

**HIST 5323 BAPTIST HERITAGE
HYBRID COURSE
FALL 2010/11
DANNY NANCE, Ph.D.**

danracus@yahoo.com

2705 E. Stevens Cir., Gulfport, MS 39503

H. 228-206-2549; C. 228-343-6499

I. Mission Statement

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

II. Core Values Focus

Spiritual Vitality

In observance of this semester's core value of Spiritual Vitality, your professor encourages you to read through the Bible during the academic year 2010-2011.

III. Curriculum Competencies Addressed

Christian Theological Heritage

IV. Course Description:

This course surveys Baptist history, polity, and theology from seventeenth-century origins to the present, with primary emphasis on developments in England and North America. Attention is given to Anabaptist and English Separatist antecedents, intellectual and social currents that have shaped Baptist life and thought, institutional developments, theological distinctives and crises, the shaping of Baptist polity and contributions of selected Baptist leaders.

V. Objectives: In order to understand and interpret for the church Baptist heritage and polity, by the end of the course a student should:

- Demonstrate knowledge of basic information about significant persons, dates, events, places, and movements in the overall flow of Baptist history
- Value Baptist heritage
- Evaluate historical issues according to Scripture and personal convictions
- Develop an appreciation for the wider Baptist family
- Interpret contemporary issues in Baptist life in light of their historical roots
- Develop the ability to think both historically and critically, to see persons, movements, and ideas within a chronological framework, and to analyze their relationships to other concepts and movements as well.
- Demonstrate knowledge about the foundation and development of the Southern Baptist Convention and understand its role within the larger Baptist family

VI. Required Texts:

There are three (3) required books for this class: a textbook, an anthology of essays on the Baptist Faith and Message 2000, and a book on Baptist distinctives. These books complement one another as tools for understanding our Baptist heritage.

McBeth, H. Leon. *The Baptist Heritage: Four Centuries of Baptist Witness*. Nashville: Broadman, 1987.

Blount, Douglas K. and Joseph D. Wooddell, ed. *Baptist Faith and Message 2000: Critical Issues in America's Largest Protestant Denomination*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, 2007.

Norman, R. Stanton. *The Baptist Way: Distinctives of a Baptist Church*. Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 2005.

VII. Requirements:

- A. *Tests:* There will be six (6) tests, each worth 25 points, given throughout the semester. Unit Tests are available on Blackboard under Course Documents. The lowest test grade will be dropped. Tests will be available on the Monday the unit is finished and must be completed by midnight on Friday at the end of the week. Each test will last 50 minutes and be timed. Exams *should* be taken without notes in front of you. Please study for the test, and then take it. You are on the honor system. The final day by which each unit's test must be completed is as follows:

Unit 1: September 17

Unit 2: October 1

Unit 3: October 29

Unit 4: November 12

Unit 5: December 3

Unit 6: December 10

- B. *Final Exam:* This exam will consist of six (6) take-home essay questions. It will be comprehensive of the entire course, affording the student the opportunity to integrate information from throughout the course. Questions will cover material from class lectures and assigned reading. The questions are available under Course Information now, and it is recommended that students write one essay at the conclusion of each unit, so that the work is nearly completed by the deadline. **Due December 13.** Submit the final exam in the Course Documents assignment area. The Final Exam is included at the end of this syllabus.
- C. *Assigned Reading:* Students are expected to read the assigned pages listed for each unit. A report on Blackboard under Course Documents, assignments, is due on the last day of each unit on the percentage completed (in 20% increments) of that unit's assigned reading. Each report is worth up to 5 points. Reading Reports are found at the end of each unit's assignments. An additional 5 point bonus will be awarded to students who have completed **all** the assigned reading by **Dec. 6.** See the Reading Schedule at the end of this syllabus.
- D. *Book Review:* Every student will write a book review of Stan Norman's *The Baptist Way*. The review should be between five to six double-spaced typewritten pages in length. Bibliographical information should appear at the top of the first page of the review. The review also should contain 1) a brief biographical sketch of the author, 2) a brief summary [one to two pages] of the contents of the book, 3) a statement of the author's purpose and the extent to which the purpose was realized, 4) a

statement regarding the book's uniqueness, 5) a description of the author's style, 6) a description of the author's biases, and 7) a concluding evaluation. **Due Oct 4.** Submit the Book Review in the Course Documents, assignment area.

- E. *Biography*: You will research and write a biography on a significant person in Baptist history. The biography will be six to eight pages long and should reflect scholarly research. You should delineate between historical fact and legend (although limited legendary material is welcome) and discuss the historical context and influence of your subject in Baptist history as well as church history in general. It will be written according to standard guidelines (Turabian; Times New Roman 12 pt. font; double-spaced; standard margins, etc.) and include a bibliography of at least six resources (Textbooks, reference books, and the Internet are allowed, but you must consult a minimum of three "real" books as well). Suggested subjects are:

John Smyth	Augustus H. Strong
Thomas Helwys	Lottie Moon
John Bunyan	Hudson Taylor
Benjamin Keach	B. H. Carroll
John Gill	E. Y. Mullins
Andrew Fuller	William Bell Riley
William Carey	Walter Rauschenbusch
Adoniram Judson	W. O. Carver
Roger Williams	H. Wheeler Robinson
John Clarke	W. T. Conner
John Leland	J. Frank Norris
Isaac Backus	George W. Truett
Richard Furman	Herschel Hobbs
John L. Dagg	W. A. Criswell
Alexander Campbell	Carl F. H. Henry
J. R. Graves	Billy Graham
C. H. Spurgeon	Adrian Rogers

You may choose another subject for your biography, but you must have prior approval from the professor. **Due Nov 15.** Submit the Biography under the Course Documents assignment area.

VIII. Penalties:

Tests: Unit exams must be taken by date of the unit completion. One unit exam grade will be dropped.

Projects: A late project assignment will be assessed a **10 percent penalty if it is submitted after the deadline and a 20 percent penalty after five days. No assignment will be accepted after one week past the deadline.**

Plagiarism: New Orleans Baptist Seminary maintains high academic standards and is not tolerant of plagiarism. If you copy another author's work and present it as your own, you will be caught, and the penalty could be failure on that assignment or the course or expulsion from the Seminary.

IX. Submission of Assignments

1. The Unit Tests, and Reading Reports, will be conducted on Blackboard. Unit Tests and Reading Reports are under Course Documents and under each respective unit.

2. You will submit the Biography in the Discussion Board also. Attach your biography by clicking on the Browse button. The reason for submitting your biography in this way is to make it available to the other students. I want you all to be able to benefit from the others' research and writing.
3. Your Book Review and Final Exam will be submitted in the Digital Drop Box, which you will find under Tools. When you submit your assignments, be sure to click the button that says **Send File**. If you click the other button, I will not receive it, and you will not receive credit.
4. Please do not send your assignments to me as email attachments unless I request you to do so or unless there is a compelling reason. You may send me an email announcing that you have submitted an assignment, but, if you follow the correct procedures, I will find it. I enjoy hearing from my students, but my Inbox fills up pretty quickly with attachments, and then I have to shift them over to the proper location.

X. Possible Points & Grading Scale:

<u>Possible Points</u>	<u>Grading Scale</u>
Reading: 20 pts.	A = 385-415 pts.
Tests (5 x 25): 125 pts.	B = 340-384 pts.
Final Exam: 60 pts.	C = 295-339 pts.
Book Review: 100 pts.	D = 250-294 pts.
Biography: 100 pts.	F = 249 - 0 pts.
Part/Attend: <u>10 pts.</u>	
415 pts.	

XI. Emergency Plan

In case of hurricane, an outbreak of H1N1 Virus, or any other emergency, go to the seminary web site for information: www.nobts.edu. The administration will communicate information that relates to the seminary: the nature of the emergency, instructions for responses, evacuation, contingency plans, duration of the emergency, and plans to return to campus and/or resume the schedule.

Also, check Blackboard for instructions related to this class. Because this class is conducted entirely on the Internet, there should be minimal disruption unless the emergency affects electrical power and connection to the Internet.

In any emergency, communication is important, and our best means of staying connected is through the seminary's web site and Blackboard.

Baptist Heritage Final Essay Questions

Answer all six essay questions. Each essay question is worth 10 points. Your responses must be in complete sentences and in your own words. Do not simply "cut and paste" information from the lecture notes or any other source. In fact, no sources other than the lecture notes and the texts are required or expected. Since you have the entire semester to complete the final exam, I expect each answer to be thorough – about one single-spaced page. See the syllabus for the due date.

1. Briefly compare and contrast the General Baptists and Particular Baptists of the 1600s in England. Include key individuals, major doctrines, relevant confessions of faith.

2. Describe the beginning of Baptists' foreign mission work as conducted by Baptists in England and America.
3. Briefly describe the development of black Baptist denominations in America. Include key dates, leaders, issues and denominations.
4. What is Landmarkism? Include major leaders, writings, and the effect it has had on the Southern Baptist Convention.
5. Describe the Fundamentalist movement and the impact it has had on Baptists in the North and the South. Include key dates, leaders, issues, and denominations.
6. Describe the formation of the Southern Baptist Convention. Include the causes and events leading up to the event.

BONUS (5 points): Who was or is the most influential and/or interesting person (other than the one who was the subject of your biography) that you studied this semester in Baptist Heritage? Briefly explain the reason for your choice.

Class Meeting Schedule:

Date	Topic of Discussion
8/30	Why Baptist Heritage? Baptist Distinctives: Do They Really Matter?
9/13	From Whence We Came: How Our Understanding of Origins May Effect Our Present State?
9/27	Significance of the Decline and Renewal of English Baptists 18 th Cent.
10/11	America: an Experiment of Religious Freedom — Baptists and Separation of Church and State
10/25	The Southern Baptist Convention's Formation: What Can We Learn? How Can We Move Beyond Our Beginnings?
11/8	Controversies of the Past: Can We Learn From Them?
11/29	What Was the Most Significant Event in the SBC in the Past 100 Years?
12/6	Where Do We Go From Here?

Reading Schedule:

[M] McBeth, H. Leon. *The Baptist Heritage: Four Centuries of Baptist Witness*. Nashville: Broadman, 1987.

[B] Blount, Douglas K. and Joseph D. Wooddell, ed. *Baptist Faith and Message 2000: Critical Issues in America's Largest Protestant Denomination*. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, 2007.

Unit	Subject	Reading
[1]	Baptist Polity, Distinctives, and Origins	M: 48-63
	English Dissent and John Smyth	M: 19-32, 99-102
	General and Particular Baptists	M: 32-48, 102-111

	Confessions of Faith	M: 64-98
		B: xiii-24
[2]	Challenges and Growth	M: 111-122
	English Baptists (1689-1770)	M: 151-158, 171-178
	New Connection & BMS	M: 158-170, 178-199
	From Spurgeon to the Present	M: 285-321, 495-525
		B: 25-54
[3]	Beginnings in America	M: 123-140
	Early American Expansion	M: 140-150
	First Great Awakening	M: 200-251
	Struggle for Religious Liberty	M: 252-283
		B: 55-88
[4]	American Missions	M: 343-370
	Anti-mission Reaction	M: 370-380
	Oncken and Ethnic Missions	M: 464-494, 587-589, 724-749
	Formation of SBC	M: 381-391
	African-American Baptists	M: 776-90
		B: 89-120
[5]	Northern Baptists 1845-1920	M: 392-412, 563-68
	Southern Baptists 1845-1900	M: 413-47
	Landmarkism	M: 447-63, 749-55
	Fundamentalism	M: 568-78, 755-70
		B: 121-162
[6]	Southern Baptists 1900-1960	M: 609-23, 632-75
	Amer. Baptists Since 1950 & Reformed	M: 578-608, 770-76
	SBC Expansion & Controversies	M: 623-32, 675-87
		B: 163-192