



The Oaks Church

Spring 2020

Sundays 8:30 PM

Course Syllabus



Teacher

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Course Description

The course is a basic introduction to the study of Systematic Theology. It will explain the nature of systematic theology as it relates to other theological methods and consider in some detail the biblical doctrines of Scripture, God, Man, Salvation, the Church and Last Things.

Student Objectives

By the end the course, the student should:

1. Understand the value and process of systematic theologizing;
2. Be able to better explain the substance of his/her faith;
3. Be familiar with the most important subjects of Scripture;
4. Know how to use theological resources and search the Scriptures for answers to important questions.

Methodology

This course will be composed of teacher-led lectures and discussions; independent reading and summarizing on the part of the student; writing and presenting a brief paper on a selected topic related to theology.

Required Books

A Bible (Preferably one of the following translations: ESV, NASB, or HCSB [aka CSB]). ([click here if you need to order a good one](#))

Grudem, Wayne. *Christian Beliefs: Twenty Basics Every Christian Should Know*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2005. ([click here to order on Amazon](#))

*You will also need a notebook and pen or laptop for class notes and summary writings.

Recommended Resources

Elwell, Walter A., ed. *Evangelical Dictionary of Theology*, 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2001. ([click here to purchase](#)).

Grudem, Wayne. *Systematic Theology: An Introduction to Biblical Doctrine*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1994.

Requirements

1. Attend class, stay alert, and take good notes.

- Lectures will be approximately an hour.
- There will be PowerPoint to facilitate better note-taking
- Each lecture will have interactive components, so it is important that students do their reading and answer the questions prior to class.

2. Read required chapters of the text and answer the questions at the end of each chapter.

- Making notes while reading is strongly encouraged. These notes could be insights you learn or questions you want to ask in class.
- Answers to the questions at the end of each chapter should be as brief as possible.

3. Select a topic from the list below and write a research and reflection paper.

- **Topic Choices:**
 - i. The Holiness of God
 - ii. The Inerrancy of Scripture
 - iii. The Origin of Evil
 - iv. The Problem of Sin
 - v. Propitiation
 - vi. Election and Free Will
 - vii. The Timing of Jesus' Return
 - viii. What's Required for Salvation?
- Paper should be no more than 4 pages in length, typed, double-spaced, including a bibliography page with the sources used.
- Discuss where the Scriptures inform the subject (which texts?), what you think the Scriptures teach about it, what other views are there, and why this doctrine is important.
- You will read your paper to the class on the last day we meet.

Tentative Course Schedule

Date	Lecture Topic	Reading
April 5	Introduction to Class / The Doctrine of Revelation <i>What is theology and where does it come from?</i>	Pages 9-20. <i>Chapter 1</i>
April 12	Theology: The Doctrine of God <i>What is God like and what does he do?</i>	Pages 21-42. <i>Chapters 2-3</i>
April 19	Anthropology: The Doctrine of Man <i>The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly truth about us.</i>	Pages 58-66. <i>Chapters 7-8</i>
April 26	Christology: The Doctrine of Christ <i>Who is Jesus and why is he so important?</i>	Pages 42-57, 67-78 <i>Chapters 5-6, 9-11</i>
May 3	Soteriology: The Doctrine of Salvation <i>What does it mean to be saved and how does it happen?</i>	Pages 79-107 <i>Chapters 12-15</i>
May 10	Ecclesiology: The Doctrine of the Church <i>What is the church and why is it important?</i>	Pages 113-119 <i>Chapter 17</i> <i>Work on your Paper!</i>
May 17	Eschatology: The Doctrine of Last Things <i>What happens when we die or if Jesus comes back before then?</i>	Pages 108-112, 120-137 <i>Chapters 16, 18-20</i>
May 24	Paper Presentations	Finish Paper and Rehearse it.