



A Survey of Feminist Theology CEWM 5185 (1 hr)

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Christian Education Division

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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.

Purpose of the Course

The purpose of this course is to acquaint the student with the major theoretical and philosophical teachings of feminism in America, along with contemporary manifestations of feminist ideology in Christianity.

Core Value Focus

Doctrinal Integrity – Knowing that the Bible is the Word of God, we believe it, teach it, proclaim it, and submit to it. The doctrinal statements used in our evaluations are our Articles of Religious Belief and the Baptist Faith and Message Statement.

Spiritual Vitality – We are a worshipping community, with both personal spirituality and gathering together as a Seminary for the praise and adoration of God and instruction in His Word.

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.

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.

Servant Leadership – We follow the model of Jesus and exert leadership and influence through the nurture and encouragement of those around us.

Annually, the President will designate a core value that will become the focus of pedagogy for the year. For 2013-2014 academic year that Core Value is *Doctrinal Integrity*.

Curriculum Competencies Addressed

This course will address the following curriculum competencies:

1. *Biblical Exposition*: The student will examine passages of scripture in order to understand the impact of feminism on life and the church.

2. *Christian Theological Heritage*: The student will explore theological and historical background for feminism in contrast to biblical womanhood.
3. *Disciple Making*: The student will develop spiritually in knowledge of secular and religious feminism.
4. *Interpersonal Skills*: The student will improve interpersonal skills among women.
5. *Servant Leadership*: The student will learn how to lead other women toward an accurate understanding of feminism and its impact on Christian women today.
6. *Spiritual and character formation*: The student will grow as a Christian woman personally and spiritually.
7. *Worship Leadership*: The student will increase skills for leading women in the church.

Course Description

This course is designed to explore that historical and theoretical foundations of American feminism. In additions, it will examine the impact of feminism on society and the church.

Learning Objectives

By the completion of this course, the student should be able to accomplish the following:

1. Understand the origin and historical development of feminism as a cultural force in American society and as a religious force.
2. Read and evaluate several sources which discuss feminism from a biblical perspective.
3. Identify the impact of feminism upon current thinking regarding male and female roles.
4. Articulate and defend personal convictions regarding feminism and the outworking of biblical teaching on gender roles in daily life and ministry.

Required Readings

The following texts and resources are required reading for class discussions and are to be read in their entirety unless otherwise specified.

1. Kassian, Mary. *The Feminist Mistake: The Radical Impact of Feminism on Church and Culture*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 2005. ISBN: 9781581345704
2. McCulley, Carolyn. *Radical Womanhood: Feminine Faith in a Feminist World*. Chicago, IL: Moody Press, 2008. ISBN: 9780802450845

Course Teaching Methodology

Units of Study. Topics will include:

1. The History of Feminism

2. The Problem without a Name
3. The Personal Becomes Political
4. Biology Equals Destiny
5. A Problem in the Church
6. Feminist Liberation Theology
7. The History of Biblical Feminism
8. Hermeneutical Consideration
9. Feminism's Impact on the Church
10. Feminism's Impact on the Home

Teaching Method. This course will utilize lecture and interactive discovery-learning and will be team-taught. The student should expect different presentation formats to enhance the learning motif.

Required Readings

The following texts and resources are required reading for class discussions and are to be read in their entirety unless otherwise specified.

Assignments and Evaluation Criteria

1. Students will attend class as stated in the graduate catalog.
2. Students will read the assigned textbooks and provide a written statement of completion.
3. Students will write a research paper on a topic related to feminism such as sex trafficking, abortion, gay marriage, violence against women, etc. The paper should be ten to fifteen pages including ten to fifteen sources, typed double spaced following *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations* by Kate Turabian, published by University of Chicago Press.
4. Students write an annotated bibliography for the secondary text and four other books on the bibliography. The annotated bibliographies should be 1-2 paragraphs containing basic bibliographic information and a brief summary of the book.
5. Students will complete a take-home final examination.

Mail the textbook reading statement, research paper, annotated bibliographies, and take-home final examination to Dr. Rhonda Kelley, N.O.B.T.S., 3939 Gentilly Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70126 or email it to rkelly@nobts.edu. Requirements must be received by the end of each semester or the student will receive a course grade of an "F". Students may request an incomplete in the course in case of emergency.

Course Evaluation

This course will follow the grading system for the Graduate School.

A = 93-100	1/4 = Attendance/Participation
B = 85-92	1/4 = Research Paper
C = 77-84	1/4 = 5 Annotated Bibliographies
D = 70-76	1/4 = Take-home final exam
F = Below 70	

Course Policies

The student will be expected to have access to online resources to download teaching and presentation documents in the Seminary's BlackBoard system.

Students who choose to present assignments via electronic mediums need to present those documents in a Microsoft Word (.doc or .docx) format. WordPerfect and PDF files will not be accepted for grade via electronic format.

The absence policy of the Seminary will be strictly enforced. For a 3-hour course, the student may miss no more than 9 hours of instruction. Examinations and case studies will be given and graded on the days announced. The concept of a make-up examination does not exist.

Netiquette: Appropriate Online Behavior. Each student is expected to demonstrate appropriate Christian behavior when working online on Discussion Boards or whenever interaction occurs through web, digital, or other electronic medium. 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 is expected at all times in the online environment

Academic Honesty Policy

All graduate and undergraduate NOBTS students, whether on-campus, internet, or extension center students, are expected to adhere to the highest Christian standard of honesty and integrity when completing academic assignments for all courses in every delivery system format. The Bible provides our standard for academic integrity and honesty. This standard applies whether a student is taking tests, quizzes, exams, writing papers, completing Discussion Boards, or any other course requirement.

Course Schedule

Session One

Welcome/Registration/Introductions
The History of Feminism

Session Two

The Problem without a Name

Session Three

The Personal Becomes Political

Session Four

Biology Equals Destiny

Session Five

A Problem in the Church

Session Six

Feminist Liberation Theology

Session Seven

The History of Biblical Feminism

Session Eight

Hermeneutical Consideration

Session Nine

Feminism's Impact on the Church

Session Ten

Feminism's Impact on the Home

Selected Bibliography

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