



## **Systematic Theology II THEO5301**

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary  
Theological and Historical Studies Division  
Internet • Summer 2020 • May 31—July 30

### **Dr. Rhyme Putman**

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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 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.

### **Required Textbooks**

Morgan, Christopher. *Christian Theology: The Biblical Story and Our Faith*. Nashville: B&H, 2020.  
Putman, Rhyme. *When Doctrine Divides the People of God: An Evangelical Approach to Theological Diversity*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2020.

### **Course Teaching Methodology**

The course will involve the following methodologies: video lectures from Dr. Putman, reading, online testing, and writing a doctrinal sermon.

### **Course Requirements**

#### **1. Attendance and Reading Report (15%)**

Students are expected to view all lectures online and read all required materials for the course.

Blackboard keeps a record of how much of each video is viewed by each student. Students will **submit a reading report at the end of the semester.**

## **2. Exams (60%)—Four Tests (15% each)**

Students will take four open-book, open-note exams in this course, each of which count for 15% of the student's total grade. These examinations are timed and feature a random pool of questions. No collaboration or group work in these exams is allowed. ANYTHING from the reading, notes, or lectures is fair game for these exams, so students **must do reading and viewing of lectures in advance to finish the exams in a timely manner.**

In each of these exams, students will demonstrate their **UNDERSTANDING** of theological content (student learning outcome #1) by a number of multiple choice, true-false, and fill-in-the-blank questions. Students will also demonstrate their ability to **APPLY** the content of the course in **essay answers that will be written prior to beginning the objective portion of the exam** (student learning outcome #2).

## **3. Doctrinal Sermon (25%) -- Unit 15**

Every student will write a 6–8-page single-spaced sermon manuscript for a doctrinal sermon (with spaces between each paragraph). Students can write on any doctrine addressed in this section of Systematic Theology II (the work of Christ, salvation, the Holy Spirit, the church, and last things).

Each sermon should contain an introduction, a main idea, explanations of the biblical text, illustrations, applications, and a conclusion/invitation.

*Students who preach or teach their lesson in a church context by the end of the semester and who provide a one-page summary of their feedback can get 25 extra-credit points on the grade of this assignment.*

The sermon may be a straightforward exposition of a doctrine in a particular text (e.g., the providence of God in Rom. 9) or a topical, yet text-driven sermon that traces a doctrine through a book or multiple books of the Bible. **Instructions on how to write a doctrinal sermon can be found in chapter 14 of Putman, *The Method of Christian Theology*. A video will also be posted in UNIT 9 that goes over this content.**

**The sermon will be graded this way:**

DOMAIN	LEVEL	INADEQUATE (0–69 F)	BASIC (70–77 D)	COMPETENT (77–85 C)	GOOD (86–92 B)	EXCELLENT (93–100 A)
UNDERSTANDING	The student shows an ability to understand the content of the doctrine taught.	The student fails in his or her basic understanding of the biblical doctrine.	The student has an overly simplistic understanding of the doctrine that fails to account for the major biblical data and historical resources.	The student has an adequate understanding of the theological content but does not demonstrate much critical thought in this area.	The student has a solid understanding of the issues involved in the content and shows good interaction with the resources.	The student has a superior understanding of the content and shows excellent interaction with the resources.

APPLICATION	The student demonstrates an awareness of the practical implications of the doctrine.	The student has given no serious thought to the application of the doctrine.	The student has given little attention to the application of the doctrine.	The student shows some effort at applying the doctrine but does miss key applications.	The student does well in applying the content of the doctrine to the Christian life.	The student has great insight as to how the doctrine applies to the Christian life.
COMMUNICATION	The student is able to communicate the doctrine to a ministry audience.	The student fails in basic grammar and communication. This sermon has no organization or structure.	The student makes numerous grammatical mistakes and lacks good organization.	The student has some grammatical errors and shows an effort to organize the content in a way that reaches his or her audience.	The student has a good presentation of content with little mistakes that will communicate well with his audience.	The student has an excellent presentation of content that communicate extremely well with his audience.

### Evaluation of Grades

The student's grade will be computed as follows:

1. Attendance and Reading Report	15%
2. Exams (15% each exam)	60%
3. Doctrinal Sermon	25%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

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. Writing Center Evaluation

Students who submit their doctrinal sermon (the complete assignment) to the **Writing Center a week before its due date** will receive a ten-point bonus on their paper grade. Students must show proof of this by attaching the email from the Writing Center.

#### 2. Extra Credit Book Review

Students in need of extra credit can contact the professor about writing a 5–6 page book review of a book that focuses on one of the doctrinal topics covered in this course. **The text must be pre-approved by the professor**, and students can earn up to 5% extra credit on their overall average for this assignment.

The reviews 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.

### 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. [BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu](mailto:BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu) - Email for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Blackboard Learning Management System [NOBTS.Blackboard.com](http://NOBTS.Blackboard.com).
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.

### 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

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.

Unit 14

**Eschatology:** How does this all end?

Unit 12

**Ecclesiology:** How does salvation and the work of the Spirit collectively work in the church?

Unit 8

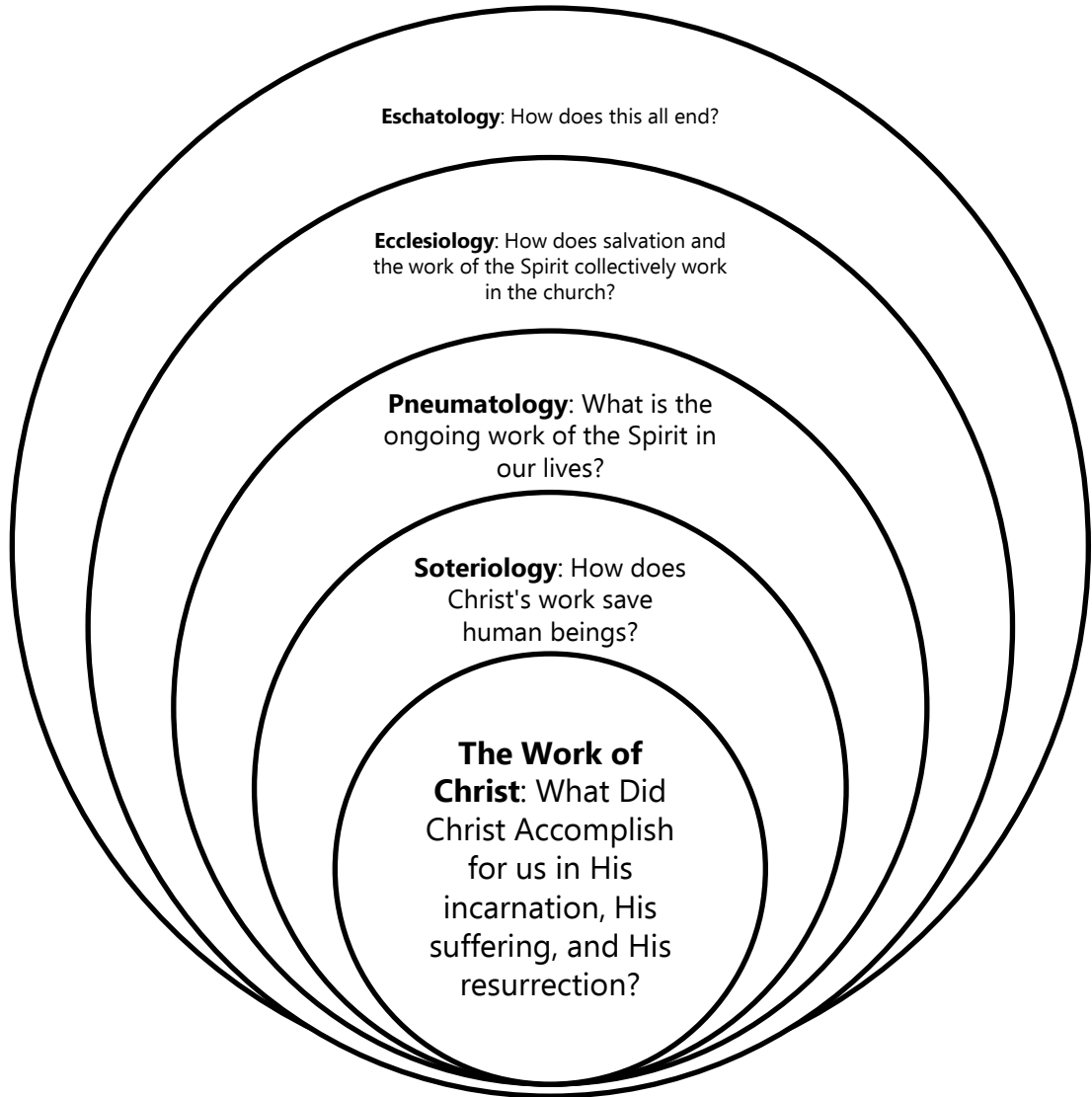
**Pneumatology:** What is the ongoing work of the Spirit in our lives?

Unit 3

**Soteriology:** How does Christ's work save human beings?

Unit 1

**The Work of Christ:** What Did Christ Accomplish for us in His incarnation, His suffering, and His resurrection?



## Course Schedule

Students who are enrolled in semester-length Internet sections will cover one unit a week. Students enrolled in eight-week summer courses will cover two units a week. Each exam will cover four units.

Unit	Topic	Assignments
#1 5/31-6/4	Introduction to the Course Theological Controversy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read syllabus</li> <li>• Watch video lecture, (“Why Do Christians Disagree About These Topics?”)</li> <li>• Read Putman, <i>When Doctrine Divides</i>, pp. 1–94</li> </ul>
#2 5/31-6/4	The Work of Christ, pt. 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Watch video lectures (“The Offices of Christ,” “The Incarnation of Christ”)</li> <li>• Read Putman, <i>When Doctrine Divides</i>, pp. 95–174</li> </ul>
#3 6/7-6/11	The Work of Christ, pt. 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Watch video lecture (“The Death of Christ,” “Christ’s Descent to the Dead,” and “The Resurrection of Christ”)</li> <li>• Read Morgan, pp. 267–91</li> <li>• Read Putman, <i>When Doctrine Divides</i>, pp. 175–201</li> </ul>
#4 6/7-6/11	The Work of Christ, pt. 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Watch video lectures (“Theories of the Atonement,” “Penal Substitution Defended”)</li> <li>• Read Morgan, pp. 292–323</li> <li>• <b>Exam One—The Work of Christ &amp; Theological Controversy (exam must be completed by Saturday at 11:59 p.m. CST; essay questions must be prepared prior to taking objective portion of the test)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Essay Question #1: 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. (2 double-spaced pages for this assignment).</li> <li>○ Essay Question #2: When should you change your mind about a theological position? (1 page double-spaced answer)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
#5 6/21-6/25	Soteriology—The Doctrine of Election	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Watch video lectures (“Election”)</li> <li>• Read Morgan, pp. 325–349</li> <li>• Read Putman, <i>When Doctrine Divides</i>, 201–241</li> </ul>
#6 6/21-6/25	Soteriology—Conversion and Regeneration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Watch video lecture (“Conversion and Regeneration”)</li> <li>• Read Morgan, pp. 349–55</li> </ul>

Unit	Topic	Assignments
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read Putman, <i>When Doctrine Divides</i>, 242–266</li> </ul>
#7 6/28-7/2	Soteriology—Justification and Adoption	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Watch video lecture (“Justification”)</li> <li>• Read Morgan, pp. 355–369</li> </ul>
#8 6/28-7/2	Soteriology—Sanctification and Perseverance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Watch video lectures (“Sanctification,” “Eternal Security and Perseverance”)</li> <li>• Read Morgan, pp. 370–392</li> <li>• <b>Exam Two—Soteriology (exam must be completed by Saturday at 11:59 p.m. CST; essay questions must be prepared prior to taking objective portion of the test)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Essay Question #1: Make a case for or against the doctrine of eternal security. Use Scripture and reasoning to justify your position. (2-page double-spaced answer)</li> <li>○ Essay Question #2: How should you handle a disagreement with a believer who takes a different perspective than you on this topic? (1-page double-spaced answer)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
#9 7/5-7/9	How to Write a Doctrinal Sermon Introduction to Pneumatology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Watch video lectures (“Introducing the Doctrine of the Holy Spirit”)</li> <li>• If you need help with the doctrinal sermon, the lecture “How to Preach a Doctrinal Sermon” from Syst. Theology I will be re-posted here.</li> <li>• Read Morgan, pp. 393–408</li> </ul>
#10 7/5-7/9	Pneumatology—Baptism in the Spirit, Gifts of the Spirit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Watch video lectures (“Baptism in the Spirit,” “The So-Called Miraculous Gifts of the Spirit”)</li> <li>• Read Morgan, pp. 408–435</li> </ul>
#11 7/12-7/16	Ecclesiology Pt. 1—The Nature of the Church	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Watch video lecture (“The Nature of the Church”)</li> <li>• Read Morgan, pp. 437–470</li> </ul>
#12 7/12-7/16	Ecclesiology Pt. 2—The Government of the Church	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Watch video lecture (“Church Government”)</li> <li>• Read Morgan, pp. 482–489</li> <li>• <b>Exam Three—Pneumatology and Ecclesiology (pts. 1–2). (Exam must be completed by Saturday at 11:59 p.m. CST; essay questions must be prepared prior to taking objective portion of the</b></li> </ul>

Unit	Topic	Assignments
		<p><b>test.)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Essay Question: 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-page double-spaced answer)</li> </ul>
<b>#13</b> 7/19-7/23	Ecclesiology Pt. 3—The Ordinances of the Church	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Watch video lectures (“Baptism,” “The Lord’s Supper”)</li> <li>• Read Morgan, 470–482</li> </ul>
<b>#14</b> 7/19-7/23	Eschatology, Pt. 1—The Kingdom of God	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Watch video lecture (“Introduction to Eschatology”)</li> <li>• Read Morgan, pp. 491–507</li> <li>• <b>Doctrinal Sermon Due</b></li> </ul>
<b>#15</b> 7/26-7/30	Eschatology, Pt 2—The Return of Christ and Millennial Views	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Watch video lecture (“The Return of Christ,” “Millennial Views”)</li> <li>• Read Morgan, pp. 511–528</li> </ul>
<b>#16</b> 7/26-7/30	Eschatology, Pt. 3—Personal Eschatology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Watch video lectures (“The Intermediate State and the New Heaven and the New Earth,” “Hell”)</li> <li>• Read Morgan, 507–510, 528–549</li> <li>• <b>Exam Four—Ecclesiology (pts. 3–4) and Eschatology (exam must be completed by Saturday at 11:59 p.m. CST; essay questions must be prepared prior to taking objective portion of the test)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Essay Question #1: Should believer’s baptism be necessary for church membership? Explain your position. (2-page double-spaced answers)</li> <li>○ Essay Question #2: Describe the basic millennial positions; then describe your own position. (2-page double-spaced answers)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

### SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

**Akin, Daniel, ed. *A Theology for the Church*. 2d ed. Nashville: B&H Academic, 2014.**

This “systematic” theology is a collection of essays on different doctrinal topics written by some of the leading voices in the Southern Baptist Convention.

**Bird, Michael F. *Evangelical Theology: A Biblical and Systematic Introduction*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2013.**

Bird is an Anglican and Reformed NT scholar from Australia who has written a systematic theology that integrates the insights of contemporary biblical theology into a systematic textbook.

**Erickson, Millard J. *Christian Theology*. 3rd ed. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2013.** Erickson represents a moderate Calvinistic framework. Erickson is philosophically and



- apologetically robust as a theologian and provides great historical content along the way. His text is the basis of many of the lectures in this course.
- Frame, John. *Systematic Theology: An Introduction to Christian Belief*. Phillipsburg, NJ: P&R, 2013.** Frame is a Presbyterian and Reformed theologian in the Westminster Tradition.
- Garrett, James L. *Systematic Theology: Biblical, Historical, and Evangelical*, vol. 1, 4th ed.** North Richland Hills, TX: BIBAL Press, 2011. Dr. Garrett is a SBC theologian who offers an excellent historical examination of each of the doctrines discussed. Dr. Garrett is the go-to expert on Baptist doctrine.
- Grider, J. Kenneth. *A Wesleyan-Holiness Theology*. Kansas City, MO: Beacon Hill, 1994.** J. Kenneth Grider was a Nazarene systematic theologian in the Wesleyan-Holiness tradition.
- Grudem, Wayne. *Systematic Theology*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1994.** Grudem, a Calvinistic Baptist with charismatic undertones, has written one of the most popular and accessible theology texts available today.
- Horton, Michael F. *The Christian Faith: A Systematic Theology for Pilgrims on the Way*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2011.** Horton is a well-known Reformed theologian and apologist who engages many contemporary issues and important philosophical trends in his work.
- Lewis, Gordon and Bruce Demarest. *Integrative Theology*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2010.** This evangelical theology—available in one-volume and three-volume editions—integrates biblical exegesis, historical research, apologetics, and pastoral application in its discussion of every doctrine.
- Oden, Thomas C. *Classic Christianity: A Systematic Theology*. New York: HarperOne, 2011.** Oden is a Methodist/Wesleyan evangelical theologian who utilizes the resources of patristic Christianity to make a case for Christian doctrines. This book is a valuable resource for anyone interested in the thought of early church fathers.
- Putman, Rhyne. *The Method of Christian Theology: A Basic Introduction*. Nashville: B&H Academic, 2021.** In this book, Dr. Putman explores the basics of Christian theology and includes sections on how to write a theological paper and preach a doctrinal sermon.
- Ryrie, Charles C. *Basic Theology: A Popular Systematic Guide to Understanding Biblical Truth*. 2d ed. Chicago: Moody, 1999.** This volume is a systematic theology written with lay persons in mind. Ryrie writes from a classic Dispensationalist perspective.
- Williams, J. Rodman. *Renewal Theology: Systematic Theology from a Charismatic Perspective*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1996.** Williams was a leading intellectual figure in the neo-charismatic movement called “renewal theology.” This is an excellent exposition of contemporary charismatic and Pentecostal theology.

- Philosophy*. 2nd ed. New York: HarperCollins, 1992.
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- Elwell, Walter, ed. *Dictionary of Evangelical Theology*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1984.
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- . *Concise Dictionary of Christian Theology*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1996.
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