

CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE (THCM 2300—01)

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Leavell College – Center for the Americas
Thursdays 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. | Fall 2014

Rev. Daniel T. Slavich
Phone: 408-772-1819
E-mail: danny@pembrokeroad.org

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The purpose of this course is to survey the doctrines of the Christian faith. Students are introduced to the biblical, historical, philosophical, and systematic aspects of theology. Special attention is given to Baptist doctrine.

STUDENT OBJECTIVES

At the conclusion of the course, the student will:

1. Be able to identify and define the major theological doctrines and heresies;
2. Be able to intelligently discuss God and how He has related to the world;
3. Be able to intelligently discuss the person and work of Jesus Christ;
4. Be able to explain the dynamics of human depravity and divine redemption;
5. Be able to identify the church's role in the world;
6. Be able to construct his/her own personal theological understanding; and
7. Have a greater appreciation for theological studies.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

Wayne Grudem. *Bible Doctrine*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1999.

The principle means of instruction for this course will be lecture and discussion. Handouts and visual aids will be utilized to supplement classroom presentations and discussion. An integral part of the learning environment will be reading assignments, reading notes, and outside assignments.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. The student will attend and participate in the class sessions. The class will adhere to the attendance policy stated in the catalogue. Any student missing more than three class sessions will receive an automatic grade of "F" for the course, unless excused by the Dean of Leavell College. Three tardies will count as one absence.
2. The student is required to read the assigned material before coming to class.

3. Quizzes will be given over the assigned reading materials. All quizzes will be given at the beginning of the class period. 50% of each quiz grade will be based on the completion of the assigned reading. Failure to complete the reading will result in an automatic 50% reduction of that week's quiz grade. The student will receive a zero for each missed quiz. The two lowest quizzes will be dropped.

4. The student will take a sectional exam and a final exam. The final exam will be comprehensive.

5. Please Note: The student is responsible for scheduling make-up exams. No make-up exams will be given unless a valid excuse is provided. The student must contact the professor before the exam unless circumstances prohibit it. The professor reserves the right to include any material from the textbook or lecture on the make-up exam. All make-up exams must be scheduled within two weeks from the scheduled date.

6. The final grade for the course will be determined as follows:

15%---Quizzes, Class Participation, and Outside Assignments**

**Throughout the semester these assignments will compensate for the third hour of required coursework

15%---Sectional Exam

15%---Sectional Exam

25%---Final Exam

20%---Position Paper

10%---Completion of all assigned reading

5% --- Extra credit. Throughout the semester, extra credit up to 5% of the total class grade (1/2 letter grade) will be offered for various assignments.

7. POSITION PAPER ASSIGNMENT:

a. Each student will write an 8-10 page position paper, using at least 10 sources. Only four of these may be Internet-based sources.

b. The goal of this assignment is for each student to solidify his or her position on an issue of Christian Doctrine.

c. This paper should follow this format:

i. Introduction

ii. Summary of Historical Positions

iii. Biblical Evidence

iv. Conclusion

d. Each student must turn in a one-page typed proposal for his or her position paper on October 2 for approval by the professor.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

August 21: Introduction

August 28: The Doctrine of Scripture

Reading: Grudem, ch.1-3

Assignment: Reading notes

September 4: The Doctrine of God

Reading: Grudem 4-6

Assignment: Reading notes

September 11: The Doctrine of God

Reading: Grudem 7-10

Assignment: Reading notes

September 18 SECTIONAL EXAM #1

September 25: The Doctrine of God

Reading: Grudem 11-13

Assignment: Paper: "Theology in the Local Church" (will be discussed in class)

October 2: The Doctrine of Man

Reading: Grudem 14-16

Assignment: Paper Proposal DUE

October 9: The Doctrine of the Person of Christ

Reading: Grudem 17-19

Assignment: Reading notes

October 16: Fall Break – No Class

October 24 The Doctrine of the Work of Christ

Reading: Grudem 20-22

Assignment: Reading notes

October 30: SECTIONAL EXAM #2

The Doctrine of the Work of Christ

Reading: Grudem 23-25

Assignments: Reading notes

November 6: The Doctrine of the Church

Reading: Grudem 26-28

Assignment: Reading notes

November 13: The Doctrine of the Church

Reading: Grudem 29-30

Assignment: Reading Notes

November 20: The Doctrine of Last Things

Reading: Grudem 31-34

Assignment: Position Paper

November 27: Thanksgiving Break – No Class

December 4 FINAL EXAM

DUE: Position Paper

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Conyers, A. J. *A Basic Christian Theology*. Nashville: Broadman, 1995.

Dorman, Ted M. *A Faith for all Seasons: Historic Christian Belief in its Classical Expression, 2d ed.* Nashville: Broadman, 2001.

Erickson, Millard. *Christian Theology*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1985.

Garrett, James Leo. *Systematic Theology: Biblical, Historical and Evangelical*. North Richland Hills, Texas: Bibal Press, 2000.

Grenz, Stanley J. *Theology for the Community of God*. Nashville: Broadman, 1994.

Grudem, Wayne. *Systematic Theology: An Introduction to Biblical Doctrine*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1994.

Kelly, J. N. D. *Early Christian Doctrines*. San Francisco: Harper and Row, 1978.

O'Collins, Gerald. *Christology: A Biblical, Historical, and Systematic Study of Jesus*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1995.

For additional bibliographic sources, please see the professor.