Seminary 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.

Course Description

The course introduces students to basic principles of epistemology and how to apply them as part of a Christian intellectual life. Attention will be given to epistemology in religious experience, theological construction, philosophical explanation, and apologetic and evangelistic presentation.

Course Purpose

The purpose of this course is to challenge students to think through issues related to knowledge and to come to their own preliminary conclusions as to what it means to know, how knowledge is best arrived at, and why.

Core Values Addressed

The course will address the core value of Doctrinal Integrity directly and Spiritual Vitality indirectly. Reflection on what it means to know is intimately related to the knowledge of God, Scripture, and the nature and purpose of Creation and indeed all of life. For the Christian, philosophy is ultimately a matter of loving God with the mind (Matthew 22:37-40)—and to love God one must know God. The core value for the 2015-2016 academic year is Mission Focus.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Students will be introduced to the basic principles of epistemology by attending class lectures.
2. Students will be introduced to the basic principles of epistemology by reading the primary text and assigned readings.
3. Students will demonstrate an understanding of basic principles of epistemology when tested through quizzes and exams.
4. Students will demonstrate an understanding of basic principles of epistemology by identifying examples of epistemic theories and practices they encounter in the reading.

Methodology

The course will utilize classroom lectures and discussion, reading assignments, and quizzes/exams.
Grading

Grades will be assigned on the basis of the NOBTS grading scale.

Evaluation

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<th>Activity</th>
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<td>Reading Report 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
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<td>Final Exam</td>
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<td>Personal Perspective</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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Texts

REQUIRED


OPTIONAL


**EPISTEMOLOGY SCHEDULE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Events</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8/26</td>
<td>Introduce Course, Assign Reading Reviews</td>
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<td>8/26</td>
<td>Epistemology 101</td>
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<td>Trey Norsworthy</td>
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<td>10/7</td>
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<td>10/21</td>
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<td>10/28</td>
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<td>10/28</td>
<td>What Can We Know, Chapter 15</td>
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<td>FINAL EXAM</td>
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**Bibliography**


——. 2001. “‘The Ethics of Belief’ Reconsidered.” In Steup 2001a, 21–33.


**Internet Resources**

[Epistemology Page](#), maintained by Keith De Rose (Yale University).

[The Epistemology Research Guide](#), maintained by Keith Korcz (University of Lousiana/Lafayette).

"Direct Warrant Realism", an online manuscript, by Keith De Rose (Yale University).

"Foundationalism, Sense-Experiential Content, and Sellars's Dilemma", colloquium paper by M. Steup (St. Cloud State University), delivered at the 2001 APA/Pacific meetings.