



SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY II

THEO5301

Saturdays – Fall 2010
August 28, September 25,
October 30, November 13

Mr. Rhyne Putman

rputman@nobts.edu
Office 504-282-4455 ext. 3247
Dodd 106 · Twitter: @rhyneputman



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

2 John 1:9

The Mission of the Seminary

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 and its ministries.

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. 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.

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 for the academic year 2010-2011 is Mission Focus. For those students who participated in the plan to read through the Bible during the academic year 2009-2010, I have included in this syllabus the Bible Reading Plan that closes out August.

Course Objectives

The student who satisfactorily completes this course by fulfillment of the requirements should be able:

- to identify and explain the general and particular details of the doctrinal topics specified in the course;
- to cite biblical data on the doctrines and to present them according to the proper rules of hermeneutics;
- to articulate and defend evangelical and Baptist positions on specific theological issues;

- to show a learned familiarity and understanding of various viewpoints and their adherents;
- to demonstrate a thorough knowledge of the contents of the textbooks;
- to translate and integrate theology into practical ministry;
- and to be enriched spiritually through the teaching of Scripture.

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 Texts

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

The Bible (preferably a contemporary translation such as the ESV, HCSB, NASB, or NIV).

Grudem, Wayne. *Systematic Theology*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Academic, 2000.

Stott, John R. W. *The Cross of Christ*. Downer's Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2006.

Review Monographs (Choose One)

Cole, Graham A. *God the Peacemaker: How Atonement Brings Shalom*. New Studies in Biblical Theology 25. Downer's Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2009.

Cole, Graham A. *He Who Gives Life: The Doctrine of the Holy Spirit*. Foundations of Evangelical Theology. Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 2007.

Peterson, David. *Possessed by God: A New Testament Theology of Sanctification and Holiness*. New Studies in Biblical Theology 1. Downer's Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1995.

Schreiner, Thomas R. and Shawn Wright, eds. *Believer's Baptism: Sign of the New Covenant in Christ*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 2007.

Seifrid, Mark A. *Christ Our Righteousness: Paul's Theology of Justification*. New Studies in Biblical Theology 9. Downer's Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2000.

Witherington, Ben, III. *Jesus, Paul, and the End of the World: A Comparative Study in New Testament Theology*. Downer's Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1992.

Recommended Texts

Garrett, James Leo. *Systematic Theology*. Vols. 1-2. North Richland Hills, TX: BIBAL Press, 2006, 2007.

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

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 Requirements

1. Attendance and Course Participation (10%)

Students are expected to participate in classroom discussion and to read the required materials (from Grudem or other articles posted on Blackboard by the instructor) prior to class attendance. Students **will be required to hand in a reading report at the end of the semester**.

2. The Cross of Christ Ministry Project (15%) **Due October 30**

Every student will read John R. W. Stott's *The Cross of Christ* in its entirety and prepare a ministry-related project based on the book's contents. Students may write a sermon manuscript, a devotional, a Bible study, or a personal essay that relates a particular problem addressed by Stott to apologetics, Christian education, family counseling, evangelism, pastoral ministry, preaching, women's ministry, or student ministry. The goal of this project is to integrate critical theological reflection and ministry praxis—to demonstrate *how one thinks about God shapes the way one acts!* Possible projects include (but are not limited to):

- An **evangelism** report and reflection that highlights central themes from the book.
- A personal essay/sermon on the significance of Christ's cross for responding to those suffering with **guilt and feelings of inadequacy**.
- A personal essay/sermon related to your particular ministry on how Christ's work relates to receiving/giving **forgiveness**.
- A personal essay on ministering to **difficult people** in light of the cross.
- A personal essay on **self-sacrifice** in ministry in light of Christ's sacrifice.
- A personal essay on ministering to those in **suffering** in light of Christ's suffering.
- A personal essay/sermon on how the cross of Christ relates to **the problem of evil**.

Each project should be between **1500 and 3000 words** and should conform to Turabian or SBL style. **Papers will be evaluated on the extent of critical reflection and interaction with the**

book's contents. Failure to demonstrate interaction with Stott will result in severe penalty. Students should also be prepared to discuss the book in class.

3. Exams (50%) Mid-Term Due October 16 Final Exam Due December 4

There are two exams in this course: a mid-term and a final exam, both of which are taken in Blackboard. Students will be evaluated on their mastery of the course content and their ability to engage it critically. Each exam consists of two parts: a comprehensive objective section covering material from the course lectures and a “take home” essay that will be collected when the student takes the exam. The objective section will consist of multiple choice, true/false, and fill-in-the-blank questions drawn primarily from the lecture materials. Students will have twenty minutes to complete each quiz. This “take home” essay question will be given two weeks prior to the exam. The mid-term is worth 20% while the final is worth 30%.

4. Critical Book Review (25%) Due November 13

Students must write a critical book review of one of the optional review monographs. The review should include (1) a bibliography entry, (2) a brief biographical data about the author(s) (e.g., his or her position, degrees, research interests, and books), (3) an assessment of the main purpose and/or thesis of the book, (4) a concise summary of the book's contents, (5) a thorough critical analysis of the book, and (6) a conclusion with a recommendation or dismissal. The review 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 while reading these monographs: 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.

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.

Blackboard

An important instrument in the implementation of this course is the Blackboard Learning System. The course ID is **THEO5301RPSAT** and the password is **Leviticus23:3**.

All assignments (book reviews, ministry projects) 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).

Note outlines—**not** the PowerPoints—will be available in PDF format in the content section of the website.

Class Policies

1. Attendance and Class Participation

As noted above, attendance and class participation are necessary for meeting the requirements of this class. Students are expected to be attentive and prepared for each class session. Students who are engaged in private conversations or doing work for other classes may be asked to leave the class; repeat violations may result in removal from the course. Rude or disruptive behavior is also not permitted.

Because of the brevity of this Saturday course, students are allowed **no absences**. One absence will result in the failure of the course. Tardiness beyond 20 minutes will be counted as an absence. Students are **not** permitted to leave the class early. Furthermore, failure to read the materials beforehand will result in a lower participation score.

2. Laptop Guidelines

Laptops are permitted in class as long as they are used for taking notes or accessing Blackboard materials related to this particular course. *Students using laptops are requested to sit in the front of the classroom for accountability purposes.* Gaming, e-mail, social networking, and web browsing of any kind are strictly prohibited. Failure to heed this policy may result in dismissal from the class session; repeat violations may result in removal from the course.

3. 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.

4. 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).

Extra Credit

1. Book Review

Students may write one (1) additional critical book review of another book from the list of review monographs for extra credit. All of the requirements for the critical review listed above apply to extra credit book reviews. Students can earn up to five points on their final grade with a quality critical book review.

2. ETS Report

Students attending the annual national meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society in Atlanta, GA on November 17-19, 2010 may write a 1000-word report on papers attended (at least three). Students can earn up to five points on their final grade with submission. For registration information, please visit <http://www.etsjets.org>.

THEO5301 Fall 2010 Saturday Schedule			
Lectures, Readings, Assignments			
Date	Class Topic	Assignments	Readings
<u>8/28</u>	Introduction to the Course The Work of Christ		Grudem chapters 27-29 —"The Atonement," "Resurrection and Ascension," and "The Offices of Christ"
<u>9/25</u>	Soteriology Pt. 1		Grudem chapters 32-37, 43—"Election and Reprobation," "The Gospel Call and Effective Calling," "Regeneration," "Conversion," "Justification," "Adoption," "Union with Christ" BFM 2000 Articles 4 and 5
<i>10/11-10/16</i>		Mid-Term Exam available on Blackboard through Saturday @ 10 p.m.	
<i>10/18-10/22</i>	FALL BREAK "...give him rest from days of trouble..." (Psalm 94:13)		
<u>10/30</u>	Soteriology Pt. 2 Pneumatology	<i>Cross of Christ</i> Ministry Project Due	Grudem chapters 30, 38-40, 52-53 —"The Work of the Holy Spirit," "Sanctification," "Baptism in and Filling with the Holy Spirit," "The Perseverance of the Saints," "Gifts of the Holy Spirit: General Questions," "Gifts of the Holy Spirit: Specific Gifts" BFM 2000 Articles 1 and 4
<u>11/13</u>	Ecclesiology Eschatology	Critical Book Review Due	Grudem chapters 41, 44, 47, 49-50, 54-56 —"Death and the Intermediate State," "The Church," "Church Government," "Baptism," "The Lord's Supper," "The Return of Christ," "The Millennium," "The Final Judgment and Eternal Punishment" BFM 2000 Articles 6-10
<i>11/29-12/04</i>		Final Exam available on Blackboard through Saturday @ 10 p.m.	

Bold, underlined dates indicate a scheduled class day.

Italicized dates indicate a period when assignments are due.

Bible Reading Plan
August 23-31, 2010

AUGUST

- 23 Micah 5:1-7:20, Revelation 14:1-20, Psalm 145:14-21, Proverbs 31:10-12
- 24 Nahum 1:1-3:19, Revelation 15:1-16:11, Psalm 146:1-10, Proverbs 31:13-14
- 25 Habakkuk 1:1-3:19, Revelation 16:12-17:8, Psalm 147:1-6, Proverbs 31:15-17
- 26 Zeph 1:1-3:20, Revelation 17:9-18:8, Psalm 147:7-14, Proverbs 31:18-19
- 27 Haggai 1:1- Zechariah 1:21, Revelation 18:9-24, Psalm 147:15-20, Proverbs 31:20-22
- 28 Zech 2:1-6:15, Revelation 19:1-21, Psalm 148:1-6, Proverbs 31:23-25
- 29 Zech 7:1-10:12, Revelation 20:1-21:4, Psalm 148:7-14, Proverbs 31:26-27
- 30 Zech 11:1-14:21, Revelation 21:5-27, Psalm 149:1-9, Proverbs 31:28-29
- 31 Malachi 1:1-4:6, Revelation 22:1-21, Psalm 150:1-6, Proverbs 31:30-31