Introduction:
Dietrich Bonhoeffer became a martyr at the age of 39 at the hands of the Nazi regime. He distinguished himself in the effort to energize the German Church against the oppressive political tactics and propagandists who were seeking to manipulate the Church in a bid to further the National Socialist aims. Although his life was short, he has left a considerable theological legacy. Instead of his writings becoming less important, they are becoming more widely read. Referring to Bonhoeffer, Dorothee Soelle has said he is, “. . . The one German theologian who will lead us into the third millennium.” Whether or not one agrees with this statement it is clear that Bonhoeffer’s life and legacy are worth careful consideration by evangelicals. Not only are his writings varied in genre, style, and content, but his life --- lived as it was in the context of conflict and courage --- causes us to reassess our own circumstances not only to believe but to act as Christians in the world.

Course Objectives:
The course is designed around three basic objectives:
1) The student will gain broad introduction to the historical circumstances and theological responses of the Confessing Church in wartime Germany.
2) The student will gain an introduction to the life, writings and theology of Dietrich Bonhoeffer through primary readings, lectures and class presentations.
3) The student will begin to integrate and initiate an evangelical assessment of Dietrich Bonhoeffer through directed class discussions and written assignments.

Course Assignments:
The student is required to complete the following assignments:
1) **Pre-Reading and Outline**: since this is a one-week intensive course there will be limited opportunity for integration. Therefore it will be important for students to come to the course with a good portion of the Bonhoeffer texts carefully read. Students are to read the following before coming to the course on May 12th if possible: *Creation and Fall* (173 pages), *Discipleship* (318 pages), and Kelly/Nelson 1-104. Each student will outline *Creation and Fall* and *Discipleship* and record a few key quotations (2 pages each).
2) **Write a final paper of 11-14 pages** on some aspect of Bonhoeffer’s legacy from an evangelical point of view. The topic should be approved by the professor and an accepted form for research papers must be used.
Grading Guidelines:
The student’s grade will be determined by the following percentages:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Reading and Outline</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Paper</td>
<td>65%</td>
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</tbody>
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Grading Scale:
The grading scale as outlined in the current catalogue is the standard for the granting of letter grades in this course.

Required Textbooks:


Class Schedule: *(subject to change)*

May 12  
The Trajectory of the Bonhoeffer Legacy. Kelly/Nelson 1-44.  
Setting the Stage: Theology at the Turn of the Century. Barcelona and Berlin: His First Writings. Kelly/Nelson 47-104.  
The Communion of Saints, Act and Being, The American Sojourn

13  
The Question of Christology: *Christ the Center*  Kelly/Nelson 110-48.  
*Creation and Fall* 1-173

14  
Bonhoeffer and the Sermon on the Mount

16 Preacher’s Seminary:
Discipleship Part II – Its place and evaluation. 199-314.
Bonhoeffer, Church, and the Formation of the Image of Christ

17 Life Together – Meditation, Confession and Community. LT 1-140.
Spiritual Care – Law and Gospel, What it means to be a pastor. SC 1-89.
Ethics – Kelly /Nelson 343-376
The Shape of Bonhoeffer’s Theology – an assessment

Bonhoeffer and the Confessing Church:
A Selected Bibliography


Internet Resources:

The Dietrich Bonhoeffer Homepage www.cyberword.com/bonhoe
This site has links to a number of other sites that will give you resource to research Bonhoeffer on the net.

Bonhoeffer’s Cell – Darren Sumner’s new collection of Bonhoeffer internet resources www.thesumners.com/bonhoeffer

The Bonhoeffer/Tillich Discussion Group www.lightlink.com/xine/lcm/dbpt-l.html