

Theology Survey II - TH 502
Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary—Charlotte
Spring 2012

Instructor: Alan Myatt, PhD

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Class Schedule: Fri: 6:30pm-9:30pm; Sat: 8:30am-4:30pm
Feb. 17-18; Mar. 16-17; Apr. 20-21

Office Hours: by appointment

Course Description

This course is the continuation of Theology Survey I and presupposes TH 501 as its background. Through this course students will continue to develop skills necessary to evaluate differing theological options, arrive at their own conclusions, and apply them in life and ministry. Specific issues covered will include the Person and work of Jesus Christ in securing salvation (incarnation, atonement, resurrection), the Person and work of the Holy Spirit in applying salvation (salvation –justification, faith, conversion, sanctification), the Church, and the consummation of salvation in things to come.

Gordon-Conwell Mission

The course has various objectives which are intended to develop basic competence in the area of systematic theology and to specifically contribute to the fulfilling of the mission of GCTS as expressed in the six articles of the GCTS mission statement (<http://www.gordonconwell.edu/about/Mission-and-Purpose.cfm>). Specifically, the faculty have identified the following **learning outcomes** in relation to the articles of the mission statement:

Article 1: a) Demonstrate a strong understanding of both the content of the Bible and the overarching redemptive story from Genesis to Revelation. b) Demonstrate appropriate and effective use of the tools of biblical interpretation.

Article 2: Demonstrate constructive and critical thinking about Christian ministry in light of biblical, theological, and historical scholarship in accordance with historic Christian orthodoxy.

Article 3: Develop proficiencies in practical ministry that are biblically and theologically grounded, and contextually sensitive.

Article 4: Demonstrate growth in a life of biblical discipleship and intimacy with Christ, expressed in the life of the mind, interpersonal relationships, and interaction with broader society.

Article 5: Demonstrate engagement in the Church and society, using their spiritual gifts and redemptive leadership to promote renewal and reform.

Article 6: Articulate a coherent vision of God’s global activity and develop strategies for actively engaging in God’s redemptive work in the world.

Relation to Curriculum

This course is required for all masters degrees. TH501 is a prerequisite.

Course Objectives

The course has various measurable objectives, related to the achieving the above learning outcomes. Upon completing this course students will:

- 1) *have a mastery of the basics of the doctrines covered.* Evidenced by completion of reading, and competent performance on quizzes and written assignments. Articles 1 & 2
- 2) *be able to apply the methods of theological studies in the critical analysis of various theological positions.* Students are expected to “own” their doctrinal convictions, having arrived at them through the process of personal reflection and study. Students will demonstrate their ability to think critically in the task of doing theology in class discussions and completion of a paper examining a topic of theological controversy. Articles 1 & 2
- 3) *integrate the materials and methods of theology with the specific body of knowledge and skills of their projected area of ministerial practice.* Whether their anticipated ministry is in the pastoral, counseling, discipleship, teaching, or other areas, systematic theology provides students the essential foundation for proper theory. Since all practice is the practice of some theory or other, there is no proper practice without proper theory first. This competency will be demonstrated in a paper integrating theology with practical ministry. Articles 3&5
- 4) *apply the study of theology to the development of their experiential knowledge of God.* While systematic theology is an academic discipline, it is by no means only that. Knowledge *about* God should lead to a deeper knowledge *of* God. While students will not be tested on this, it may be measured by how they integrate material learned in the course into their personal devotional lives, as well as indications of practical spiritual implications of theological issues in written assignments. Article 4
- 5) *relate the doctrines studied to the development of a philosophy of ministry that contributes to the Christian mission in church and society.* This objective for the course will be realized as the student carries the knowledge gained in this course to the study of other disciplines in the seminary curriculum. In addition, service in and to the Church presupposes that the student understands the doctrinal standards of the tradition where he or she will likely serve. This is especially the case for those seeking ordination. One objective of the course is to help the student prepare for future ordination or other doctrinal examinations that may be required for Church or missionary service, as measured by the completion of reading of a theology text in the student’s tradition. Articles 3 & 6

Course Requirements

Achievement of the course objectives will be measured through a variety of assignments and activities as described below. The successful completion of these activities will require each student to spend *at least* 135 hours devoted to coursework, both in class and out of class. The following chart indicates due dates and how these hours may be distributed across the various course assignments. Note that students are expected to complete the assignments, regardless of how long it takes. Descriptions of the assignments are listed below.

Course Assignment	Due Date	% of Final Grade	Estimated Time	Actual Time
Class attendance	As Scheduled	**	30 hours	
Reading report 1 – Text* + Fairbairn chpt 5-7 & McGrath chpt 11-12	2/17- 9:00am	5%	10 hours	
Reading report 2 –Bock & Wallace	2/27- 9:00am	5%	5 hours	
Reading report 3 – Text* + Fairbairn & McGrath chpt 13-14	3/16- 9:00am	5%	10 hours	
Quiz 1	2/26- 9:00am	5%	10 hours	
Integrative reflection paper	4/9- 9:00am	30%	20	
Reading report 4 – Text* + Fairbairn & McGrath chpt 15-18	4/20- 9:00am	5%	10 hours	
Quiz 2	5/7- 9:00am	5%	10 hours	
Doctrinal position paper	5/22- 9:00am	40%	30	

**(Text = your chosen theology text as explained below.)*

*** (see the attendance policy below)*

Students will keep a record of time spent on each course-related task, and will submit a final report on the provided Excel sheet, with their actual hours spent on each task listed in the last column of the table.

Details of assignments:

*Due dates for the assignments will be found on the accompanying table, above. Please note that you are expected to begin your reading and course preparation **4 weeks** before the first day of class. Late registration will not be an excuse for late work.*

1. Completion of required reading as follows:

a) Each student shall choose a major systematic theology text from the list of suggested texts and read the chapters that cover the doctrines scheduled for classroom discussion. A different text may be chosen with the professor's approval. In keeping with the objective of helping students to prepare for eventual ordination or other exams for ministry service, students are encouraged to choose a text consistent with the doctrinal standards of the denomination or organization where they are likely to serve.* A list of possible texts is provided, but the student may also choose another, with the professor's approval. **Students will be required to submit a reading report using a provided Excel sheet, on the dates given in the assignment table**

b) Students will read Darrell L. Bock and Daniel B Wallace. *Dethroning Jesus: Exposing Popular Culture's Quest to Unseat the Biblical Christ.* (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 2007) ISBN-13: 978-0785297857

c) Students will read the indicated chapters of Donald Fairbairn, *Life in the Trinity: An Introduction to Theology with the Help of the Church Fathers.* (Downers Grove, Ill.: IVP Academic, 2009). ISBN-13: 978-0830838738 (page numbers for each assignment will be given on the supplied Excel sheets for reading reports).

d) Students will read the indicated chapters of Alister E. McGrath, *Christian Theology: An Introduction. Fifth Edition.* (Chichester, West Sussex, UK: Wiley-Blackwell, 2011). ISBN-13: 978-1444335149 (page numbers for each assignment will be given on the supplied Excel sheets for reading reports).

2. Students will read one work on a major doctrine and write an integrative reflection paper (10 pp), integrating the doctrine studied with their projected area of ministerial practice. For example, M. Div. students may discuss how the doctrine might be applied in preaching or other areas of pastoral ministry. Counseling students will reflect on the integration of theology with psychology and counseling theory and practice, using the doctrine studied. The paper should interact with the specific book read and show how it is relevant to the ministry issues under consideration. Choose one from the following options:

Edmund P. Clowney. *The Church.* (InterVarsity Press, 1995) ISBN-13: 978-0830815340

Graham A. Cole. *He Who Gives Life: The Doctrine of the Holy Spirit.* (Crossway Books, 2007). ISBN-13: 978-1581347920

Bruce Demarest. *The Cross and Salvation: The Doctrine of Salvation.* (Crossway Books, 1997). ISBN-13: 978-1581348125

Millard J. Erickson. *A Basic Guide to Eschatology : Making Sense of the Millennium.* (Baker Books, 1998). ISBN-13: 978-0801058363

Sinclair B. Ferguson. *The Holy Spirit.* (InterVarsity Press, 1996). ISBN-13: 978-0830815364

John S. Hammett. *Biblical Foundations for Baptist Churches: A Contemporary Ecclesiology* (Kregel Publications, 2005) ISBN-13: 978-0825427695

Anthony A. Hoekema. *Saved by Grace*. (Eerdmans, 1994). ISBN-13: 978-0802808578

Anthony A. Hoekema. *The Bible and the Future*. (Eerdmans, 1994). ISBN-13: 978-0802808516

Robert Letham. *The Work of Christ*. (InterVarsity Press, 1993). ISBN-13: 978-0830815326

Donald Macleod. *The Person of Christ*. (InterVarsity Press, 1998). ISBN-13: 978-0830815371

Christopher W. Morgan and Robert A. Peterson, *The Deity of Christ* (Crossway Books, 2011) ISBN-13: 978-1581349795

R. K. McGregor Wright. *No Place for Sovereignty: What's Wrong With Freewill Theism*. (InterVarsity Press, 1996). ISBN-13: 978-0830818815

3. Students will read one work that presents arguments for various contrasting and opposing positions about a specific doctrine. Students will prepare a research paper of 10 – 15 pages, double spaced, stating and defending their own view of the controversy in question against competing positions Students should not choose an issue on which that they have already done significant work. (i.e., if you have written a paper on a specific topic for another course, then choose something new for this one). Students may choose one from the following texts:

The Nature of the Atonement: Four Views. James Beilby and Paul R. Eddy, eds. (InterVarsity Press, 2006). ISBN-13: 978-0830825707

Perspectives on Election: Five Views. Chad Brand, ed. (B&H Publishing Group, 2006). ISBN-13: 978-0805427295

Five Views on Sanctification. Melvin E. Dieter, Anthony A. Hoekema, Stanley M. Horton, and J. Robertson McQuilkin (Zondervan, 1996). ISBN-13: 978-0310212690

Christian Spirituality: Five Views of Sanctification. Donald L. Alexander, ed. (InterVarsity Press, 1988). ISBN-13: 978-0830812783

Perspectives On Spirit Baptism: Five Views. Chad Brand, ed. (Broadman & Holman, 2004). ISBN-13: 978-0805425949

Four Views on Eternal Security. J. Matthew Pinson, ed. (Zondervan, 2002) ISBN-13: 978-0310234395

Understanding Four Views on Baptism. John H. Armstrong, ed. (Zondervan, 2007) ISBN-13: 978-0310262671

The Lord's Supper: Five Views. Gordon T. Smith, ed. (InterVarsity Press, 2008). ISBN-13: 978-0830828845

Understanding Four Views on the Lord's Supper. John H. Armstrong, ed. (Zondervan, 2007). ISBN-13: 978-0310262688

Perspectives on Church Government: Five Views of Church Polity. Chad Brand and R. Stanton Norman, eds. (Broadman & Holman, 2004). ISBN-13: 978-0805425901

Who Runs the Church?: 4 Views on Church Government. Steven B. Cowan, ed. (Zondervan, 2004). ISBN-13: 978-0310246077

Two Views on Women in Ministry, Linda L. Belleville, ed. (Zondervan, 2005). ISBN-13: 978-0310254379

Four Views on Hell. William Crockett, ed. (Zondervan, 1997). ISBN-13: 978-0310212683

Three Views on the Millennium and Beyond. Darrell L. Bock, ed. (Zondervan, 1999). ISBN-13: 978-0310201434

e) additional resources such as articles and videos as indicated by the professor may also be utilized as a basis for class discussions.

4. Completion of two quizzes. The tests will be administered on-line via Sakai. Additional details will be discussed in class.

All assignments and other course resources will be available and administered through Sakai. Completed assignments should be uploaded to the appropriate Sakai section. Please submit papers in MS-Word format. Pdf files will not be accepted. Hard-copies will not be accepted. Papers will be returned on Sakai with the professor's comments after grading. ***An assignment is not considered "turned-in" until you have confirmed that it has been successfully uploaded. The time stamp on Sakai will be the official time it is turned in.***

DO NOT delete any of your work until after you receive your final grade! Files occasionally get lost and the professor may need to ask you to resend something. It is strongly suggested that you back up your files. (A student recently suffered a hard drive crash resulting in the loss years of files, including photos, e-mail and course work!)

Use your gordonconwell.edu address for all communication with the professor. ***Check your gcts inbox every day for important notices related to the course.***

Required Textbooks and Materials

In addition to the assigned texts listed above, students are asked to acquire H. Wayne House, *Charts of Christian Theology & Doctrine* (Zondervan, 1992) and Stanley J Grenz, *Pocket Dictionary of Theological Terms* (InterVarsity Press, 1999). Please bring these, along with your

Bible, to each class for reference purposes. These books will also be helpful in preparing for the two quizzes.

Course outline:

I. The Person and Work of Jesus Christ

- Christ's Divinity and Incarnation
- The Life of Christ/The Jesus of History
- The Atonement
- The Resurrection

II. The Person and Work of the Holy Spirit

- The Person of the Holy Spirit
- Concepts of Salvation
- Union With Christ and Election
- The New Birth - Justification
- Growth in Christ - Sanctification
- Spirit Baptism - The Gifts and Fruit of the Spirit

III. The Church

- The Nature of the Church
- Leadership in the Church - Ordination and Women in ministry
- Baptism
- The Church in the World

The Consumation of Salvation

- The Kingdom of God
- Death and Eternity
- The Return of Christ and the Millennium

Grading Scale

Assignments will be given a point value on a 100 point scale. Points are earned from a starting point of zero, not taken off from a starting point of 100. Final grades will be calculated according to the above percentages weighted for each assignment and letter grades will be applied with cutoffs as follows: A+ 98, A 94, A- 90, B+ 87, B 84, B- 80, C+ 77, C 74, C- 70, D+ 67, D 63, D- 60, F below 60.

Grading rubrics for the written assignments will be posted on Sakai. The student is encouraged to study these carefully before attempting the papers.

Late work: There will be a one point penalty per day of lateness, deducted from the final grade of each assignment for late work that is not excused.

Attendance Policy: Points will not be awarded for attendance. However, a record of attendance will be sent to the registrar's office with the final grades. In addition, a 3 point penalty will be

assessed for each unexcused absence after the first one. Since a normal weeknight course meets for 3 hours, each three hours missed on Friday or Saturday counts as one absence. Excused absences must be made up by doing additional reading and written assignments.

Document Formatting and Citation Style Requirements

Papers must be double-spaced, size 12 Times New Roman font, with a cover sheet, bibliography and proper references. APA format (include page numbers for each citation) for counseling students and Turabian for all others.

Syllabus Addendum

For other seminary policies refer to the attached Syllabus Addendum

SUGGESTED SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY TEXTS

Baptist/Evangelical

Robert Culver. *Systematic Theology: Biblical and Historical*. (Mentor Books, 2005) ISBN-13: 978-1845500498

Millard Erickson. *Christian Theology*, 2nd ed. (Baker, 1998). 1312 pp. (also available in electronic edition at www.logos.com) ISBN-13: 978-0801021824

Gordon Lewis and Bruce Demarest. *Integrative Theology*. (Zondervan, 1996). ISBN-13: 978-0310209157

James Leo Garrett. *Systematic Theology: Biblical Historical and Evangelical*. 3rd ed., 2 vols. (Bibal Press, 2007). ISBN-13: 978-1930566637/ISBN-13: 978-1930566057

Daniel L. Akin, ed. *A Theology for the Church*. (Broadman & Holman, 2007). 979 pp. ISBN-13: 978-0805426403

Dispensational

Charles Swindoll and Rob. Zuck, eds. *Understanding Christian Theology*. (Thomas Nelson, 2003). 1498 pp. ISBN-13: 978-0785250326

Evangelical/Ecumenical/Methodist

Thomas C. Oden. *Classic Christianity*. (HarperOne, 2009) 944pp. (this is the previous ly released three volume *Systematic Theology* set, now in one volume. The three vol edition is also available for immediate download at www.logos.com) ISBN-13: 978-0061449710

Lutheran

John Theodore Mueller. *Christian Dogmatics*. (Concordia Publishing House, 2003). 665 pp. ISBN-13: 978-0570032212

Pentecostal/Charismatic

J. Rodman Williams. *Renewal Theology*, 3 vols. (Zondervan, 1988). 1470 pp. ISBN-13: 978-0310209140

Stanely M. Horton, ed., *Systematic Theology: A Pentecostal Perspective*. (Logion Press, 1994). 704 pp. ISBN-13: 978-0882433196

Guy P. Duffield and Nathaniel M. Van Cleave. *Foundations of Pentecostal Theology*. (Foursquare Media, 1983). 630 pp. ISBN-13: 978-1599793368

Presbyterian/Reformed

Michael S. Horton. *The Christian Faith: A Systematic Theology for Pilgrims on the Way*. (Zondervan, 2011). ISBN-13: 978-0310286042

Robert Reymond. *A New Systematic Theology of the Christian Faith*. 2nd ed. (Thomas Nelson, 1998) 1252 pp. (An excellent book, but more difficult text. Best for students with prior background in theology and philosophy). ISBN-13: 978-0849913174

James Montgomery Boice. *Foundations of the Christian Faith* (InterVarsity Press, 1986). 740 pp. (an good introduction for the beginning student, also available in e-book format from www.logos.com) ISBN 13: 9780851106373

Weslyan/Holiness/Nazarene/Methodist

J. Kenneth Grider. *A Wesleyan-Holiness Theology*. (Beacon Hill Press, 1994). 592 pp. ISBN 13: 9780834115125

H. Ray Dunning. *Grace, Faith & Holiness: A Wesleyan Systematic Theology* (Beacon Hill Press, 1988). 672 pp. ISBN 13: 9780834112193

Syllabus Addendum

Academic Standards

Cheating and plagiarism are considered serious breaches of personal and academic integrity. Cheating involves, but is not necessarily limited to, the use of unauthorized sources of information during an examination or the submission of the same (or substantially same) work for credit in two or more courses without the knowledge and consent of the instructors. Plagiarism involves the use of another person's distinctive ideas or words, whether published or unpublished, and representing them as one's own instead of giving proper credit to the source. Plagiarism can also involve over dependence on other source material for the scope and substance of one's writing. Such breaches in academic standards often result in a failing grade as well as other corrective measures. For more information, please consult the Student Handbook.

ADA Policy

The seminary complies with the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act. A student with a qualifying and authenticated disability who is in need of accommodations, should petition the seminary in accordance with the stated guidelines in the Student Handbook.

Cancellation of Class

In the event the seminary has to cancel a class meeting (impending storm, professor illness, etc.), the Registration Office will send out an email (via the GCTS email account) notification to all students registered in the respective course. If the cancellation occurs the day of the scheduled meeting, the Registration Office will also attempt to contact students via their primary phone contact on record. The professor will contact the students (via GCTS account) regarding make-up. If a weekend class is cancelled, the class will be made up during the scheduled Make-Up weekend (see the academic calendar for the designated dates). For more info, consult your Student Handbook.

Extension Policy

Arrangements for submission of late work at a date on or before the "last day to submit written work", as noted on the seminary's *Academic Calendar*, are made between the student and professor. Formal petition to the Registration Office is not required at this time. This includes arrangements for the rescheduling of final exams.

However, course work (reading and written) to be submitted after the publicized calendar due date, must be approved by the Registration Office. An extension form, available online, must be submitted to the Registration Office prior to the "last day to submit written work." Requests received after this date will either be denied or incur additional penalty. For a full discussion of this policy, please consult the Student Handbook.

Grades

Grades are posted on line within twenty-four hours of receipt from the professor. Students are expected to check their CAMS student portal in order to access posted grades. Those individuals

who need an official grade report issued to a third party, should put their request in writing to the Registration Office. Faculty have six weeks from the course work due date to submit a final grade.

Returned Work

Work will be returned via Sakai, since no hard copies will be turned in.