

THSR9304 Supervised Reading Colloquium: Baptist Theology
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Spring 2016 – Four Thursdays, 6:00–8:00 PM, Dodd Conference Room

Professor

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Course Description

This colloquium is designed for and led by Doctor of Philosophy and Masters of Theology students under the supervision of the faculty of the Theological and Historical Studies Division, with focused readings on Baptist and Christian Theology.

Core Value & Key Competency Focus

This academic year, the NOBTS core value is **Mission Focus**, which is stated as follows: “Our Seminary does not exist merely to get an education or to give an education. We are here to change the world by fulfilling the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.” The primary key competency in ministry addressed in this course is **Christian Theological Heritage**.

Course Policies

Attendance: Per the *NOBTS Graduate Catalog 2015–2016*, “PhD students are expected to attend all class sessions. . . . To drop a course, students must contact the Office of Research Doctoral Programs” (156).

Attire: Students should wear professional or business-casual attire (guidance for men: either a tie or a blazer or both; jeans are permitted with a blazer).

Grading: The performance of each student in this colloquium will be assessed by the professor as either pass or fail, based on the student completing all assigned work at a grade level of “B” or higher. Late work will not be accepted.

Style Guides: Current editions of Turabian’s *A Manual for Writers*, *The Chicago Manual of Style*, and *The SBL Handbook of Style*.

Course Requirements, Required Texts, and Schedule:

- **Book Summaries.** Students will read and summarize (not critique) 15 books listed below and submit a printed copy of each summary to the professor on the respective due date. Each summary should be approximately 1 single-spaced page in length (with no paragraph breaks) for every 200 pages of text. No title page is required; please provide the name of the student and assignment as well as the date at the top of each submission. Each summary should include:

- Bibliographic entry
 - Biography (a few sentences on dates, degrees, theological tradition, academic posts held, research interests, and significant works)
 - Summary of the author's views on major doctrines/topics. Summaries may include a minimal number of quotations which succinctly clarify the author's views. Define key terms. Cite page numbers parenthetically.
- **Book Discussions.** Each student will choose three books on which to lead a 20–25 minute discussion on each book (including one book marked **). Students should consult [this resource](#) when preparing discussion questions.
Note: Some of these volumes are out of print. Consider purchasing used copies or borrowing those books. Also, some volumes are available digitally.

Meeting #1 on Feb. 4, 6–8 PM

Historical Theology:

James Leo Garrett, *Baptist Theology: A Four-Century Study*. Mercer, 2009.**

Systematic Theology:

John L. Dagg, *Manual of Theology*. Print or digital.

A. H. Strong, *Systematic Theology*.** Three volumes, print or digital.

Dale Moody, *The Word of Truth*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1981.

Meeting #2 on March 10, 6–8 PM

Systematic Theology:

Stan Grenz, *Theology for the Community of God*. Either publisher, print or digital.

James McClendon, *Doctrine: Systematic Theology, Volume 2*. Baylor: BUP, 2012.

James Leo Garrett Jr. *Systematic Theology*. Vol. 1. Any edition; either print or digital.**

James Leo Garrett Jr. *Systematic Theology*. Vol. 2. Any edition; either print or digital.**

Meeting #3 on April 7, 6–8 PM

Biblical Theology:

James Hamilton, *God's Glory in Salvation Through Judgment*. Wheaton: Crossway, 2010.**

Thomas R. Schreiner, *The King in His Beauty: A Biblical Theology of the Old and New Testaments*. Baker Academic, 2013.

Frank Stagg, *New Testament Theology*. Nashville: BSSB, 1962.

Meeting #4 on May 5, 6–8 PM

Other Baptist Works:

E. Y. Mullins, *The Axioms of Religion*, ed. D. Weaver. Macon, GA: MUP, 2010.

Paul Fiddes, *The Creative Suffering of God*. Clarendon, 1992.

Curtis Freeman, *Contesting Catholicity*. Baylor: BUP, 2014.

Raimundo Barreto & Kenneth Segested, ed. *Engaging the Jubilee: Freedom & Justice Papers of the BWA (2010–2015)*. Baptist World Alliance, 2015.

Discussion Rubric

	A	B	C	D	E
Quality of Comments	Timely and appropriate comments, thoughtful and reflective, responds respectfully to other student's remarks, provokes questions and comments from the group	Volunteers comments, most are appropriate and reflect some thoughtfulness, leads to other questions or remarks from student and/or others	Volunteers comments but lacks depth, may or may not lead to other questions from students	Struggles but participates, occasionally offers a comment when directly questioned, may simply restate questions or points previously raised, may add nothing new to the discussion or provoke no responses or question	Does not participate and/or only makes negative or disruptive remarks, comments are inappropriate or off topic
Referencing Resources	Clear reference to text being discussed and connects to it to other text or reference points from previous readings and discussions	Has done the reading with some thoroughness, may lack some detail or critical insight	Has done the reading, lacks thoroughness of understanding or insight	Has not read the entire text and cannot sustain any reference to it in the course of discussion	Unable to refer to text for evidence or support of remarks
Active Listening	Posture, demeanor and behavior clearly demonstrate respect and attentiveness to others	Listens to others most of the time, does not stay focused on other's comments (too busy formulating own) or loses continuity of discussion. Shows consistency in responding to the comments of others	Listens to others some of the time, does not stay focused on other's comments (too busy formulating own) or loses continuity of discussion. Shows some consistency in responding to the comments of others	Drifts in and out of discussion, listening to some remarks while clearly missing or ignoring others	Disrespectful of others when they are speaking; behavior indicates total non-involvement with group or discussion