COURSE SYLLABUS

TH 502—Theology Survey I
Patrick T. Smith, Course Instructor
Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary
Summer Session 1: 2012
Monday-Thursday, May 21-24, 2012, 6:00 PM-10:00 PM
Friday, May 25, 2012, 9:00 AM-4:00 PM
Saturday, May 26, 2012, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM
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Course Description

This course is a study of the person and work of Christ, predestination, conversion, justification, sanctification, and the work of the Holy Spirit; perseverance; the nature and mission of the church; the sacraments; eschatology.

Required Course Textbooks


Strongly Recommended Though Not Required


Learning Outcomes

The student who successfully completes this course should have the ability:
1. To understand the importance and necessity of doctrine for Christian life and community.
2. To effectively read, understand, learn from and engage texts in theological studies.
3. To appreciate afresh the art of scripture meditation on key biblical passages that pertain to the doctrines of the person and work of Christ, predestination, conversion, justification, sanctification, and the work of the Holy Spirit; perseverance; the nature and mission of the church; the sacraments; eschatology.
4. To have a deeper appreciation for theology as it relates to preparation for ministry in the context of the local church, parachurch ministries and the broader contemporary culture.
Course Requirements

1. **Reading Requirement**—Students are to read Sections 4-8 and the Conclusion in Daniel Akin’s, *Theology for the Church*. Students should try to read as much as possible before the class begins. The completed reading is to be done by June 15th.

   **NOTE**: Some of the reading material is covered in class. However, there are elements that will not be brought out in class but are still essential to gaining an understanding of the material and successfully completing the course. Therefore, the reading provides a rich and necessary component of the learning experience.

2. **Class Attendance/ Participation**—Students are required to attend and participate in all class sessions for the entire meeting times. This is imperative for a class of this format. The instructor will carefully monitor the in-class participation of each student and this will factor into the student’s final grade.

3. **Final Exam**—each student enrolled in the course for credit is to take a final comprehensive examination over the material covered in the course. It will be a take home exam with integrative discussion questions. Each student is to write the exam using whatever resources provided by the course readings, lecture notes, class discussions, or personal resources. Be sure to properly cite any sources used, appealed to, or quoted directly in your written material. The exam will be passed out during the last class session. The final exam along with a **note indicating how much of the course reading was completed** is due to the course instructor by June 15, 2012.

Course Grading

The student’s grade will be determined as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Achievement</th>
<th>Quality Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>100-96 <strong>Work of exceptional quality</strong></td>
<td>4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>95-93</td>
<td>3.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>92-90</td>
<td>3.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>89-86 <strong>Work of commendable quality</strong></td>
<td>3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>85-83</td>
<td>2.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>82-80</td>
<td>2.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>79-76 <strong>Work of acceptable but minimal quality</strong></td>
<td>2.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>75-73</td>
<td>1.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>72-70</td>
<td>1.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>69-66 <strong>Substandard and barely passing work</strong></td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>65-63</td>
<td>0.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>62-below <strong>Failure</strong></td>
<td>0.00</td>
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Grading Rubric: After all the requirements of the course have been completed, the instructor will use the following rubric for the assignment of grades, based on the overall performance of the class. The grades assigned will represent the instructor’s interpretation of the following standard:

A = Outstanding mastery of the subject: excellence is evident in preparation for and attendance in class sessions; unusual ability to retain, analyze and synthesize the material; with a positive attitude making productive contributions to the learning community in the classroom.

B = Superior mastery of the subject: sincere effort in preparation for and attendance in class sessions; ability to master the essential aspects of the material; with a mostly consistent attitude in making contributions to the learning community in the classroom.

C = Basic mastery of the subject: inconsistent effort in preparation for and attendance in class sessions; engagement with the material but difficulty in grasping some of its aspects; with occasional contributions to the learning community in the classroom.

D = Inadequate mastery of the subject.

F = Failure: course must be repeated.

Warning on Plagiarism: Helpful guidelines on plagiarism can be found on the Indiana University website http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/plagarism.html. This document has the official recognition of the Gordon-Conwell faculty and provides very helpful tools to guide you as you prepare for your assignments. If a student is caught plagiarizing, the student will receive the consequences of this act according to the process established by the seminary.

Intellectual Property Rights: To protect the professor’s intellectual property rights with regard to classroom content, students are asked to refrain from audio and video recording of classes, as well as audio, video, and written publication (including internet posting and broadcasting) or live transmission of classroom proceedings.

Course Schedule

Monday, MAY 21  
Background Reading: Akin, *Theology for the Church*, Section 4  
Person and Work of Christ (Part 1)

Tuesday, MAY 22  
Background Reading: Akin, *Theology for the Church*, Section 4  
Person and Work of Christ (Part 2)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Background Reading</th>
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| Wednesday, MAY 23 | **Background Reading:** Akin, *Theology for the Church*, Section 6  
                      Doctrine of Salvation (Part 1) |
| Thursday, MAY 24  | **Background Reading:** Akin, *Theology for the Church*, Section 6  
                      Doctrine of Salvation (Part 2)/ The Work of the Holy Spirit (Pt. 1) |
| Friday, MAY 25    | **Background Reading:** Akin, *Theology for the Church*, Section 5,  
                      Section 7  
                      The Work of the Holy Spirit (Part 2)/ The Doctrine of the Church |
| Saturday, MAY 26  | **Background Reading:** Akin, *Theology for the Church*, Section 8  
                      Conclusion  
                      The Doctrine of Last Things |