



## **THEO 6307– Doctrine of Salvation**

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary  
Theological & Historical Studies Division  
Fall 2022 – Fridays, 8:00–10:50 AM  
Available through the NOLA2U Flex option

### **Adam Harwood, PhD**

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### **Mission Statement**

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Leavell College prepare servants to walk with Christ, proclaim His truth, and fulfill His mission.

### **Course Description**

This course provides a biblical, historical, and systematic examination of soteriology, or the doctrine of salvation. In this course, students can expect to address a number of questions pertinent to the doctrine: What is the nature of salvation? What are the distinctive, biblical elements of salvation? What, if any, logical order can be construed in the arrangement of these elements? Students may choose to focus on any one of these questions or tighten their focus on a particular area such as election, conversion, justification, sanctification, or perseverance.

### **Student Learning Outcomes**

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

1. be able to understand the doctrine of salvation biblically, historically, and systematically.
2. be able to apply theology by integrating this doctrine 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.

### **Required Textbooks**

Allen, David, and Steve Lemke, eds. *Calvinism: A Biblical and Theological Critique*. Nashville: B&H Academic, 2022. (available on Aug. 1)

Harwood, Adam. *Christian Theology: Biblical, Historical, and Systematic*. Bellingham, WA: Lexham Academic, 2022. (available on Aug. 3)

Holy Bible. You may bring any reliable, modern translation.

One book of the student's choice, selected from the list on page 2.

### **Recommended Textbook**

Turabian, Kate. *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*. Latest edition.

### Course Teaching Methodology

The course will involve the following methodologies: assigned readings, classroom lectures, classroom discussions, weekly reading quizzes, book reviews, and a comprehensive final exam. These methods are consistent with the belief that some learning will occur outside of as well as in the classroom. My goal is not that students will be indoctrinated to affirm all my views; rather, my goal is that students will think critically about their own views, gain a better understanding of other views, and be able to assess the strengths and weaknesses of the supporting claims.

### Course Requirements (300 total points possible)

Reading Quizzes. Submit 5 quiz questions (and answers) based on reading (10 pts. e.) = 100 pts.

Book Reviews. *Calvinism* and one book selected by the student (50 pts. each) = 100 pts.

Final Exam. = 100 pts.

- **Reading Quizzes.** Students will submit a document with 5 quiz questions they develop based on the assigned reading. Quiz questions can be any combination of T/F, fill-in-the-blank, or multiple choice. Correct answers, source, and page numbers must be provided for each question. Reading quizzes must be submitted online before class begins.  
**10 points** each = 100 points possible.
- **Book Reviews** (1,500–1,800 words each). Students will read and review Allen and Lemke’s *Calvinism* **and one book** from the list below. It must be a book the student has not read before this semester. See the course schedule for due dates.

<p>Allen, David. <i>The Extent of the Atonement: A Historical and Critical Review</i>. Nashville: B&amp;H, 2016.</p> <p>Allen, David, Eric Hankins, and Adam Harwood, eds. <i>Anyone Can Be Saved: A Defense of “Traditional” Southern Baptist Theology</i>. Eugene, OR: Wipf &amp; Stock, 2016.</p> <p>Barrett, Matthew, and Thomas J. Nettles, eds. <i>Whomever He Wills: A Surprising Display of Sovereign Mercy</i>. Cape Coral, FL: Founders, 2012.</p> <p>Bass, Christopher D. <i>That You May Know: Assurance of Salvation in 1 John</i>, in <i>NAC Studies in Bible and Theology</i>, edited by E. Ray Clendenen. Nashville: B&amp;H Academic, 2008.</p> <p>Gibson, David, and Jonathan Gibson, eds. <i>From Heaven He Came and Sought Her: Definite Atonement in Historical, Biblical, Theological, and Pastoral Perspective</i>. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2013.</p> <p>Keathley, Kenneth. <i>Salvation and Sovereignty: A Molinist Approach</i>. Nashville: B&amp;H Academic, 2010.</p> <p>Klein, William W. <i>The New Chosen People: A Corporate View of Election</i>, rev. and exp. Eugene, OR: Wipf &amp; Stock, 2015.</p> <p>Laing, John D., Kirk R. MacGregor, and Greg Welty, eds. <i>Calvinism and Middle Knowledge: A Conversation</i>. Eugene, OR: Pickwick, 2019.</p> <p>Lennox, John C. <i>Determined to Believe? The Sovereignty of God, Freedom, Faith, and Human Responsibility</i>. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2018.</p> <p>Stratton, Timothy A. <i>Human Freedom, Divine Knowledge, and Mere Molinism: A Biblical, Historical, Theological, and Philosophical Analysis</i>. Eugene, OR: Wipf &amp; Stock, 2020.</p>
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## Book Review Guidelines

### Summary (500–600 words)

Begin with a one or two-sentence biography of the author or the contributors. In the summary section, students should summarize and explain the author's thesis and supporting arguments. This section might include an outline of the book's contents and definitions of key terms.

### Critique (1,000–1,200 words)

The critique should address many of the following:

- critique of the author's thesis, assumptions, supporting arguments, method, sources, logic, and style;
- specific examples of strengths and weaknesses (such as any relevant areas not addressed) of the book
- discussion of the book's usefulness for the intended audience, how the book contributes to its field, and other books which explore the issue;
- closing sentence either recommending the book or not and explaining why.

Cite page numbers parenthetically. Footnote only outside sources. Use quotations sparingly. Avoid first-person language. No title page is required (Students should provide their name, the date, and word count for each section at the top of page one). Please format in single-spaced, 12-point Times New Roman font. Submit the reviews **online** by their respective due dates.

**50 points each = 100 points.**

## Book Review Grading Rubric

	10	9	8	7	5
<b>Content</b>	proper length robust explanation and critique of thesis all details accurate	proper length acceptable explanation and critique of thesis minimal inaccuracies	improper length provides some explanation and critique of thesis some inaccuracies	improper length provides little explanation and critique of thesis many inaccuracies	improper length neither explains nor critiques the thesis no accurate details
<b>Organization</b>	addresses topic directly highly organized structure	addresses topic directly organized structure	addresses topic somewhat organized structure	somewhat addresses topic highly unorganized structure	wanders significantly no organized structure
<b>Logical Support</b>	superior examples of the topic	examples of the topic	acceptable support of the topic	minimal support of the topic	no logical support of the topic
<b>Communication</b>	exceptionally clear meaning to the reader	clear meaning to the reader	somewhat clear meaning to the reader	unclear meaning to the reader	incoherent for the reader
<b>Grammar, Punctuation &amp; Spelling</b>	no visible or significant errors	errors do not disturb the reading process	errors sometimes disturb the reading process	errors often disturb the reading process	errors make reading difficult

For a helpful overview of critical book reviews, see this [paper](#) from the UNC Writing Center.

- **Final Exam.** Discuss the doctrine of salvation, describing the presuppositions provided by doctrines such as providence, sin, atonement, predestination and election, and also surveying the biblical images, two theological models, and other questions surrounding the doctrine of salvation. Dedicate roughly 500 words to each of those seven topics. This

assignment is open notes and open book. Aim for unity, order, and proportion. The final exam should be 3,000–4,000 words (using minimal footnotes and quotations). Tip: Write sections of the essay throughout the semester after we consider each topic. The final exam will be submitted online in Canvas. See course schedule for the due date. **100 pts.**

If you are taking this course as a **NOLA2U Flex student**, please note the following attendance policies:

1. You are required to be in class either through viewing the lectures live or viewing the recorded lectures on Canvas. When you view the recorded lecture, you will be considered present for that class. Regardless of if you watch the class live or recorded, you are only allowed to miss the amount of class time specified in the NOBTS attendance policy as stated in this syllabus.
2. You will be asked to certify that you have been present for the live session or have viewed the recorded session. This certification will be done by **emailing the teaching assistant** the “**Theology Easter Egg**” after having watched the class live or viewing the recorded session.
3. All video lectures are available for 7 days after the video is posted. If you are unable to view the video within that time frame, you will be considered absent for that class session.
4. Technical issues will not be considered a valid reason for missing a lecture.

### **Evaluation of Course Grade**

The student’s course grade will be computed as follows:

Students can earn up to 300 points in the course.

- Reading Quizzes. 10 pts. each = 100 pts.
- Book Reviews. Two at 50 pts. each = 100 pts.
- Final Exam. = 100 pts.

The percentage of the total number of points earned divided by the total number of points possible will constitute the student’s final course grade, according to this NOBTS grading scale: A 93–100; B 85–92; C 77–84; D 70–76; F Below 70

### **Technical Assistance**

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

1. [Selfserve@nobts.edu](mailto:Selfserve@nobts.edu) - Email for technical questions/support requests with the [Selfserve.nobts.edu](http://Selfserve.nobts.edu) site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.).
2. [Canvas.NOBTS.com](http://Canvas.NOBTS.com) Click on the “Help” button for technical questions/support requests regarding the NOBTS Canvas System. You can also email questions to [Canvas@nobts.edu](mailto:Canvas@nobts.edu).
3. [ITCSupport@nobts.edu](mailto:ITCSupport@nobts.edu) - Email for general technical questions/support requests.
4. [www.NOBTS.edu/itc/](http://www.NOBTS.edu/itc/) - General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.

**Attendance**

Students are expected to attend and participate in the class sessions. Any student missing more than nine hours may receive an automatic grade of “F” for the course. Three tardies will count as one absence.

**Policy Regarding Late Work**

Late work will be accepted for a reduced grade (minimum of 30% grade reduction).

**Special Accommodations**

Please contact Dr. Norris Grubbs to request special educational accommodations.

**Note:** Please join me in asking God to guide our thoughts as we seek to grow in our knowledge and love for him through the study of salvation.

**Study Tips**

1. Plan to study 2–3 hours for every 1 hour in class.
2. Read your assigned texts even when you do not expect to be tested.
3. Rewrite your new class notes each week.

**Using Technology in the Classroom**

In the classroom, students may not use laptops or phones because they often distract users.

**Online Resources**

Although Wikipedia or Theopedia can be helpful places to begin research, websites typically should not be cited in academic research. They may be consulted for a survey of the subject and to lead you to credible primary and secondary sources. However, they cannot be trusted for accuracy since they are not subject to academic peer-review. Your goal is to find academic, peer-reviewed articles and published resources, whether they are accessed online or in print.

**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. A copy of the approved NOBTS Style Guide can be found in the course Canvas shell or can be located online at the Writing Center’s page on the seminary website at:

[https://www.nobts.edu/\\_resources/pdf/writing/StyleGuide.pdf](https://www.nobts.edu/_resources/pdf/writing/StyleGuide.pdf)

**Plagiarism on Written Assignments**

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. Plagiarism is:

- borrowing another person’s ideas without citing the work. If information can be found in five or more sources, it is common knowledge and does not need to be cited. When in doubt, cite.
- borrowing another person’s phrases or sentences without quoting the work.
- resubmitting work you completed for another class. Even if you wrote the original paper, it is cheating to submit the work a second time.

## Course Schedule

(H = Harwood and chapter number)

Date	Topics	Reading or Assignment Due
Aug. 19	Class & Course Introductions; Syllabus; Theol. Method	H 1
Aug. 26	Providence	H 8; Quiz 1
Sept. 2	Sin & Original Sin	H 12, 13; Quiz 2
Sept. 9	Atonement (Biblical; Resurrection)	H 16; Quiz 3
Sept. 16	Atonement (historical models; extent)	H 17, 18; Quiz 4
Sept. 23	<i>The class will not meet.</i>	<b>Selected book review due</b>
Sept. 30	Salvation (biblical survey; images)	H 22; Quiz 5
Oct. 7	<i>Fall Break. The class will not meet.</i>	
Oct. 14	Predestination/Election	H 23; Quiz 6
Oct. 21	Salvation (historical survey)	H 24, pt. 1; Quiz 7
Oct. 28	Salvation (decretal/whosoever will)	H 24, pt. 2; Quiz 8
Nov. 4	Salvation (theological questions, part 1: infants, incompetent, unreached, postmortem opportunity)	H 28; Quiz 9
Nov. 11	Salvation (theological questions, part 2: liberation; inclusivism/universalism)	<b>Calvinism book review due</b>
Nov. 18	<i>ETS. The class will not meet.</i>	
Nov. 25	<i>Thanksgiving. The class will not meet.</i>	
Dec. 2	Final Exams due online	<b>Final Exam</b>

This is the end of the syllabus.