



Theology 5300 Systematic Theology I  
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary  
KTI

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*The mission of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary  
is to equip leaders to fulfill the Great Commission and  
the Great Commandments through the local church.*

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### **Purpose of the Course**

This course is toward a faith seeking understanding of Biblical Truth inter-related with baptist church's belief and life in a systematic way.

### **Core Value Focus**

- \* Doctrinal Integrity
- \* Spiritual Vitality
- \* Mission Focus
- \* Characteristic Excellence
- \* Servant Leadership

### **Curriculum Competencies Addressed**

This course will be address the following curriculum competencies:

1. Doctrinal Integrity: To develop a doctrinal integrity based on interpretation of the Bible, which is the main resource of the systematic theology with church's historical experiences.
2. Spiritual Vitality: To be growing in spirituality reflecting on the Christian biblical doctrines.
3. Mission Focus: To participate into outreaching mission field with theological knowledge based on the Bible.

### **Course Description**

This first course in systematic theology introduces the student to the methodology of doing theology (Prolegomena), historical background of

systematic theology, doctrines of revelation, God, humanity, and the person of Christ. The biblical foundation and the relevant historical developments are considered in developing a comprehensive statement of Christian teaching concerning construction of a Christian standing of each doctrine.

### **Learning Objectives**

In order to understand and interpret Christian theological heritage and Baptist polity for the church, the student, by the end of the course, should:

1. Be able to understand the processes, methods, assumptions, and world views of historical, theological, and philosophical disciplines.
2. Be able to apply their knowledge and understanding of the Christian doctrine of revelation, God, humanity, and the person of Christ to interpreting Christian theological heritage and Baptist polity for the church.
3. Organize a Christian understanding of doctrine into their decision making process.
4. Value the influence of various historical, theological, philosophical traditions, and world-views.
5. Be able to practice prolegomena, the methodology of the study of theology.
6. Be able, with the help of resources, to articulate and defend evangelical and Baptist positions on specific theological issues.

### **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.

### **Required Readings**

#### **Required Texts**

Bible (preferably a contemporary translation such as the ESV, HCSB, NASB, NET, NIV, NTL and NKRV(한글개역성경))

The Baptist Faith and Message Study Committee. "Comparison of 1925, 1963, and 2000, Baptist Faith and Message," Available at <http://sbe.net/bfm/bfmcomparison.asp>; Internet.

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### **Optional Texts**

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Milne, Bruce. *Know The Truth. England: A Handbook of Christian Belief*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP, 2009.  
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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 ed. Rev. Wayne C. Booth, Gregory G. Colomb, and Joseph M. Williams. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 2007

### **Course Teaching Methodology**

The course will mainly consist of classroom lecture and discussion based on student's reading materials and researches of the topics.

### **Course Requirements**

1. Vocabulary Quizzes(20%)

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. In case of web-based quiz never use the back button or the test will end you will be graded on what you have completed. The allotted time for weekly quizzes is 15 minutes. The quizzes are not open book.

## 2. Critical Book Review (30%)

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 (e.g., his position, degrees, research interests, and other words), (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 a third 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 on source, use parenthetical citation for the primary text and footnotes only.

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 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 papers (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.

### 3. Theological Research Paper (30%)

All students are required to write a brief research paper (6-7 single-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 topics.

Students should read the available research paper resources in the "Pater 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 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 gree 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 Inspiration of Scripture	Anselm of Canterbury
The authority of Scripture	Arminius, James
Biblical Inerrancy	Athanasius
General revelation and World Religion	Augustine
Arguments for God's Existence	Barth, Karl
God's Incommunicable Attributes	Brunner, Emil
God's communicable Attributes	Calvin, John
The Trinity	Cappadocian Fathers
Creation	Edwards, Jonathan
Providence	Hodge, Charles
God and Evil	Justin Martyr
The Image of God	Luther, Martin
The Imputation of Adam's Sin	Mullins, E. Y.
Total Depravity	Origen
The Age of Accountability	Schleiermacher, Friedrich
The Humanity of Christ	Tertullian
The Peccability/Impeccability of Christ	Thomas Aquinas
The Hypostatic Union	Wesley, John
	Zwingli, Huldreich

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#### 4. Comprehensive Final Exam(20%)

Students are required to take a final comprehensive exam that covers all the lecture and reading material throughout the course of the semester. The exam is an written essay test.

### Attendance Policy

#### 1. Late work

Because life and ministry happens, late work will be accepted—but not without penalty. For every day an assignment is late, five points will be taken off. No assignment over two weeks late will be accepted. Failure to submit every assignment will result in failure of the course.

#### 2. Plagiarism

The instructor calls attention to the policy on plagiarism found in the NOBTS Graduate Catalog and Student Handbook. 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).

### Course Evaluation

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. 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 Schedule

Unit/Date	Class Topics	Vocabulary Words for Quiz or Reading Guide	Readings/ Assignments
1.	Introduction	Systematic Theology, Doctrine, Dogma	Syllabus, Berkhof's Introduction
2.	Prolegomena and	Evangelical Doctrine	Grudem, chap. 1

	Theological Method		Erickson. chap. 1, 2
3.	General Revelation and Natural Theology	Nature of Religion and Revelation, Insufficiency of General Revelation,	Erickson. chap. 3
4.	Special Revelation and Bibliology	Inspiration, Inerrancy, Authority of the Bible	Grudem. part I Erickson. chap. 4-6
5.	God's Existence and Attributes	Knowledge of God, Character of God, Immanence and Transcendence of God	Grudem. chap. 9-13 Erickson. chap. 8-10
6.	The Trinity	Person of God, Three Person and One God, Monarchianism, Analogical Explanation of Trinity	Grudem. chap. 14 Erickson. chap. 10
7.	Creation	Materialism, Pantheism, Dualism, Big-Bang Theory, Evolutionism, Theistic Evolution	Grudem. chap. 15 Erickson. chap.13
8.	Providence	Providence as Preservation, Providence as Government, Prayer, Miracle,	Grudem. chap. 16 Erickson. chap. 14
	Fall Breaks (no meeting)		
9.	Angel and Origin of Evil	Origin of Angel and Demon, Role of Angel and Demon, Satan	Grudem. chap. 19, 20 Erickson. chap. 16 ----- <b>Due Day: Critical Book Review</b>
10.	Theological Anthropology	Image of God, Nature of the Human, Trichotomism, Dichotomism, Monism,	Grudem. chap. 21-23 Erickson. chap. 17-19
11.	Hamartiology	The Source of Sin, Original Sin, Nature of	Grudem. chap. 24 Erickson. chap.

		Sin, Guilt, Punishment, Total Depravity, Pelagianism, Arminianism, Calvinism, Death.	20-22
12.	Christology, I: The Deity of Jesus Christ	Incarnation of God Perfectness of Jesus Christ Ebionism, Arianism, Functional Christology	Grudem. 28. chap. 26 Erickson. chap. 23
13	The Christology, II: Humanity of Jesus Christ	The Virgin Birth, Docetism, Apollinarianism, Sinlessness of Jesus, The Unity of the Person of Christ, Nestorianism, Eutychianism, Adoptionism, Kenoticism, Dynamic Incarnation	Grudem. chap. 28. 26 Erickson. chap. 24, 25
	Thanks Giving Breaks (no meeting)		
14	Final Meeting and Exam.		Due day: Theological Research Paper

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