THEO5300 SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY 1
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

Disclaimer: This syllabus is intended to give the student a general idea of the content, format, and textbooks used for this class. The professor will submit a full syllabus at the beginning of the class which will contain a course schedule and the instructor’s information.

“Watch your life and doctrine closely. Persevere in them, because if you do, you will save both yourself and your hearers.”
1 Timothy 4:16

The Mission of the Seminary

The mission of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary is to equip leaders to fulfill the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.

Course Description

This second course in systematic theology introduces the student to the doctrines of the work of Christ, salvation and the Christian life, the Holy Spirit, the church, and last things. The biblical foundation and the relevant historical developments are considered in developing a comprehensive statement of Christian teaching concerning construction of a Christian understanding of each doctrine.

Core Value Focus

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary has five core values: Doctrinal Integrity, Spiritual Vitality, Mission Focus, Characteristic Excellence, and Servant Leadership. This year’s core value focus is Servant Leadership.

Course Objectives

In order to understand and interpret Christian theological heritage and Baptist polity for the church, the student, by the end of the course, should:

1. Be able to apply their knowledge and understanding of the following concepts to interpreting Christian theological heritage and Baptist polity for the church:
• The processes, methods, assumptions, and worldviews of historical, theological, and philosophical disciplines.
• The key Christian doctrines of revelation, God, humanity, and the person of Christ.

2. Value a Christian understanding of doctrine.

3. Respond positively to the idea of respecting the influence of various historical, theological, philosophical traditions, and worldviews.

4. Be able, with the help of resources, to practice prolegomena, the methodology of the study of theology.

5. Be ready to articulate and defend evangelical and Baptist positions on specific theological issues.

**Biblical Authority**

This course operates under the assumption that the Bible is the inspired, totally true and trustworthy Word of God. While history, tradition, and reason play no small role in the theological task, the Bible holds ultimate authority in Christian doctrine and practice. The Baptist Faith and Message (2000) provides the structure of this course’s content.

**Required Texts**


The Bible (preferably a contemporary translation such as the ESV, HCSB, NASB, or NIV).

**Recommended Texts**


**Course Requirements**

*All due dates are by the end of the day central time.*
1. Readings from *Systematic Theology* (10%)

Each student is expected to read the assigned portions from Wayne Grudem’s *Systematic Theology* and go through the additional material located in Course Documents. At the end of the semester, students will fill out a reading report form where they can note the (1) percentage read and (2) the percentage read on-time.

2. Weekly Vocabulary Quizzes (15%)

Weekly quizzes will cover the words from the vocabulary lists included in the syllabus. Each quiz covers the words in the corresponding vocabulary list (e.g. Quiz #1 will cover the words on Vocabulary List #1). The definitions may be found in the Erickson dictionary. Each quiz will be “active” for 7 days beginning on the Monday morning of that week. The allotted time is 15 minutes. Never use the back button or the test will end and you will be graded on what you have completed. The quizzes are NOT open book. Each quiz is worth 50 points.

3. Weekly Discussion Questions (30%)

Weekly discussion questions will be posted on Mondays. These discussion questions will be based on the assigned reading and additional resources located in Course Documents. Students are required to make at least 3 substantive posts each week to each question. The first post will be your answer to the question posed. This post should reflect the course material for that section. The other two posts should be offered in response to other student posts and should reflect an experiential application of the course material in response to the first post.

A substantive post is defined as a post that both exhibits a thoughtful response based upon the class material and that, in the case of response posts (see above), furthers the discussion thread by posing new questions or thoughts to which other students may respond. To earn credit, students should post their first comment no later than Thursday night to give classmates time to respond.

4. Critical Book Review (20%)

A critical review of *The Church* by Mark Dever is required. The review is to be at least 10 pages, double spaced, 12-point Time New Roman font, one inch margin, and written according to the 6th edition of Turabian’s *A Manual for Writers*. The review should include a summary of contents and a thorough interaction with the author’s positions and arguments. The review should be in MSWord or pdf file and MUST be placed in the Assignments folder.

5. Research Papers (25%)

A research paper is required for completing the course. Students may choose from the following broad paper topics, or submit another topic to the professor for approval:

- The Person of Christ
- The Work of Christ
• Christ’s Resurrection
• The Offices of Christ
• The Work of the Holy Spirit
• Common Grace
• Election
• Effective/Effectual Calling
• Justification
• Adoption into God’s Family
• Sanctification
• Baptism/Filling with the Holy Spirit
• Perseverance of the Saints
• Death and the Intermediate State
• Glorification
• The Church
• Church Polity
• Ordinances and Sacraments
• Worship
• Gifts of the Holy Spirit
• The Return of Christ
• The Millennium
• Final Judgment and Eternal Punishment
• New Heaven and New Earth

Each paper must conform to the following criteria:

Sections:
• summarize the biblical teaching on the issue
• address relevant theological questions
• conclude by demonstrating relevance of the issue for life and ministry

Format:
• 12-15 pages, 1 inch margin
• 12-point Time New Roman font
• double spaced
• use Turabian’s A Manual for Writers, 6th ed. for footnotes, bibliography, headings, etc.
  A sample title page is provided in Course Documents.
• a minimum of 10 credible, academic resources (wikipedia does not fit this criterion)

Grading Rubric

10% Thesis
10% Style and Grammar
10% Writing Skill
30% Use of Resources
40% Understanding of Subject
Netiquette Statement on Appropriate Online Behavior

Each student is expected to demonstrate appropriate Christian behavior when working online on the Discussion Board. The student is expected to interact with other students in a fashion that will promote learning and respect for the opinions of others in the course. A spirit of Christian charity will be expected at all times in the online environment.
### Vocabulary Terms for Weekly Vocabulary Quizzes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vocabulary List 1</th>
<th>Vocabulary List 2</th>
<th>Vocabulary List 3</th>
<th>Vocabulary List 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Atonement</td>
<td>Ascension of Christ</td>
<td>Determinism</td>
<td>Arminianism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atonement, Example theory of</td>
<td>Christ, Exaltation of</td>
<td>Election</td>
<td>Augustinianism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atonement, Governmental theory of the</td>
<td>Christ, Humiliation of</td>
<td>Fatalism</td>
<td>Effectual calling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atonement, Limited</td>
<td>Expiation</td>
<td>Foreknowledge</td>
<td>Grace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atonement, Moral-influence theory of</td>
<td>Imputation</td>
<td>Grace, Common</td>
<td>Irresistible grace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atonement, Penal-Substitution theory of</td>
<td>Propitiation</td>
<td>Grace, Special</td>
<td>Pelagianism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atonement, Ransom theory of the</td>
<td>Recapitulation</td>
<td>Predestination</td>
<td>Penance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atonement, Unlimited Descent into Hell</td>
<td>Reconciliation</td>
<td>Preterition</td>
<td>Regeneration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theology of the cross</td>
<td>Resurrection</td>
<td>Reprobation</td>
<td>Repentance</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Session</td>
<td>Total depravity</td>
<td>Semi-Pelagianism</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vocabulary List 5</th>
<th>Vocabulary List 6</th>
<th>Vocabulary List 7</th>
<th>Vocabulary List 8</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adoption</td>
<td>Body of Christ</td>
<td>Affusion</td>
<td>Apostolic succession</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apostasy</td>
<td>Church discipline</td>
<td>Anathema</td>
<td>aptism, believers’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assurance of salvation</td>
<td>Heresy</td>
<td>Consubstantiation</td>
<td>Congregational form</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communion of saints</td>
<td>Invisible church, the</td>
<td>Ecumenism</td>
<td>of church</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eternal security of the believer</td>
<td>Kerygma</td>
<td>Excommunication</td>
<td>government</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Justification</td>
<td>Koinonia</td>
<td>Free churches</td>
<td>Episcopacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merit</td>
<td>Laity</td>
<td>Immersion</td>
<td>Eucharist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perfectionism</td>
<td>Missions</td>
<td>Real presence of Christ</td>
<td>Ex cathedra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perseverance, Doctrine of</td>
<td>Schism</td>
<td>Separation of church</td>
<td>Ex operer operato</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sanctification</td>
<td>Sect</td>
<td>and state</td>
<td>Memorialism</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Spiritual warfare</td>
<td>Spiritual presence</td>
<td>Paedobaptism</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Visible church</td>
<td>Transubstantiation</td>
<td>Papacy</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Worship</td>
<td>Presbyterianism</td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vocabulary List 9</th>
<th>Vocabulary List 10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amillennialism</td>
<td>Apokatastasis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annihilationism proper</td>
<td>Beatific vision</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antichrist</td>
<td>Conditional immortality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chiliasm</td>
<td>Filioque</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dispensationalism</td>
<td>Hades</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eschatology</td>
<td>Intermediate state</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immortality</td>
<td>Limbo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parousia</td>
<td>Paraclete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postmillennialism</td>
<td>Purgatory</td>
</tr>
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<td>Premillennialism</td>
<td>Sheol</td>
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Prophecy
Rapture, the

Universalism
Selected Bibliography

Dictionaries, Encyclopedias, and Collections


Systematic and General Theologies


________. The Works of John Wesley, ed. Thomas Jackson. 3rd ed. 14 vols. Grand Rapids:

