



On-Campus Course Syllabus

THS 550 FA.L1

Introduction to Jonathan Edwards

Fall 2020

Class Information

Day and Time: Thursday: 4:45 pm – 7:15 pm

Room Number: E205

Contact Information

Instructor Name: Dr. Joseph W. Lee

Instructor Email: jlee@criswell.edu

Instructor Phone: 214-384-3142

Instructor Office Hours: TBD

Course Description and Prerequisites

An intensive advanced study of a selected doctrine of systematic theology, a selected period of historical theology, or a selected issue in relation to theology. (Course may be repeated for credit when the specific doctrine or historical period differs; Prerequisites: THS 510, THS 515, or equivalents)

Course Objectives

1. Students will gain a broad awareness of the cultural milieu of prerevolutionary Puritan America and its impact on the Puritan pastor and theologian Jonathan Edwards.
2. Students will gain a broad awareness of the life and thought of Jonathan Edwards.
3. Students will be able to recognize some of the major treatises and sermons of Jonathan Edwards.
4. Students will gain awareness of key theological concerns and issues Edwards addressed.
5. Students will gain a basic, systematic knowledge of Edwards's theology.
6. Students will be able to recognize and understand some key theological points of Edwards to inform Christian life and ministry.
7. Students will be encouraged as they do theology in community.

Required Textbooks

Marsden, George M. *Jonathan Edwards: A Life*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2003.

Strachan, Owen, and Douglas A. Sweeney. *The Essential Jonathan Edwards*. Chicago: Moody, 2018.

McDermott, Gerald R. *Seeing God*. Vancouver: Regent College Publishing, 2000.

McClymond, Michael J., and Gerald R. McDermott. *The Theology of Jonathan Edwards*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2012. (Parts One-Two)

Edwards, Jonathan. *Religious Affections*. Edited by John E. Smith. Vol 2. *The Works of Jonathan Edwards*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 2009. (Free access at: edwards.yale.edu)

Course Requirements and Assignments

Reading Assignments/Class Discussions (60%)

Students will read and complete the assigned reading prior to the date the material is to be discussed in class.* A reading report indicating the percentage of reading completed will be recorded by students in Canvas at the end of the semester (**Due 12/3**). Note that it is expected for students to read the required texts critically and for comprehension. Comprehension of the required texts will be demonstrated in class discussions.

*McClymond and McDermott's *The Theology of Jonathan Edwards* (Parts One-Two) is required reading but will not be discussed in class. See Course Outline/Calendar below for a recommended schedule of reading this text.

Questions (30%)

Students will guide the discussions of two class sessions, counting 15% percentage each toward the student's final grade. Students will have a minimum of 8 questions prepared beforehand to guide discussions on the assigned reading for the week. One of the questions must be on how the content can encourage faithful living unto God and service in ministry. Students will sign up for their two sessions on the first day of class.

Final Exam (10%)

The final exam will broadly cover Edwards's life and thought and will be over the required readings. Note that no texts, notes, or other helps are allowed in the taking of the exam. The nature of the final is short essay with students responding to two questions. The questions will be unlocked in Canvas when the student begins the exam and the student will have 60 minutes to complete the exam in one sitting. The final exam must be taken within Finals Week (**12/7–12/11**). Criteria for grading will be: clarity, accuracy, response to key arguments, and depth of thinking.

Due Dates and Late Assignments

The required reading and preparation of questions (when leading discussions) must be completed prior to assigned class sessions. The final exam must be taken within the allotted period of time (**5 days**). The reading report needs to be recorded by the respective deadline (**12/3**) in order for students to receive credit. Please note: no assignments will be accepted past the assigned due dates.

Class Attendance

Students are responsible for enrolling in courses for which they anticipate being able to attend every class session on the day and time appearing on course schedules, and then making every effort to do so. When unavoidable situations result in absence or tardiness, students are responsible for acquiring any information missed. Instructors are not obliged to allow students to make up missed work. Per their independent discretion, individual instructors may determine how attendance affects students' ability to meet course learning objectives and whether attendance affects course grades.

Grading Scale

			Grade Definitions (optional)
A	93-100	4.0 grade points per semester hour	
A-	90-92	3.7 grade points per semester hour	
B+	87-89	3.3 grade points per semester hour	
B	83-86	3.0 grade points per semester hour	

B-	80-82	2.7 grade points per semester hour	
C+	77-79	2.3 grade points per semester hour	
C	73-76	2.0 grade points per semester hour	
C-	70-72	1.7 grade points per semester hour	
D+	67-69	1.3 grade points per semester hour	
D	63-66	1.0 grade point per semester hour	
D-	60-62	0.7 grade points per semester hour	
F	0-59	0.0 grade points per semester hour	

Incomplete Grades

Students requesting a grade of Incomplete (I) must understand that incomplete grades may be given only upon approval of the faculty member involved. An “I” may be assigned only when a student is currently passing a course and in situations involving extended illness, serious injury, death in the family, or employment or government reassignment, not student neglect.

Students are responsible for contacting their instructors prior to the end of the semester, plus filing the appropriate completed and approved academic request form with the Registrar’s Office. The “I” must be removed (by completing the remaining course requirements) no later than 60 calendar days after the close of the term or semester in which the grade was awarded, or the “I” will become an “F.”

Academic Honesty

Absolute truth is an essential belief and basis of behavior for those who believe in a God who cannot lie and forbids falsehood. Academic honesty is the application of the principle of truth in the classroom setting. Academic honesty includes the basic premise that all work submitted by students must be their own and any ideas derived or copied from elsewhere must be carefully documented.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to:

- cheating of any kind,
- submitting, without proper approval, work originally prepared by the student for another course,
- plagiarism, which is the submitting of work prepared by someone else as if it were his own, and
- failing to credit sources properly in written work.

Institutional Assessment

Material submitted by students in this course may be used for assessment of the college’s academic programs. Since programmatic and institutional assessment is done without reference to specific students, the results of these assessments have no effect on a student’s course grade or academic standing at the college. Before submitting a student’s work for this type of assessment, the course instructor redacts the work to remove anything that identifies the student.

Institutional Email Policy

All official college email communications to students enrolled in this course will be sent exclusively to students’ institutional email accounts. Students are expected to check their student email accounts regularly and to

respond in an appropriate and timely manner to all communications from faculty and administrative departments.

Students are permitted to setup automatic forwarding of emails from their student email accounts to one or more personal email accounts. The student is responsible to setup and maintain email forwarding without assistance from college staff. If a student chooses to use this forwarding option, he/she will continue to be responsible for responding appropriately to all communications from faculty and administrative departments of the college. Criswell College bears no responsibility for the use of emails that have been forwarded from student email accounts to other email accounts.

Disabilities

Criswell College recognizes and supports the standards set forth in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, and similar state laws, which are designed to eliminate discrimination against qualified individuals with disabilities. Criswell College is committed to making reasonable accommodations for qualifying students, faculty, and employees with disabilities as required by applicable laws. For more information, please contact the Student Services Office.

Intellectual Property Rights

Unless otherwise specifically instructed in writing by the instructor, students must neither materially nor digitally reproduce materials from any course offered by Criswell College for or with the significant possibility of distribution.

Resources and Supports

Canvas and SONIS: Criswell College uses Canvas as its web-based learning tool and SONIS for student data. Students needing assistance with Canvas should contact the Canvas Help Support line at (844) 358-6140. Tech support is available at this number, twenty-four hours a day. Students needing help with SONIS should contact the Campus Software Manager at studenttechsupport@criswell.edu.

Student Services: The Student Services Office exists to foster and encourage success in all areas of life—physical, intellectual, spiritual, social, and emotional. Students are encouraged to reach out for assistance by contacting the office at 214.818.1332 or studentservices@criswell.edu. Pastoral and certified counseling services are also available to Criswell students. Appointments are scheduled through the Dean of Students, at deanofstudents@criswell.edu.

Wallace Library: Students can access academic resources and obtain research assistance by contacting or visiting the Wallace Library, which is located on campus. For more information, email the Wallace Library at library@criswell.edu. Offsite login information is available in Canvas in the “Criswell Student Training Course” under “Library Information.”

Tutoring Center: Students are encouraged to consult with tutors to improve and enhance their skills and confidence in any subject matter taught at the college. Tutors have been recommended by the faculty to ensure that the tutor(s) are qualified to serve the student body. Every tutor brings experience and expertise in an effort

to provide the proper resources for the subject matter at hand. To consult with a tutor, students can visit the Tutoring Center located on the second floor in room E203, or schedule an appointment by emailing tutoringcenter@criswell.edu or by calling 214.818.1373.

Course Outline/Calendar

Date	Topic	Assignment
8/20	Syllabus/Course Introduction	<i>None</i>
8/27	Marsden	Introduction-chpt. 5
9/3	Marsden	chpts. 6-11
9/10	Marsden	chpts. 12-18
9/17	Marsden	chpts. 19-24
9/24	Marsden	chpts. 25-30
10/1	Strachan & Sweeney	chpts. 1-9
10/8	Strachan & Sweeney	chpts. 10-16
10/15	Strachan & Sweeney	chpts. 17-22
10/22	Strachan & Sweeney	chpts. 23-26
10/29	McDermott	chpts. 1-9
11/5	McDermott	chpts. 10-20
11/12	Edwards: <i>Religious Affections</i>	Parts I-II
11/19	Edwards: <i>Religious Affections</i>	Part III: First Sign-Fourth Sign
11/26	<i>Fall Break: No Class</i>	<i>None</i> (Continue reading)
12/3	Edwards: <i>Religious Affections</i>	Part III: Fifth Sign-Twelfth Sign Due: Reading Report
(12/7-12/11)		FINAL EXAMINATION

Recommended Reading Schedule for McClymond and McDermott's *The Theology of Jonathan Edwards*

Date	Topic	Reading
8/20	Syllabus/Course Introduction	<i>None</i>
8/27	McClymond and McDermott	chpts. 1-2
9/3	McClymond and McDermott	chpts. 3-5
9/10	McClymond and McDermott	chpts. 6-8
9/17	McClymond and McDermott	chpts. 9-11
9/24	McClymond and McDermott	chpts. 12-14
10/1	McClymond and McDermott	chpts. 15-17
10/8	McClymond and McDermott	chpts. 18-20
10/15	McClymond and McDermott	chpts. 21-23
10/22	McClymond and McDermott	chpts. 24-26
10/29	McClymond and McDermott	chpts. 27-29
11/5	McClymond and McDermott	chpts. 30-32
11/12	McClymond and McDermott	chpts. 33-34
11/19	McClymond and McDermott	chpt. 35

11/26	<i>Fall Break: No Class</i>	<i>None</i>
12/3	McClymond and McDermott	chpt. 36
(12/7- 12/11)		Final Examination



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ADDENDUM FOR FA-20

THS 550 FA.L1

Introduction to Jonathan Edwards

In the event that Criswell College has to close the campus to on-campus classes in during the FA-20 semester, this addendum specifies how your instructor intends to adjust the course in order to allow students to meet the course objectives.

Course Requirements and Assignments

Course requirements and assignments remain unchanged. The prepared questions will be given on the scheduled seminars via Zoom (see below). The reading report and final exam are uploaded remotely via Canvas, so there are no issues.

Remote Class Sessions: Identity and Participation Verification

In the case where it is no longer possible to meet in-person, seminars will be held via Zoom through Canvas on the scheduled day and time. Students will then report seminar attendance on the attendance reporting page in Canvas by 11:59 pm on the day of the scheduled meeting.

In the case where a student must miss in-person class time due to COVID-19 related issues, the student will attend class remotely via Zoom in Canvas.