

# New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

Systematic Theology 1—THEO 5300

10-11:50 Mondays 8 time Hybrid

8/27,9/10,9/24,10/8,10/22,11/5,11/12,12/3

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## **NOBTS Mission :**

To equip leaders to fulfill the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.

## **NOBTS Core Value :**

Each year one of the five core values of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary is selected by the president to receive focused attention. This year *Doctrinal Integrity* is our core value. As a beginning in Systematic Theology I we will focus our attention on thinking and speaking accurately about the basic doctrines of biblical faith.

## **Course Description (From NOBTS Catalog)**

*THEO5300 Systematic Theology I (3 hours) This first course in systematic theology introduces the student to the methodology of the study of theology (Prolegomena), and the doctrines of revelation, God, humanity, and the person of Christ. The biblical foundation and the relevant historical developments are considered in construction of a Christian understanding of each doctrine.*

## **Student Learning Outcomes**

The student, by the end of the course, should be able to:

- **Understand** theological method and the doctrines of revelation, God, humanity, and the person of Christ biblically, historically, and systematically..
- **Apply** theology by integrating these doctrines into a coherent, comprehensive, and consistent Christian worldview.
- **Communicate** these doctrines in the particular ministry calling and context of the learner.

## **Biblical Authority**

The professor of 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.

## **Course Teaching Methodology**

The course will involve the following methodologies:

- Lectures both live and video
- Guided discussions
- Written assignments
- Assigned reading
- Ministry task

### **Assignments:**

*Guided Research Paper:* Each student will write a guided research paper consisting of approximately 3,000 words. Guidelines for the paper will be distributed in the week before the first class meeting. The paper is due after writing center input on Dec 3, 2018.

*Critical Book Review:* Each student will write a critical book review of a book from the optional reading list or an agreeable substitute. Guidelines for a critical review will be distributed in the week before the first class meeting. The Critical Review is due Nov 5, 2018.

*Quizzes:* From the 2<sup>nd</sup> to the 10<sup>th</sup> week quizzes will assess each student's comprehension of the two required texts, Millard Erickson's book: *Christian Theology 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition* and the on line videos and powerpoints in our BlackBoard shell. No more than 10 objective questions will compose the weekly quiz. These questions are based on the preceding week's reading and viewing assignment.

*Mid Term Exam:* The midterm exam is designed to allow the student to express the essence of the doctrinal truths covered in the first half of the semester.

*Final Exam:* The final exam is similar to the midterm and comprehensive of the semester. Students who are present and on time for all class sessions and achieve a 95% for work due and submitted before Nov 19 are exempt from the final exam.

### **Grading:**

Guided Research Papers:	25%
Critical Book Review:	15%
Weekly quizzes on week 2-10	10%
Mid Term Exam:	20%
Final Exam <b>or</b> perfect attendance: and 95% average entering the 12 <sup>th</sup> week (Thanksgiving)	30%
Total	100%

Final grades will be assigned according to the NOBTS catalog grading scale.

**Absences:**

Attendance is required. The absence policy in the NOBTS catalog will be enforced.

**Required Texts**

Erickson, Millard. *Christian Theology* 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2013.

Videos and Powerpoints within the Units of our Black Board Shell.

**Optional Texts (For Book Reviews)**

Erickson, Millard J. *God the Father Almighty: A Contemporary Exploration of the Divine Attributes*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1998.

\_\_\_\_\_. *What Does God Know and When Does He Know It?: The Current Controversy Over Divine Foreknowledge*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2003.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Who's Tampering with the Trinity? An Assessment of the Subordination Debate*. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2009.

Evans, Craig A. *Fabricating Jesus: How Modern Scholars Distort the Gospel*. Downer's Grove, IL: IVP, 2008.

Feinberg, John S. *The Many Faces of Evil: Theological Systems and the Problem of Evil*. Rev. and Expanded ed. Wheaton: Crossway, 2004.

Flint, Thomas. *Divine Providence: The Molinist Account*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 1998.

Karkkainen, Veli-Matti. *An Introduction to the Theology of Religions: Biblical, Historical and Contemporary Perspectives*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2003.

Letham, Robert. *The Holy Trinity: In Scripture, History, Theology And Worship*. Phillipsburg, NJ: P&R Publishing, 2004.

McGrath, Alister E. *The Science of God: An Introduction to Scientific Theology*. Grand Rapids: Willilam B. Eerdmans, 2004.

Olson, Roger E. *God in Dispute: "Conversations" Among Great Christian Thinkers*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2009.

Plantinga, Cornelius, Jr. *Not the Way It's Supposed to Be: A Breviary of Sin*. Grand Rapids:

Eerdmans, 1995.

Sennett, James F., and Douglass Groothuis. *In Defense of Natural Theology: A Post-Humean Assessment*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2005.

Ward, Timothy. *Words of Life: Scripture as the Living and Active Word of God*. Downer's Grove, IL: IVP, 2009.

## Course Outline

The course schedule is tentative and will be modified as necessary. All reading assignments are to be completed prior to the next class session. All chapters are from *Christian Theology 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition* by Millard Erickson. Viewing assignments are Units in our BlackBoard shell.

Date	Week	Session	Part	Topics	Reading and Viewing Assignment
8/20	1		Prolegomena	On line Welcome and Introduction	Erickson Part 1 (pg xi-117) View Unit 1 and 2 ppts and videos
8/27	2	1	Doctrine of Revelation	Methodology The Word of God (pt 1)	Part 2 ch 6 (pg 121-142) View Unit 3 videos and ppts
9/3	3				Part 2 ch7-8 (pg 143-187) View Unit 4 videos and ppts

9/10	4	2		The Word of God (pt 2)	Part 2 ch 9-10 (pg 188-232) View Unit 5 videos and ppts
9/17	5		Doctrine of God	The Nature of God (pt 1)	Part 3 ch 11-12 (pg 233-271) View Unit 6 videos and ppts
9/24	6	3		The Nature of God (pt 2)	Part 3 ch 13-14 (pg 272-316) View Unit 7 and 8 videos and ppts
10/1	7			The Work of God	Part 4 ch 15-17 (pg 317-382) View Unit 9 videos and ppts
10/8	8	4		Evil in God's World and God's Agents-Angels	Part 4 ch 18-19 (pg 383-422) View Unit 10 videos and ppts
10/15	9	<b>FALL BREAK</b>			

10/22	10	5	Doctrine of Humanity	Human Creation	Part 5 ch 20-22 (pg 423-474) View Unit 11 videos and ppts
10/29	11			The Essence of Humanity	Part 5 ch 23 (pg 475-493) <b>Mid Term Exam</b>
11/5	10	6			Part 5 ch 24 (pg 494-512) <b>Critical Book Review</b>
11/12	11	7		Sin	Part 6 ch 25-26 (pg 513-547) View Unit 12 videos and ppts
11/19	12	<b>THANKSGIVING BREAK</b>			
11/26	13				Part 6 ch 27-29 (pg 548-602)
12/3	14	8		The Person of Christ	Part 7 ch 30-34 (pg 603-694) View Unit 13 and 14 videos and ppts <b>Research Paper Due</b>
12/10	15	Final Exam			

### Selected Bibliography

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Allred, Frank. *How Can I be Sure?* London: Grace Publications Trust, 1999.

Alston, William. *Divine Nature and Human Language*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1989.

Archer, Margaret S., et al. *Transcendence: Critical Realism and God*. London and New York: Routledge, 1998.

Barker, Harold. *Secure Forever*. Neptune, NJ: Loizeaux Bros., 1986.

Barth, Karl. *Church Dogmatics*. ed by G. W. Bromiley and T. F. Torrance. Edinburgh: T & T Clark, 1956.

\_\_\_\_\_. *The Humanity of God*. Richmond: John Knox, 1960.

Basinger, David and Randall, eds. *Predestination and Free Will: Four Views of Divine Sovereignty and Human Freedom* by John Feinberg, Norman Geisler, Bruce

- Reichenbach, and Clark Pinnock. Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 1986.
- Beckwith, C. A. *The Idea of God: Historical, Critical, Constructive*. New York: Macmillan, 1922.
- Beeke, Joel. *The Quest for Full Assurance: The Legacy of Calvin and His Successors*. Grand Rapids: The Banner of Truth Trust, 1999.
- Bloesch, Donald G. *God The Almighty: Power, Wisdom, Holiness, Love*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1995.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Jesus Christ: Savior & Lord*. Downers Grove: IVP, 1997.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *A Theology of Word & Spirit*. Downers Grove: IVP, 1992.
- Bray, Gerald. *The Doctrine of God*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 1993.
- Brine, John. *A Defense of the Doctrine of Eternal Justification*. Paris, AR: The Baptist Standard Bearer, 1987.
- Brunner, Emil. *The Christian Doctrine of God*, vol. 1 of Dogmatics, 3 vols., trans. Olive Wyon. Philadelphia: Westminster, 1950.
- Borchert, Gerald. *Assurance and Warning*. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1987.
- Buber, Martin. *I and Thou*, trans. Ronald Gregor Smith. 2d ed. New York: Scribner, 1958.
- Colquhoun, John. *Spiritual Comfort*. Morgan, PA: Soli Deo Gloria, 1998.
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- Eaton, Michael. *No Condemnation: A New Theology of Assurance*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 1997.
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- Elwell, Walter A. Ed. *Evangelical Dictionary of Theology* 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Grand Rapids: Baker Academics, 2001
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- \_\_\_\_\_. *The Living God: Readings in Christian Theology*. Grand Rapids: Baker,

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- \_\_\_\_\_. *The Word Became Flesh: A Contemporary Incarnational Theology*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1991.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *God in Three Persons: A Contemporary Interpretation of the Trinity*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1995.
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- Frame, John. *The Doctrine of the Knowledge of God*. Phillipsburg: P & R, 1989.
- Freddoso, Alfred J., ed. *The Existence and Nature of God*. Notre Dame: University of Notre Dame Press, 1983.
- Geisler, Norman. *Chosen, But Free: A Balanced View of Divine Election*. Minneapolis: Bethany House, 1999.
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- Helm, Paul. *Eternal God: A Study of God without Time*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1988.
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