



On-Campus Course Syllabus

THS 203 L1

Systematic Theology 1

Spring 2021

Class Information

Day and Time: TH 8:00am-10:45am
Room Number: E208

Contact Information

Instructor Name: Everett Berry
Instructor Email: eberry@criswell.edu
Instructor Phone: 214-818-1356
Instructor Office Hours: TBD

Course Description and Prerequisites

Introductory discussions to Theological Method (*Prolegomena*), Scripture (*Bibliology*), God (*Theology Proper*), Creation, Providence, Angels (*Angelology*), Humanity (*Anthropology*), and Sin (*Hamartiology*), defining the scriptural views and showing the arguments for them, refuting other views, and emphasizing the relevance of theology to the Christian life and witness. (*Prerequisites: BIB 105; Other prerequisites may be taken concurrently: NTS 101, NTS 201, OTS 101, OTS 201*)

Course Objectives

This course is designed to introduce students to the aforementioned areas of Christian theology. While it is based upon the lecture format, it also will include reading, research, and interaction. Furthermore, at the end of this course, the student should demonstrate the ability to . . .

1. Defend the major ideas that the Scriptures emphasize regarding these doctrinal subjects.
2. Recognize and define the pertinent issues, fundamental terms, and theological categories that are used when discussing these doctrines within the context of systematic theology.
3. Explain the divergent views that have evolved in the history of these doctrines.
4. Demonstrate proficiency in articulating the ways in which these doctrines interrelate to each other as well as the Christian faith as a whole.
5. Integrate the main ideas of these doctrines to their lives in such a way that they will impact their personal walk with the Lord.
6. Discuss these doctrines with people in the local church setting in an accessible manner.

Required Textbooks

- * *The Bible:* The professor will use the *New American Standard* or the *Christian Standard Bible* in class. But students are allowed to use their discretion in using other translations such as the KJV, NIV, RSV, etc . . .
- * Erickson, Millard. *Christian Theology*. 3rd ed. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2013.
- * Craig, William Lane, et al. *Four Views of Divine Providence*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2011.

Course Requirements and Assignments

Textbook Reading Assignments (20%)

The approximately 800 pages of required reading are a crucial component of this course. As the class progresses, it is expected that students will read the assigned pages thoughtfully and according to the schedule given on the calendar. Likewise, by the end of the semester, students will be required to report the percentage of reading that has been completed. To do so-

1. Students are to click the link entitled *Reading Report* which is located on the Canvas-course homepage.
2. After connecting to that site, students can click the *Textbook Reading Report icon* and then subsequently click the *Begin Button* to enter the *Reading Report page*.
3. Next, students can see the total number of pages listed, record their total percentage of pages read in the response box and finally click the *Save and Submit Button* to upload their answer for grade credit.
4. Also note that if all the reading has not been finished, students will only receive credit for the completed percentage that they report.

Bible Reading Assignments (10%)

The biblical passages listed in the course schedule are another crucial reading component of this course. Ideally, students are to read these assigned biblical texts before engaging the related lectures. At the end of the term, students will be required to report the percentage of Bible reading that has been completed. To do so-

1. Students are to click the link entitled *Reading Report* which is located on the Canvas-course homepage.
2. After connecting to that site, students can click the *Bible Reading Report icon* and then subsequently click the *Begin Button* to enter the *Reading Report page*.
3. Next, students can then see the total number of biblical passages listed, record their total percentage of passages read in the response box and finally click the *Save and Submit Button* to upload their answer for grade credit.
4. Also note that if all the Bible reading has not been finished, students will only receive credit for the completed percentage that they report.

Quizzes (20%)

Students are responsible for ten quizzes that will be given on assorted weeks throughout the semester. Their purpose is to test the students' knowledge of the assigned pages in Erickson which are marked by bold print on the Course Calendar.

1. The quizzes will be available on the class Canvas website and through the use of their school account number, students are required to take each assigned quiz between the Monday (after 12:01 AM) and Friday (before 11:59 PM) of each designated quiz week.
2. Quizzes are taken by clicking on the link entitled *Quizzes*, which is located on the Canvas-course homepage. Students can then click the available link on the site to take the necessary quiz, which includes 10 questions that are provided one at a time with students being prohibited from backtracking once they have answered one question and moved to the next one.
3. The quizzes are to be taken in the allotted time of 15 minutes without consulting notes, textbooks, or other helps. Once each quiz begins, a set timer in Canvas commences which cannot be paused and it will continue to run until the allotted time is complete.
4. There will be no make-up quizzes, but the two lowest quiz grades will be dropped.
5. Students are not allowed to disclose information regarding the content of quizzes to other students. Furthermore, when taking quizzes it is recommended that students use some form of a laptop or desktop

computer as opposed to other electronic devices (e.g., ipad, iphones, tablets, etc.) to minimize the possibility of losing an internet signal or not having software that is adaptable to Canvas programs.

Exams (30%)

Three multiple-choice exams will be given in this course; the first one will cover Theological Method/Bibliology/Theology Proper; Creation/Providence/Angelology; and Anthropology/Hamartiology. Specifications for taking each exam include the following-

1. Exams will cover material from Erickson and class lectures. For preparation, students may consult and study-
 - * The *Review Sheets* for exams made available under the link entitled *Course Documents*, which is located on the Canvas-course homepage, AND.
 - * The *Class Notes* are also available on the Canvas homepage as well.
2. Each exam will be available on the class Canvas website and through the use of their school account number, students are required to take each one between the Monday (after 12:01 AM) and Friday (before 11:59 PM) of each designated exam week.
3. They are taken by clicking on the link entitled *Exams*, which is located on the Canvas homepage. Students can then click the available link on the site to take the necessary exam, which includes 50 questions that are provided one at a time with students being prohibited from backtracking once they have answered one question and moved to the next one.
4. They are to be taken in the allotted time of 60 minutes without consulting notes, textbooks, or any other helps. Also once students begin each one, a set timer in Canvas commences which cannot be paused and it will continue to run until the allotted time is complete. Note as well that no late exams will be permitted.
5. Students are not allowed to disclose information regarding the content of exams to other students. Furthermore, when taking exams it is recommended that students use some form of a laptop or desktop computer as opposed to other electronic devices (e.g., ipad, iphones, tablets, etc.) to minimize the possibility of losing an internet signal or not having software that is adaptable to Canvas programs.

Paper (20%)

Each student will be required to turn in a bibliography of thirty sources covering one topic pertinent to one of the major doctrines that is covered in class. The paper must...

1. Be typed in black with Types-New Roman font, font size 12.
2. Have least 5 sources that are journal articles and/or specialized essays in various anthologies, and/or articles in assorted theological dictionaries.
3. Contain no sources referenced from Internet websites.
4. Include sources that are solely devoted to whatever topic is chosen by the student. So for instance, if a student chooses to compile a bibliography on Justification, they must list sources that are completely about that subject. Students are not to list sources that merely mention or partially discuss their topic.
5. Include a cover page and be written in accordance to the guidelines found in *The Criswell College Manual of Style*. (Note if students have questions not addressed in CCMS, they should then consult the most recent edition of Turabian's guide to writing research papers.)
6. Be uploaded to the student's Canvas account in accordance with the following instructions for submission-
 - * Simply click the link entitled *Paper Assignment*, which is located on the Canvas homepage, and then...
 - * Click the link entitled *Paper Assignment: Click here to Submit*.
 - * Next scroll down and click on "Browse My Computer."
 - * Then find the paper on your computer and click open/submit in either a Word Document or PDF format. No other format will be accepted.
 - * You can write any comments in the "comments" field and click "Submit."

- * Note as well that because of these instructions, no hard copies will be accepted.
7. Also students can reference title page and bibliography templates that are provided under the *Paper Assignment* rubric. Students can scroll down and consult an example of a Title Page and Bibliography that have been properly formatted.
 8. If students should choose to use the resources that are available in the Wallace Library then note the following means of access:
 - * Phone: 214.818.1348
 - * Web: http://www.criswell.edu/current_students/library/
 9. Finally, one must turn in a paper to receive a passing grade in the course.

Due Dates and Late Assignments

The Textbook/Bible Reading Reports and the Bibliography are due by 5/6/21 as indicated on the Course Schedule. Note that none of these assignments will be accepted after the due date and no extra credit is offered for this course.

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.

For this course, missing more than fifteen (15) minutes at the beginning or end of a class period will count as one absence. Therefore, students who wish to depart early should clear it with the professor. Also, three instances of tardiness of fifteen minutes or less equals one absence. Finally, three absences will result in a full letter reduction of the final grade and absences exceeding three will result in failure of the course.

Grading Scale

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: The following course schedule is proposed but subject to change.

TH	CONTENT	BIBLE READING	ERICKSON	OTHER
1/21	* Intro to the Course			
1/28	* Theological Method * Sources of Theology		Chps 2-3	
2/4	* Challenges to Theology * Nature of Revelation	Acts 17-18; Rom 1:3-4; 10:9; 1 Cor 12:3; 15:3-4; 1 Tim 3:16	Q#1: Chp 1 Chps 6-7	
2/11	* Defining the Canon * Bible as God's Word * What is Inerrancy	Jn 12:44-50; 14; Rom 1:18-32; 2:1-16; 8:19-22; Heb 1:1-3; Rev 1:10-16	Q#2: Chp 8 Chps 9-10	
2/18	* Intro- Theology Proper * Models of Theism		Q#3: Chp 11	
2/25	* The Existence of God * The Divine Attributes	Job 38-42; Ps 90; 102; 139; Isa 43-45; Rom 11:33-36; Jms 1:16-17; Rev 4	Q#4: Chp 12	
3/4	* The Trinity	Num 6:24-26; Isa 61, 63; Hag 2:4-5; Matt 28:18-20; Acts 1:1-5; Rom 1:1-4; 1 Cor 12:4-6; Eph 3:13-18; Col 1:6-7; 1 Thess 1:2- 6; 2 Thess 2:13-15; 1 Tim 3:15-16; Tit 3:4- 6; Heb 10; Rev 1:4-5	Q#5: Chp 14	
EXAM #1 (3/8-3/12)				
3/11	* Intro- Creation * Importance of Gen 1-2 * Human Origins	Gen 1-2; Ex 20:8-11; 31: 15-17; Ps 19; Matt 19:1-5; Rom 4:13-17; Heb 11:1-3	Chp 16	
SPRING BREAK (3/15-3/19)				
3/25	* Divine Providence		Q#6: Chp 17 Chp 15	Craig: Chps 1-2
4/1	* The Problem of Evil	1 Kgs 22:34-38; Jb 21:5-16; Ps 73; Isa 30:31-32; Jer 12:1-4; Hab 2:16-17; Lk 13:1-5; Rom 7:13-24; Jms 1:13-17	Q#7: Chp 18	Craig: Chps 3-4
4/8	* Angels * Satan & Demons	Gen 3:1-15; 6:1-7; Isa 6:1-7; 14; Ezek 28; Dan 7-10; Matt 12:24-26; Col 2:11-15; 1 Tim 4:1-3; 2 Pet 2:4; Jd 6; Rev 12; 20:1-15	Q#8: Chp 19	
EXAM #2 (4/12-16)				
4/15	* <i>Anthropology</i>		Chps 20-21	
4/22	* The Imago Dei * Ontology of Humanity	Gen 1:26-2:23; 5:1-5; Ps 8; 103; 1 Cor 2; 11:1-16; 2 Cor 3:18; Gal 3:26-29; Eph 5:22-33; Col 3:5-19; 1 Thess 5:23; Heb 4:12-13; 1 Pet 3:1-7; Jms 3:9-10	Q#9: Chp 23 Chp 22	
4/29	* Nature of the Soul * Gender Questions * <i>Hamartiology</i>	Gen 3; 6:1-6; Job 25:1-6; Ps 14; 25; 51; 58; Ecc 7:20; 9:3; Isa 53:1-6; 64:1-6; Jer 13:23; 17:9	Chps 25-26	
5/6	* Origin & Effects of Sin * Perpetuation of Sin * Reading Reports & Paper Due	Matt 5; Jn 3; Rom 1-3; 5; 1 Cor 6; Gal 5; Eph 2:1-5; 4:17-19; 1 Tim 1:8-10	Q#10: Chp 27 Chp 28	
EXAM #3 (5/10-5/14)				

Selected Bibliography

(* means the work is available in The Wallace library.)

Resource Works

- * Alexander, T. Desmond, et. al., eds. *New Dictionary of Biblical Theology*. Downers Grove: Intervarsity, 2000.
- Cairns, Alan. *Dictionary of Theological Terms*. 3rd ed. Greenville, SC: Emerald House, 2002.
- Campbell, Ted A. *Christian Confessions: A Historical Introduction*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 1996.
- * Davis, John Jefferson. *The Necessity of Systematic Theology*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1980.
- _____. *Foundations of Evangelical Theology*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1984.
- * Douglas, J. D., ed. *New 20th Century Encyclopedia of Religious Knowledge*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1991.
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- Espin, Orlando and James B. Nikoloff, eds. *An Introductory Dictionary of Theology and Religious Studies*. Collegeville, MN: Michael Glazier, 2007.
- * Ferguson, Sinclair B. and David F. Wright, eds. *New Dictionary of Theology*. Downers Grove: Intervarsity, 1988.
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- * Hart, Trevor, ed. *The Dictionary of Historical Theology*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2000.
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- Huey, F.B. and Bruce Corley. *Student's Dictionary for Biblical and Theological Studies*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1984.
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- * Keeley, Robin, ed. *Eerdmans' Handbook to Christian Belief*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1981.
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- Lightner, Robert. *Handbook of Evangelical Theology*. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 1995.
- * McKim, Donald. *Westminster Dictionary of Theological Terms*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 1996.
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- * Muller, Richard A. *Dictionary of Latin and Greek Theological Terms*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1996.
- Olson, Roger. *The Mosaic of Christian Belief*. Downers Grove: Intervarsity, 2002.
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- * Richardson, Alan and John Bowden. *The Westminster Dictionary of Christian Theology*. Philadelphia: Westminster, 1983.
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- * Torrey, R. A., et. al., eds. *The Fundamentals*. Updated by Charles Feinberg. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 1958; reprint, 1990.
- * Vanhoozer, Kevin, ed. *Dictionary for Theological Interpretation of the Bible*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2005.

Mainline Evangelical

- Benson, Clarence H. and Robert J. Morgan. *Exploring Theology: A Guide for Systematic Theology and Apologetics*. Wheaton: Crossway, 2007.
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Baptist

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Dispensational

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Reformed

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In the event that Criswell College has to close the campus during the SP-21 semester, this addendum specifies how your instructor intends to adjust the course in order to allow students to meet the course objectives.

While the course requirements, assignments, calendar, and attendance requirements are listed in the syllabus, information that is no longer relevant is indicated with a strike through the font and replacement or new information is placed in italics.

Course Requirements and Assignments

There are no changes for any assignments, quizzes, or exams including how and when they are to be completed.

Class Attendance

There are no changes for the attendance policy in the course, except for the following instructions if the class can no longer meet on campus.

Remote Class Sessions: Identity and Participation Verification

If this course is restricted from meeting on campus due to Covid-19 setbacks, note the following requirements:

- 1. Students must participate each week during the regular scheduled time slot via a connection to a zoom link provided by the professor.*
- 2. Students must have a stable internet connection on a working device with a functioning microphone so they can interact with others in the class.*
- 3. Students must also have access to a functioning camera so they can be visible to the professor during each class. If students are not visible, they will not be counted as present.*
- 4. Students must meet these requirements each week to be counted as present for every class period.*

If a student must join class virtually because of Covid-19 setbacks, note the following requirements:

- 1. Abide by the four previously mentioned points.*
- 2. Zoom is only provided for students who receive clearance from the Student Services Office because of Covid-19 issues. So students will not be considered present for class if they are trying to use Zoom without official approval.*