TH607: Systematic Theology III
Fall Semester, 2015
Sep 25-26, Oct 23-24, and Dec 4-5
Instructor: Chin T. Wang (John)
Fridays 7:00 pm – 10:00 pm
Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary
Saturdays 8:30 am – 3:30 pm
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SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY III

Course Description
This course is a continuation of TH605 which includes the study of the doctrines of salvation, Holy Spirit, the church and eschatology.

Learning Objectives

- Grow in understanding and ability to articulate an evangelical theology of Soteriology, Pneumatology, Ecclesiology, and Eschatology.
- Develop an awareness of ways in which culture and context interact with systematic theology.
- Gain a deeper appreciation of your own theological heritage and develop proficiency in communicating Christian theology in your ministry context.

Required Texts

Optional Helpful Texts
Course Requirements

1. You are required to do the readings and turn in the assignments on time
2. You will be asked to share part of the reading assignments and lead the discussion in class.
3. You are expected to attend all classes and be prepared for interactions
4. Interaction Papers. Each student will be required to submit four interaction papers on assigned readings. Depending on the number of students some interaction papers may be presented in class. The presentation will be 10 minutes each. The interaction papers should be one to two pages in length (double-spaced), highlighting the important insights learned as well as the application of these insights to the tasks of gospel communication. Students are encouraged to include questions or suggestions for discussion in class as well. The papers will be based on the articles listed below:


5. Response paper. Each student will be required to submit a paper responding to each one of the following books:
   - Wright’s Salvation Belongs to Our Lord
   - Alexander’s Christian Spirituality
   - Grudem’s Are Miraculous Gifts for Today?
   - Kärkkäinen’s An Introduction to Ecclesiology
   - Lewis’ 3 Crucial Questions about the Last Days

   Please pay special attention on the theological development in different contexts. Students may be asked to give a 10-minute presentation. The response paper should be two to four pages in length (double-spaced), highlighting the important insights learned as well as the application within the student’s ministry context. It must be a response to the book, rather than merely a summary or explication of the reading. Students are encouraged to reflect on key themes, arguments, issues, and criticisms beyond his/her ethnic and religious background.

6. Credo Papers. Each student will be required to submit four credo papers of the following topics:
   1. Soteriology
2. Pneumatology
3. Ecclesiology
4. Eschatology
Credo means “I believe.” A credo paper is one in which you articulate a particular theological thesis or conviction, backing it up with arguments. You will formulate your personal convictions in each credo paper. After stating what you believe, carefully explain and defend your position drawing on Scripture and other sources as needed. Include some references in your paper to your particular Christian tradition or denomination. The credo papers should be no more than five pages in length (double-spaced).

Note on Plagiarism

Please refer to Indiana University’s ‘Plagiarism: What It Is and How to Recognize and Avoid It.’ The document has the official recognition of Gordon-Conwell faculty.
http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets/plagiarism.shtml

Course Grading

1. Attend class with active participation, 10%
2. Interaction papers, 30%
3. Response papers, 30%
4. Credo papers, 30%  Total 100%

A=93-100   A-= 90-92   B+=88-89   B=83-87   B-=80-82   C+=78-79
C=73-77    C-=70-72    D+=68-69    D=63-67    D-=60-62    F=0-59

Course schedule, content, and homework

1. Weekend of Sep 25-26
   - Syllabus
   - Introduction to the Course
   - Topic: Soteriology
   - Reading: Wright (entire book); Alexander (entire book), Erickson 823-946
   - Assignments:

2. Weekend of Oct 23-24
   - Topics: Pneumatology and Ecclesiology
   - Reading: Erickson 769-821 & 947-1051; Grudem (entire book), Kärkkäinen (entire book)
   - Assignments:
     i. Interaction paper #1
     ii. Interaction paper #2
     iii. Credo paper #1 Soteriology
     iv. Response Paper to Wright’s Salvation Belongs to Our Lord and Alexander’s Christian Spirituality
3. Weekend of Dec 4-5
   - Topics: Ecclesiology and Eschatology
   - Reading: Erickson 747-1051 & 1053-1139; Lewis (entire book)
   - Assignments:
     i. Interaction paper #3 & #4
     ii. Credo paper #2 Pneumatology and #3 Ecclesiology
     iii. Response paper to Grudem’s *Are Miraculous Gifts for Today?* and
          Kärkkäinen’s *An Introduction to Ecclesiology*

4. Dec 22 by 4 pm (submit electronically in pdf format)
   - Credo paper #4 Eschatology
   - Response paper to Lewis’ *3 Crucial Questions about the Last Days*

NOTE: The instructor reserves the right to revise the contents of this course syllabus as necessary