

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

Systematic Theology 1—THEO 5300

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NOBTS Mission:

To equip leaders to fulfill the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.

Course Description (From Catalog)

THEO5300 Systematic Theology 1 (3 hours)

This first course in systematic theology introduces the student to the methodology of the study of theology (Prolegomena), and the doctrines of revelation, God, humanity, and the person of Christ. The biblical foundation and the relevant historical developments are considered in construction of a Christian understanding of each doctrine.

Core Value:

Servant Leadership - We follow the model of Jesus and exert leadership and influence through the nurture and encouragement of those around us.

Course Objectives

By the end of this course the student should:

- 🕒 ***Utilize*** concepts and arguments related to systematic theology in the discussion of religious topics.
- 🕒 ***Value*** systematic theology as it relates to life and Christian Ministry.
- 🕒 ***Develop*** sound arguments for and critiques of religious perspectives.

Assignments

Guided Research Paper: Each student will write two guided research papers consisting of approximately 4,000 to 6,000 words.

Collaborative Course Notes: Each student will participate in a group project that will develop an extensive outline of topics, issues, and vocabulary associated with the course.

Critical Book Reviews: Each student will write a critical book review of two books. Each book review should consist of approximately **2,000 to 3,000 words with NO MORE than 800 to 1,200 words (40% of the paper) as SUMMARY** of the material. **The purpose of a critical book review is to challenge or support the arguments of the authors.**

Class Participation: Participation in the class, individually and as a group, is essential and required.

Writing Guide

An example of style expectations will be provided by the professor.

Late Work:

All assignments are due at the beginning of the class period for which they are assigned. **Late work will not be accepted.**

Grading:

Guided Research Papers:	45%
Collaborative Course Notes:	
<i>Group Portion</i>	10%
<i>Individual Portion</i>	10%
Critical Book Reviews:	30%
<u>Class Participation:</u>	<u>15%</u>
Total	100%

Final Grades will be assessed according to current New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary Graduate Catalog.

Extra Credit

Critical Book Reviews: Each student may critically evaluate up to two books not previously reviewed for extra credit. Each book review may add up to three points to the final average. (Excellent book review + 3 points, Good book review +2 points, Average book review, +1 point, Poor book review +0 points). Extra credit book reviews will conform to the same standard as the assigned book reviews.

Absences

Attendance is required. The absence policy in the current New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary Graduate Catalog will be enforced.

Textbooks

Required Texts

Akin, Daniel, *A Theology for the Church*. Nashville: B&H Academic, 2007.

Erickson, Millard J. *The Concise Dictionary of Christian Theology*. Wheaton: Crossway, 2001.

Optional Texts

Systematics

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

Erickson, Millard J. *Christian Theology*: Grand Rapids: Baker, 1983.

Others

Roy, Steven C. *How Much Does God Foreknow? A Comprehensive Biblical Study*. Downers Grove: IVP Academic, 2006.

Flint, Thomas. *Divine Providence: The Molinist Account*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 1998.

Sennett, James F. and Douglass Groothuis. *In Defense of Natural Theology: A Post-Humean Assessment*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2005.

Tiessen, Terrance L. *Who Can Be Saved? Reassessing Salvation in Christ and World Religions*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 2004.

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

Course Outline

The course schedule is tentative and will be modified as necessary. All reading assignments are to be completed prior to the class session for which they are assigned. I recommend that you complete as much of your reading as soon as possible. Reading assignments are from *A Theology for the Church* by Daniel Akin. Alternative chapters are from *Systematic Theology* by Wayne Grudem.

Date	Class	Part	Topics	Akin Reading	Alt. Reading	Assignments
8/27	1	Prolegomena	Welcome Worldviews	927-934 Ch. 1	Ch. 1	
9/10	2	Doctrine of Revelation	General Revelation Special Revelation The Bible	Ch. 2-3	Ch. 2-8	
9/24	3	Doctrine of God	Nature of God	Ch. 4	Ch. 9-14	Book Review #1
10/8	4		Creation	Ch. 5	Ch. 15	Guided Research Paper #1
10/22	5		Providence	Ch. 5	Ch. 16	
11/5	6		Miracles, Prayer, Angels, Demons, Satan	Ch. 6	Ch. 17-20	Book Review #2
11/26	7	Doctrine of Humanity	Nature of Humanity, Imago Dei, Harmartiology	Ch. 7-8	Ch. 21-25	Guided Research Paper #2
12/3	8	Doctrine of Christ (Part 1)	Contemporary issues in Christology, Deity of Christ, Humanity of Christ, Unity of Christ, Virgin Birth	Ch. 9	Ch. 26	Collaborative Notes

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

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- Archer, Margaret S., et al. *Transcendence: Critical Realism and God*. London and New York: Routledge, 1998.
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- Beckwith, C. A. *The Idea of God: Historical, Critical, Constructive*. New York: Macmillan, 1922.
- Beeke, Joel. *The Quest for Full Assurance: The Legacy of Calvin and His Successors*. Grand Rapids: The Banner of Truth Trust, 1999.
- Bloesch, Donald G. *God The Almighty: Power, Wisdom, Holiness, Love*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1995.
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