



**THEO5301 Systematic Theology II**  
**New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary**  
**Division of Theological and Historical Studies**  
**Summer 2020—Internet**

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*“...Whoever abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son.”*

2 John 1:9

### **Mission Statement**

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

### **Core Value Focus**

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary has five core values: Doctrinal Integrity, Spiritual Vitality, Mission Focus, Characteristic Excellence, and Servant Leadership. These values shape both the context and manner in which all curricula are taught, with “doctrinal integrity” and “mission focus” especially highlighted in this course. The core value focus for the 2019-20 year is ***Spiritual Vitality***: “*We are a worshiping community emphasizing both personal spirituality and gathering together as a Seminary family for the praise and adoration of God and instruction in His Word.*”

### **Curriculum Competencies**

All graduates of NOBTS are expected to have at least a minimum level of competency in each of the following areas: Biblical Exposition, Christian Theological Heritage, Disciple Making, Interpersonal Skills, Servant Leadership, Spiritual and Character Formation, and Worship Leadership. The curriculum competencies addressed in this course are: Biblical Exposition and Christian Theological Heritage.

### **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.

### **Biblical Authority**

This course operates under the assumption that the Bible is the inspired, totally true, and trustworthy Word of God. While history, tradition, and reason play no small role in the theological task, the Bible holds ultimate authority in Christian doctrine and practice. *The Baptist Faith and Message* (2000) provides the structure of this course's content.

### **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. Internet 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 instructors are praying for your success.

### **Primary Texts**

Erickson, Millard J. *Christian Theology*. 3d ed. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2013.

\_\_\_\_\_. *The Concise Dictionary of Christian Theology*, rev. ed. Wheaton: Crossway, 2001.

Grudem, Wayne. *Systematic Theology*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2000. (Any edition will do.)

Stott, John R. W. *The Cross of Christ*. Downers Grove: IVP, 2006.

### **Recommended Texts**

Elwell, Walter A. *Evangelical Dictionary of Theology*. 2d ed. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2001.

Garrett, James Leo. *Systematic Theology*. 2 vols. North Richland Hills, TX: BIBAL Press, 2006, 2007.

McKim, Donald K. *Westminster Dictionary of Theological Terms*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 1996.

Turabian, Kate L. *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*. 7th or 8th ed. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 2007, 2013.

### **Course Teaching Methodology**

The course will utilize textbooks, reading assignments, vocabulary quizzes, written assignments, audio-visual resources, and online threaded discussions to reach the goals of the class. Because this is an internet course, each student must invest heavily in reading and online interaction. Self-motivation will be an important ingredient to success in the course.

### **Course Requirements**

1. Vocabulary Quizzes (15%)

Weekly quizzes will cover the words from the vocabulary lists included in the syllabus. Each quiz covers the words in the corresponding vocabulary list (e.g. Quiz #1 will cover the words on Vocabulary List #1). The definitions may be found in the Erickson dictionary. Each quiz will be “active” for 7 days beginning on the Monday morning of that week. The allotted time is 15 minutes. Never use the back button or the test will end and you will be graded on what you have completed. The quizzes are NOT open book. Each quiz is worth 50 points. **During the 8-week schedule, students will sometimes be expected to complete two quizzes per week.**

## 2. Discussion Board Questions (20%)

Students will be required to answer discussion board questions. These discussion questions will be based on the assigned reading and additional resources located in Course Documents. Students are required to make at least three (3) substantive posts to each question. The first post will be your answer to the question posed. This post should be longer and more detailed than the remaining posts. The other two posts should be offered in response to other student posts. A substantive post is defined as a post that both exhibits a thoughtful response based upon the class material and that, in the case of response posts (see above), furthers the discussion thread by posing new questions or thoughts to which other students may respond. To earn credit, students must post their first answer to the question by Thursday night in order to give classmates time to reply to the initial student posts.

## 3. Critical Book Review (20%)

All students are required to read and review John Stott’s *The Cross of Christ*. The review should include:

1. a bibliography entry,
2. a brief biographical data about the author(s) (e.g., his position, degrees, research interests, and other works),
3. an assessment of the main purpose and/or thesis of the book,
4. a concise summary of the book’s contents (No more than 1/3 of the total review should be summary),
5. a thorough critical analysis of the book,
6. a discussion of the relevance of the book to your particular ministry, and
7. a conclusion with a recommendation or dismissal.

The reviews should be between 2000-4000 words and should conform to Turabian or SBL style guides. Because book reviews are primarily about one source, use parenthetical citations for the primary text and footnotes only for external sources.

A few questions to consider when preparing for a critical book review: What is the main purpose or thesis of this book? To whom is this book written? Did the author(s) fulfill his or her purpose? What are some of the author’s working assumptions (e.g., his or her denominational background, field of research, or view of Scripture)? Does the author provide strong biblical, philosophical, and historical support for his or her positions? Are there any points of contact between this book/writer and other texts read during the course of the semester? How might the content of this book affect ministry in the local church or ministry within your particular calling? Are there any ideas that changed your particular way of thinking on the subject matter at hand? Would you recommend this book to someone else?

- **A papers (93-100)** clearly state the book’s thesis, successfully and succinctly outline its argument in its own terms, demonstrate advanced critical engagement with the argument and content of the

book, make clear and well structured arguments, and exhibit a proficient grasp of grammar, spelling, and style.

- **B papers (85-92)** clearly state the book's thesis, show an attempt to understand the book on its own terms and critically reflect on the issues at hand, make arguments, and show sufficiency in grammar, spelling, and style.
- **C papers (77-84)** state the book's thesis, present the content of the book, raise preliminary critical questions for further evaluation, limit evaluation to approval or disapproval of the author's arguments, and make repeated mistakes in grammar, spelling, and style.
- **D (70-76) and F (0-69)** papers lack evidence of grasping the book's thesis and content, limit evaluation to preformed judgments without serious consideration of the book's ideas, contain major grammatical, spelling, and stylistic errors, and demonstrate little or no attempt to proofread.

#### 4. Cross of Christ Ministry Project (15%)

Theology done well should result in faithful Christian ministry. After reading the course materials on the doctrine of salvation and John Stott's *The Cross of Christ*, students will be required to do a ministry project related to the doctrine of the doctrine of salvation.

Students may choose to do one of the following:

- (1) Write a full-length sermon or Bible study manuscript on the doctrine of salvation and present it in a church or Bible study group.
- (2) Share the gospel with a non-believer and write a detailed report of the witnessing encounter, integrating insights from *The Cross of Christ* into the analysis of the encounter.
- (3) Write a counseling case study based on the contents in *The Cross of Christ*.

Whatever option the student chooses, he or she must write a brief reflection on the value of doctrinal study for completing these tasks. This report should be between 3-5 double spaced pages. Please submit **both** the project and the reflection in the online classroom.

#### 5. Theological Research Paper (25%)

All students are required to write a brief research paper (12-15 double-spaced pages in length) on a particular doctrinal topic/question. Students may choose from the following topics or seek approval from the professor on another topic.

Students should read the available research paper resources in the "Paper Writing Resources" section before writing. This includes an essay by John Frame entitled "How to Write a Theological Research Paper" and a comprehensive grading rubric for the assignment.

A more focused paper is usually a better product than an overly broad paper (e.g., like trying to cover all the doctrine of Christ in ten pages!). Students may select a doctrinal topic and seek to investigate how a particular theologian in history addressed that issue, or one may start with a particular theologian and investigate his or her unique theological perspectives (e.g., Calvin's understanding of imputation or Karl Barth's doctrine of inspiration). Students may also feel free to pick one of the doctrinal topics below and offer a biblical, philosophical, and historical analysis of the doctrine.

**Possible Paper Topics (or Mix and Match)**

The Work of Christ	Anselm of Canterbury
Theories of the Atonement	Arminius, James
Election	Athanasius
Reprobation	Augustine
Conversion	Barth, Karl
Justification	Brunner, Emil
Regeneration	Bultmann, Rudolf
Sanctification	Calvin, John
Glorification	Cappadocian Fathers, The
Adoption (Soteriology)	Edwards, Jonathan
Eternal Security/Apostasy	Hodge, Charles
The Person of the Holy Spirit	Justin Martyr
Baptism in the Holy Spirit	Luther, Martin
Gifts of the Holy Spirit	Mullins, E. Y.
Miracles	Origen
Speaking in Tongues	Schleiermacher, Friedrich
The Nature of the Church	Tertullian
Church Polity	Thomas Aquinas
Baptism	Wesley, John
Lord's Supper	Zwingli, Huldruch
Personal Eschatology	
The Millennium	
New Heaven and New Earth	
Hermeneutical Approaches to Revelation	

**6. Reading Report (5%)**

At the end of the course, students will report in the online classroom the total percentage of the assigned readings which were completed.

**Evaluation of Grade**

*Grades* will be determined on the basis of the NOBTS grading scale—an A for 93-100, B for 85-92, C for 77-84, D for 70-76, and F for 69 or below.

- Vocab Quizzes 15%
- Discussion Board Questions 20%
- Critical Book Review 20%
- Ministry Project 15%
- Theological Research Paper 25%
- Reading Report 5%

Borderline grades will normally be determined by the numerical grade received (I round up from .5), unless the student's promptness and faithfulness in class attendance, positive attitude and contribution in

class discussions, and preparedness and attentiveness in class warrants special consideration. These factors only apply when the student is fractionally close to the next highest grade.

## **Class Policies**

### 1. Late Work

Because life and ministry happens, late work will be accepted—but with a penalty. For every day an assignment is late, five points will be deducted. No assignment over two weeks late will be accepted. Failure to submit every assignment will result in failure of the course.

### 2. Plagiarism

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. Remember the words of the proverb: “Whoever walks in integrity walks securely, but he who makes his ways crooked will be found out” (Prov 10:19).

## **Lectures, Readings, and Assignments Schedule**

The schedule runs Mondays through Saturdays. Though materials will be available on Sunday, the course instructor encourages (but does not require) students to take a day of rest and worship on Sundays.

Book reviews, ministry projects, and research papers are due Saturday at 11:59 PM CST at the end of the unit week (units begin on Monday).

## **Technical Assistance**

1. [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.)
2. [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).
3. [ITCSupport@nobts.edu](mailto:ITCSupport@nobts.edu) - Email for general technical questions/support requests.
4. [www.NOBTS.edu/itc/](http://www.NOBTS.edu/itc/) - General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.

### **Blackboard**

An important instrument in the implementation of this course is the Blackboard Learning System. *All assignments will be submitted using Blackboard SafeAssign technology.* Tests will also be conducted in Blackboard. Because this technology is accessible at home or office, there is a **trust policy** in place that the student will not compromise his or her integrity by looking at notes or books during the test. And as the proverb notes, “Whoever walks in integrity will be delivered” (Prov. 28:18).

### **Netiquette Statement on Appropriate Online Behavior**

Appropriate Conduct in Discussions is especially important so that all students can have a chance to participate meaningfully. In an ethics class in which moral issues arise about which some of us will disagree, it is essential to treat each other with love and kindness. The student is expected to interact with other students in a fashion that will promote learning and respect for the opinions of others in the course. A spirit of Christian charity will be expected at all times in the online environment.

## **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.

Course Schedule

Unit & Date	Class Topic	Vocabulary Words	Readings & Assignments Due
Unit 1 Week of 6/6	Introduction		Read Syllabus
Unit 2 Week of 6/6	The Work of Christ, pt. 1	<u>Vocabulary Quiz #1</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Atonement</li> <li>• Atonement, Example theory of</li> <li>• Atonement, Governmental theory of the</li> <li>• Atonement, Limited</li> <li>• Atonement, Moral-influence theory of</li> <li>• Atonement, Penal-Substitution theory of</li> <li>• Atonement, Ransom theory of the</li> <li>• Atonement, Unlimited</li> <li>• Descent into Hell</li> <li>• Theology of the cross</li> </ul>	Erickson, ch. 35 Grudem, ch. 28-29  Discussion Board Question #1
Unit 3 Week of 6/13	The Work of Christ, pt. 2	<u>Vocabulary Quiz #2</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ascension of Christ</li> <li>• Christ, Exaltation of</li> <li>• Christ, Humiliation of</li> <li>• Expiation</li> <li>• Imputation</li> <li>• Propitiation</li> <li>• Recapitulation</li> <li>• Reconciliation</li> <li>• Resurrection</li> <li>• Session</li> </ul>	Erickson, chs. 36-38 Grudem, ch. 27

Unit & Date	Class Topic	Vocabulary Words	Readings & Assignments Due
Unit 4 Week of 6/13	Election	<u>Vocabulary Quiz #3</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Determinism</li> <li>• Election</li> <li>• Fatalism</li> <li>• Foreknowledge</li> <li>• Grace, Common</li> <li>• Grace, Special</li> <li>• Predestination</li> <li>• Preterition</li> <li>• Reprobation</li> <li>• Total depravity</li> </ul>	Erickson, ch. 43 Grudem, ch. 32  Discussion Board Question #2
Unit 5 Week of 6/20	Conversion, Regeneration	<u>Vocabulary Quiz #4</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arminianism</li> <li>• Augustinianism</li> <li>• Effectual calling</li> <li>• Grace</li> <li>• Irresistible grace</li> <li>• Pelagianism</li> <li>• Penance</li> <li>• Regeneration</li> <li>• Repentance</li> <li>• Semi-Pelagianism</li> </ul>	Erickson, ch. 44 Grudem, ch. 33-35
Unit 6 Week of 6/20	Justification, Adoption, Union with Christ	<u>Vocabulary Quiz #5</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adoption</li> <li>• Apostasy</li> <li>• Assurance of salvation</li> <li>• Communion of saints</li> <li>• Eternal security of the believer</li> <li>• Justification</li> <li>• Merit</li> <li>• Perfectionism</li> <li>• Perseverance, Doctrine of</li> <li>• Sanctification</li> </ul>	Erickson, ch. 45 Grudem, ch. 36-37  Discussion Board Question #3

Unit & Date	Class Topic	Vocabulary Words	Readings & Assignments Due
Unit 7 Week of 6/27	Sanctification		Erickson, ch. 46 Grudem, ch. 38, 43  <b>Book Review Due on 7/11</b>
Unit 8 Week of 7/4	Perseverance and Apostasy	<u>Vocabulary Quiz #6</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Body of Christ</li> <li>• Church discipline</li> <li>• Heresy</li> <li>• Invisible church, the</li> <li>• <i>Kerygma</i></li> <li>• <i>Koinonia</i></li> <li>• Laity</li> <li>• Missions</li> <li>• Schism</li> <li>• Sect</li> <li>• Spiritual warfare</li> <li>• Visible church</li> </ul>	Erickson, ch. 47 Grudem, ch. 40, 42  Discussion Board Question #4
Unit 9 Week of 7/11	The Work of the Holy Spirit	<u>Vocabulary Quiz #7</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Affusion</li> <li>• Anathema</li> <li>• Consubstantiation</li> <li>• Ecumenism</li> <li>• Excommunication</li> <li>• Free churches</li> <li>• Immersion</li> <li>• Real presence of Christ</li> <li>• Separation of church and state</li> <li>• Spiritual presence</li> <li>• Transubstantiation</li> <li>• Worship</li> </ul>	Erickson, chs. 39-41 Grudem, ch. 30, 39, 52-53  Discussion Board Question #5

Unit & Date	Class Topic	Vocabulary Words	Readings & Assignments Due
Unit 10 Week of 7/18	The Nature and Government of the Church	<u>Vocabulary Quiz #8</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Apostolic succession</li> <li>• Baptism, believers'</li> <li>• Congregational form of church government</li> <li>• Episcopacy</li> <li>• Eucharist</li> <li>• <i>Ex cathedra</i></li> <li>• <i>Ex operer operato</i></li> <li>• Memorialism</li> <li>• Paedobaptism</li> <li>• Papacy</li> <li>• Presbyterianism</li> <li>• Sacrament</li> </ul>	Erickson, chs. 49-51 Grudem, ch. 44-48
Unit 11 Week of 7/18	Ordinances of the Church	<u>Vocabulary Quiz #9</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Amillennialism</li> <li>• Annihilationism proper</li> <li>• Antichrist</li> <li>• Chiliasm</li> <li>• Dispensationalism</li> <li>• Eschatology</li> <li>• Immortality</li> <li>• Parousia</li> <li>• Postmillennialism</li> <li>• Premillennialism</li> <li>• Prophecy</li> <li>• Rapture, the</li> </ul>	Erickson, ch. 52-53 Grudem, ch. 49-50  Discussion Board Question #6
Unit 12 Week of 7/25	Eschatology, Pt. 1		Erickson, chs. 54, 56-57 Grudem, ch. 54-55  <b><i>Cross of Christ Ministry Project Due on 7/30</i></b>

Unit & Date	Class Topic	Vocabulary Words	Readings & Assignments Due
Unit 13 Week of 7/25	Eschatology, Pt. 2	<u>Vocabulary Quiz #10</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Apokatastasis</i></li> <li>• Beatific vision</li> <li>• Conditional immortality</li> <li>• <i>Filioque</i></li> <li>• Hades</li> <li>• Intermediate state</li> <li>• Limbo</li> <li>• Paraclete</li> <li>• Purgatory</li> <li>• Sheol</li> <li>• Universalism</li> </ul>	Erickson, chs. 55, 58 Grudem, ch. 41, 56-57
Unit 14 Week of 7/31			<b>Research Paper Due on 7/31/2020</b>

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Grillmeier, Aloys. *Christ in Christian Tradition*. 2 vols. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 1988.

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Need, Stephen W. *Truly Divine and Truly Human: The Story of Christ and the Seven Ecumenical Councils*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2008.

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Wright, N. T. *The Resurrection of the Son of God*. Christian Origins and the Question of God, vol. 3. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2003.

### **Doctrine of Salvation**

Allen, David L., Eric Hankins, and Adam Harwood, eds. *Anyone Can Be Saved: A Defense of "Traditional" Southern Baptist Soteriology*. Alexandria, LA: Message Books, forthcoming.

Bass, Christopher D. *That You May Know: Assurance of Salvation in 1 John*. Nashville: B&H Academic, 2008.

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### **Doctrine of Holy Spirit**

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### **Doctrine of Last Things**

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