paper Due	IMPORTANT: IF YOU ARE A GRADUATING SENIOR LET ME KNOW NO LATER THAN TODAY
				Graduation – Dec 11

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