



THEO5301 Systematic Theology II

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

Theological and Historical Studies Division

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Mission Statement

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.

Core Value Focus

The seminary has five core values.

1. **Doctrinal Integrity:** Knowing that the Bible is the Word of God, we believe it, teach it, proclaim it, and submit to it. This course addresses Doctrinal Integrity specifically by preparing students to grow in understanding and interpreting of the Bible.
2. **Spiritual Vitality:** We are a worshipping community emphasizing both personal spirituality and gathering together as a Seminary family for the praise and adoration of God and instruction in His Word. Spiritual Vitality is addressed by reminding students that a dynamic relationship with God is vital for effective ministry.
3. **Mission Focus:** We are not here merely to get an education or to give one. We are here to change the world by fulfilling the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries. This course addresses Mission Focus by helping students understand the biblical foundations for fulfilling the Great Commission and the Great Commandments.
4. **Characteristic Excellence:** What we do, we do to the utmost of our abilities and resources as a testimony to the glory of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Characteristic Excellence is addressed by preparing students to excel in their ability to interpret Scripture, which is foundational to effective ministry.
5. **Servant Leadership:** We follow the model of Jesus and exert leadership and influence through the nurture and encouragement of those around us. Servant Leadership is modeled by classroom deportment.

The core value focus for this academic year is **servant leadership**.

Curriculum Competencies

NOBTS faculty members realize that all ministers need to develop specific competencies if they are going to have an effective ministry. To increase the likelihood of NOBTS graduates having an effective ministry, the faculty developed a competency-based curriculum after identifying seven essential competencies necessary for effective ministry. All graduates are expected to have at least a minimum level of competency in all of the following areas:

1. **Biblical Exposition:** to interpret and communicate the Bible accurately.
2. **Christian Theological Heritage:** To understand and interpret Christian theological heritage and Baptist polity for the church.
3. **Disciple Making:** To stimulate church health through mobilizing the church for missions, evangelism, discipleship, and church growth.

4. **Interpersonal Skills:** To perform pastoral care effectively, with skills in communication and conflict management.
5. **Servant Leadership:** To serve churches effectively through team ministry.
6. **Spiritual and Character Formation:** To provide moral leadership by modeling and mentoring Christian character and devotion.
7. **Worship Leadership:** To facilitate worship effectively.

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.

Student Learning Outcomes

The student, by the end of the course, should:

1. Be able to understand theological method and the doctrines of the work of Christ, salvation, the Holy Spirit, the church, and last things biblically, historically, and systematically.
2. Be able to apply theology by integrating these doctrines into a coherent, comprehensive, and consistent Christian worldview.
3. Be able to communicate these doctrines in the particular ministry calling and context of the learner.

Biblical Authority

The instructor 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
- Online discussions
- Written assignments
- Assigned reading
- Ministry task

Required Textbooks

Erickson, Millard J. *Christian Theology*. 3d ed. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2013.

Olson, Roger E. *God in Dispute*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2009.

Course Requirements

1. Attendance and Participation (10%)

Students are required to be in every class session throughout the week. Participation in classroom discussion is also a must.

2. Theological Reflections (60%)

Every student will give **twelve** 2-3 page (double-spaced, Times New Roman 12 pt.) answers to the following twelve questions based on reading assignments in four sets of questions (12-18 pages per question set). In each of these assignments, students should demonstrate (1) reading comprehension of the assigned materials, (2) critical reflection on the ideas and content in the reading, and (3) the student's ability to apply the theological content to vocational ministry. **These questions are due in sets of four. Put all answers to a Question Set in a SINGLE document on Blackboard.**

Question Set #1 (due 6/9) — Work of Christ (cite Erickson page numbers parenthetically in each of your answers). Read Erickson, chs. 35-38, 42-48; Olson, chs. 9, 10, 13, 15, 16.

1. Describe the three offices/roles of Christ's ongoing ministry. How do we as believers continue to reflect these aspects of Christ's work.
2. Describe the major views of the nature of the atonement. What position do you hold and why? Use Scripture and reasoning to justify your position.
3. Describe the different positions on the extent of the atonement. What position do you hold and why? Use Scripture and reasoning to justify your position.
4. What are the elements of the *ordo salutis*? What order do you put the elements in and why?
5. Explain your understanding of the doctrine of election. Use Scripture and theological resources to explain your position.
6. Make a case for or against the doctrine of eternal security. Use Scripture and reasoning to justify your position.

Question Set #2 (due 6/30) — Pneumatology and Ecclesiology (cite Erickson and Olson page numbers parenthetically in each of your answers). Read Erickson chs. 39-41, 49-58; Olson, chs. 5, 12, 14, 22.

1. Explain the doctrine of the Baptism in the Holy Spirit. How do you explain the post-conversion receptions of the Spirit in the book of Acts?
2. Compare and contrast the arguments for and against cessationism and continuationism. Describe your own position.
3. Is believer's baptism necessary for church membership? Explain your position.
4. Describe the basic millennial positions; then describe your own position.
5. Compare and contrast exclusivism, inclusivism, universalism, and pluralism.
6. Describe the various views on the doctrine of hell. Use Scripture to explain your own position.

The schedule below has the reading assignments and questions asked for each theological reflection.

3. Book Review (15%)—Due 7/7

Students must write a critical book review of one of the optional review texts. The review should include **(1)** a bibliography entry, **(2)** a brief biographical data about the author(s) (e.g., his or her position, degrees, research interests, and books), **(3)** an assessment of the main purpose and/or thesis of the book, **(4)** a concise summary of the book's contents, **(5)** a thorough critical analysis of the book, and **(6)** a conclusion with a recommendation or dismissal. The review should be between **2000-4000 words** and should conform to **Turabian** or **SBL** style guides. Because book reviews are primarily about one source, use **parenthetical citations** for the primary text and footnotes only for external sources.

A few questions to consider while reading these monographs: What is the main purpose or thesis of this book? To whom is this book written? Did the author(s) fulfill his or her purpose? What are some of the author's working assumptions (e.g., his or her denominational background, field of research, or view of Scripture)? Does the author provide strong biblical, philosophical, and historical support for his or her positions? Are there any points of contact between this book/writer and other texts read during the course of the semester? How might the content of this book affect ministry in the local church or ministry within your particular calling? Are there any ideas that

changed your particular way of thinking on the subject matter at hand? Would you recommend this book to someone else?

- **A papers (93-100)** clearly state the book's thesis, successfully and succinctly outline its argument in its own terms, demonstrate advanced critical engagement with the argument and content of the book, make clear and well-structured arguments, and exhibit a proficient grasp of grammar, spelling, and style.
- **B papers (85-92)** clearly state the book's thesis, show an attempt to understand the book on its own terms and critically reflect on the issues at hand, make arguments, and show sufficiency in grammar, spelling, and style.
- **C papers (77-84)** state the book's thesis, present the content of the book, raise preliminary critical questions for further evaluation, limit evaluation to approval or disapproval of the author's arguments, and make repeated mistakes in grammar, spelling, and style.
- **D (70-76) and F (0-69) papers** lack evidence of grasping the book's thesis and content, limit evaluation to preformed judgments without serious consideration of the book's ideas, contain major grammatical, spelling, and stylistic errors, and demonstrate little or no attempt to proofread.

- Allison, Gregg. *Sojourners and Strangers: The Doctrine of the Church*. Crossway, 2012. **Ecclesiology**.
- Beilby, James. *The Nature of the Atonement: Four Views*. IVP, 2006. **Work of Christ**.
- Blomberg, Craig L. and Sung Wook Chung. *A Case for Historic Premillennialism: An Alternative to "Left Behind" Eschatology*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2009. **Eschatology**
- Cole, Graham A. *He Who Gives Life: The Doctrine of the Holy Spirit*. Crossway, 2007. **Pneumatology**.
- Cole, Graham A. *God the Peacemaker: How Atonement Brings Shalom*. New Studies in Biblical Theology 25. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2009. **Work of Christ**
- Cole, Graham A. *He Who Gives Life: The Doctrine of the Holy Spirit*. Foundations of Evangelical Theology. Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 2007. **Pneumatology**
- Hultberg, Alan, ed. *Three Views on the Rapture*. 2d ed. Zondervan, 2010. **Eschatology**.
- Karkkainen, Veli-Matti. *Pneumatology: The Holy Spirit in Ecumenical, International, and Contextual Perspective*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2002. **Pneumatology**
- Malone, Fred. *The Baptism of Disciples Alone: A Covenantal Argument for Credobaptism Versus Paedobaptism*. Rev. ed. Cape Coral, FL: Founders Press, 2008. **Ecclesiology**.
- Peterson, David. *Possessed by God: A New Testament Theology of Sanctification and Holiness*. New Studies in Biblical Theology 1. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1995. **Soteriology**
- Schreiner, Thomas R. and Shawn Wright, eds. *Believer's Baptism: Sign of the New Covenant in Christ*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 2007. **Ecclesiology**
- Seifrid, Mark A. *Christ Our Righteousness: Paul's Theology of Justification*. New Studies in Biblical Theology 9. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2000. **Soteriology**
- Storms, Sam. *Kingdom Come: The Amillennial Alternative*. Mentor, 2015. **Eschatology**.
- Stott, John. *The Cross of Christ*. IVP, 2006. **Work of Christ**.
- Witherington, Ben, III. *Jesus, Paul, and the End of the World: A Comparative Study in New Testament Theology*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1992. **Eschatology**
- Wright, N. T. *The Day the Revolution Began*. HarperOne, 2016. **Work of Christ**.
- Wright, N. T. *Justification: God's Plan and Paul's Vision*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity,

2010. Soteriology.

4. Summative Doctrinal Sermon / Lesson (15%)—Due 7/14

Every student will write a 4-6-page single-spaced sermon manuscript for a doctrinal sermon. Students can write on any doctrine addressed in Systematic Theology II (the doctrines of the work of Christ, salvation, pneumatology, ecclesiology, and eschatology). Each sermon should contain an introduction, a main idea, explanations of the biblical text, illustrations, applications, and a conclusion/invitation.

The sermon may be a straightforward exposition of a doctrine in a particular text (e.g., the millennium in Rev. 20) or a topical, yet text-driven sermon that traces a doctrine through a book or multiple books of the Bible.

Different **AUDIENCES** or **CONTEXTS** require different styles of presentation. A sermon to adults is different than a sermon to children or youth. Please inform us a little about your intended **MINISTRY CONTEXT**.

These sermons should demonstrate **UNDERSTANDING** of the doctrinal content, the ability to **APPLY** the doctrinal content to the Christian worldview and life, and the ability to **COMMUNICATE** effectively to the audience.

The rubric below shows how the sermon or lesson will be evaluated in terms of addressing Student Learning Outcomes. Students may use this rubric as a guide for how they answer other questions in the Theological Reflections Question Sets.

DOMAIN	LEVEL	INADEQUATE (0 PTS)	BASIC (1 PT)	COMPETENT (2 PTS)	GOOD (3 PTS)	EXCELLENT (4PTS)
UNDERSTANDING	Able to understand the doctrinal topic.					
APPLICATION	Able to apply knowledge by relating it to the broader Christian worldview.					
COMMUNICATION	Able to communicate the doctrine to a ministry audience.					

Evaluation of Grades

1. Attendance and Participation	10%
2. Theological Reflection Question Sets (x4 at 15% each)	60%
3. Book Review	15%
4. Summative Doctrinal Sermon or Lesson	15%
Total	100%

All assignments must be submitted to pass the course. Students who fail to complete an assignment will not receive a passing grade.

Extra Credit Opportunities

1. In Defense of Doctrine Reading Report

Students who read or complete reading *In Defense of Doctrine* and list it in their reading report will earn one additional point on their final grade. (The kids have to eat.)

2. Book Review

Students may write one **(1)** critical book review of a book related to the course and **pre-approved by the professor**. Students can earn up to **five (5) points** on their final grade with a quality critical book review. Extra credit book reviews are due the week of the final exam. **Make sure it's not a book you have read before and ESPECIALLY NOT A REVIEW YOU HAVE ALREADY SUBMITTED TO ANOTHER CLASS.**

Class Behavior

As noted above, attendance and class participation are necessary for meeting the requirements of this class. Students are expected to be attentive and prepared for each class session. Students who are engaged in private conversations or doing work for other classes may be asked to leave the class; repeat violations may result in removal from the course. Rude or disruptive behavior is also not permitted.

Laptop Guidelines

Laptops are permitted in class as long as they are used for taking notes or accessing Blackboard materials related to this particular course. *Students using laptops are requested to sit in the front of the classroom for accountability purposes.* Gaming, e-mail, social networking, and web browsing of any kind are strictly prohibited. Failure to heed this policy *will* result in dismissal from the class session; repeat violations may result in removal from the course. *Any student using Facebook during a class meeting may be asked to leave the class, repeat offenders for the remainder of the semester.*

Late Work

Because life and ministry happens, late work will be accepted—but not without penalty. For every day an assignment is late, five points will be taken off. *No assignment over two weeks late will be accepted.* Failure to submit every assignment will result in failure of the course.

Technical Assistance

For assistance regarding technology, consult ITC (504-816-8180) or the following websites:

1. Selfserve@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the Selfserve.nobts.edu site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.)
2. BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Blackboard Learning Management System NOBTS.Blackboard.com.
3. ITCSupport@nobts.edu - Email for general technical questions/support requests.
4. www.NOBTS.edu/itc/ - General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.

Help for Writing Papers at “The Write Stuff”

NOBTS maintains a Writing Center designed to improve English writing at the graduate level. Students can receive writing guides, tips, and valuable information to help in becoming a better writer.

Plagiarism on Written Assignments

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NOBTS has a no tolerance policy for plagiarism. Plagiarism in certain cases may result in expulsion from the seminary. See the NOBTS Student Handbook for definition, penalties, and policies associated with plagiarism.

Remember the words of the proverb: *“Whoever walks in integrity walks securely, but he who makes his ways crooked will be found out”* (Prov. 10:19).

Course Schedule

THEO5301 Red Carpet Week 2018		
<u>Date</u>	<u>Class Topics</u>	<u>Reading Assignments</u>
5/28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction • The Work of Christ • Atonement Theories • Scope of the Atonement • Atonement and Physical Healing 	Erickson, chs. 35-38
5/29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Election and Predestination • Subjective Aspects of Salvation • Objective Aspects of Salvation • Union with Christ • Justification • Excursus: Perspectives on Paul 	Erickson, chs. 43-46
5/30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sanctification • Perseverance and Apostasy • The Work of the Holy Spirit • The Nature and Government of the Church Pt. 1 • The Nature and Government of the Church Pt. 2 	Erickson, chs. 39-41, 47
5/31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baptism • The Lord’s Supper • Introduction to Eschatology 	Erickson, chs. 49-53
6/1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal Eschatology • Millennial Views • The End 	Erickson chs. 55-58
AFTER CLASS		
6/9		REFLECTION SET #1 DUE
6/30		REFLECTION SET #2 DUE
7/7		BOOK REVIEW DUE
7/14		SERMON/LESSON DUE

Selected Bibliography

Dictionaries and Encyclopedias

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- Brown, Colin, ed. *New International Dictionary of New Testament Theology*. 4 vols. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1974-78, 1985.
- Cross, Frank L. and Elizabeth A. Livingstone. *The Oxford Dictionary of the Christian Church*. 3rd ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1997.
- Douglas, J.D., ed. *New 20th-Century Encyclopedia of Religious Knowledge*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1991.
- Eliade, Mircea, ed. *The Encyclopedia of Religion*. 16 vols. New York: MacMillan, 1986.
- Elwell, Walter, ed. *Dictionary of Evangelical Theology*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1984.
- Erickson, Millard J, ed. *Readings in Theology*. 3 vols. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1973-79.
- _____. *Concise Dictionary of Christian Theology*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1996.
- Ferguson, Sinclair B., David F. Wright, and J.I. Packer, eds. *New Dictionary of Theology*. Downers Grove/Leicester: InterVarsity, 1988.
- Harrison, Everett F., ed. *Baker's Dictionary of Theology*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1960.
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- Muller, Richard A. *Dictionary of Latin and Greek Theological Terms*. Grand Rapids: Bakers, 1985.
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- Packer, James I., ed. *The Best in Theology*. Several volumes. Carol Stream: Christianity Today, 1987.
- Rahner, Karl, ed. *Encyclopedia of Theology: The Concise Sacramentum Mundi*. New York: Seabury, 1975.
- Reese, William L. *Dictionary of Philosophy and Religion*. Atlantic Highlands: Humanities, 1980.
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Taylor, Richard S., ed. *Beacon Dictionary of Theology*. Kansas City: Beacon Hill, 1983.

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Barth, Karl. *Church Dogmatics*. 4 vols. Edinburgh: Clark, 1936-1977.

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Bloesch, Donald G. *Essentials of Evangelical Theology*. 2 vols. San Francisco: Harper & Row, 1978-79.

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Boice, James M. *Foundations of the Christian Faith*. Four vols. in one. Revised. Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 1986.

Brunner, Emil. *Dogmatics*. 3 vols. Philadelphia: Westminster, 1949-60.

Buswell, J.O., Jr. *A Systematic Theology of the Christian Religion*. Two vols. in one. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1962, 1963.

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_____, ed. *The Necessity of Systematic Theology*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1978.

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