



On-Campus Course Syllabus

THS 512 L1

Prolegomena and Trinitarianism

Spring 2022

Class Information

Day and Time: THU: 4:45pm – 7:15pm

Room Number: E201

Contact Information

Instructor Name: Dr. Everett Berry

Instructor Email: eberry@criswell.edu

Instructor Phone: 214-818-1356

Instructor Office Hours: TBD

Course Description and Prerequisites

Provides advanced discussions to Prolegomena (including Bibliology), Theology Proper, Christology, and Pneumatology, defining scriptural views and showing the arguments for them, refuting other views, and emphasizing the relevance of theology to the Christian life and witness (Prerequisite BIB 505)

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. However, students are allowed to use other translations such as the KJV, NIV, RSV, ESV, etc . . .
- * Clark, David K. *To Know and Love God*. Wheaton: Crossway, 2010.
- * Erickson, Millard. *Christian Theology*. 3rd ed. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2013.
- * Holmes, Stephen R., ed. *Two Views on the Doctrine of the Trinity*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2014.

Course Requirements and Assignments

Textbook Reading Assignments (25%)

The approximately 1000 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 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 (5%)

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 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 Grudem 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 in the left column of the Canvas 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 essay exams will be given in this course; the first one will cover *Prolegomena/Bibliology*, the second on *Theology Proper/Creation/Providence*, and the third on *Christology/Pneumatology*. Specifications for taking each exam include the following-

1. Exams will cover material from the textbooks 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 left column of the Canvas homepage, AND.
 - * The *Class Notes* are also available on the left column of the Canvas homepage.
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 8 questions that are provided. Students are to pick four of their own choosing and answer each with a minimum of 600 words.
4. There is no time limit on exams (other than the days they are available) and they can be accessed as many times as students need.
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.

Paper (20%)

Each student will be required to write a 12-15 research page paper (*double-spaced*) that examines one of the following eight topics.

1. Support and/or a critique of a major approach to modern apologetics that various Christian thinkers affirm; e.g., Thomism, Evidentialism, Reformed Epistemology, or Presuppositionalism.
2. Write a theological paper that supports or critiques one of the following four views of how divine Foreknowledge relates to free will; Arminian Simple Foreknowledge, Molinism (Middle Knowledge), Open Theism, or Determinism (Reformed Compatibilism).
3. Deal with some facet of the concept of theodicy and how Christians should or shouldn't address the problem of evil when speaking about God's existence.
4. Engage the complexity of one particular divine attribute; e.g., God and timelessness, the concept of immutability, the proper definition of omnipotence or omniscience, simplicity, etc.
5. A defense of the doctrine of the Trinity by either providing an analysis of a pertinent biblical text, analyzing a relevant theological concept within Trinitarian thought that has developed in Christian history, or responding to a major thinker/tradition that rejects Trinitarianism altogether.
6. An exegetical paper on one of the following NT passages that speak of the deity of Christ- John 1:1-4; Philippians 2:5-10; Colossians 1:15-20; or Hebrews 1:1-4.
7. An overview and analysis of one of the Christological debates that occurred during the first four ecumenical councils; i.e., Nicaea I (against Arianism), Constantinople I (against Apollinarianism), Ephesus (against Nestorianism), or Chalcedon (against Eutychianism).
8. A defense or critique of one of the views of spiritual gifts known as continuationism or cessationism.

Also, the paper must . . .

1. Be typed in black with Types-New Roman font, font size 12.
2. Include a cover sheet with the title of the paper, student's name and box number, and the date of submission.
3. 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.) Students can download the CCMS by-
 - * Clicking the link entitled *Paper Assignment*, which is the fifth one located in the left column of the Canvas page, and then...
 - * Clicking the link in the site that is labeled as *Style Manual (Criswell edition 3)*.
4. 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.
 - * 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.
5. Also, if the student 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/
 - * The Wallace Library manual is available at:
<http://www.criswell.edu/images/uploads/wallace-library-handbook-2010-2011.pdf5>

Finally, the paper will be evaluated according to the following criteria.

1. **Content:** The paper must be clearly defined and cover the material under consideration. It must be written in a logically coherent and readable manner, which includes an introduction, a body of the paper in which the ideas are developed, and then a conclusion. In addition, a bibliography of the works cited must be included at the end as well.
2. **Research:** At least 10 sources must be used and proper citation given. No Internet sources may be used other than on-line journals. Likewise, at least 3 sources must be essays found in theological journals, anthologies, and/or dictionaries. Finally, be aware of the rules against plagiarism that are discussed below.
3. **Form and Style:** The paper must be written using the correct format as well as proper grammar and spelling. Note that if the paper contains excessive grammatical errors, misspellings, or typos, it will receive a grade of a zero and students will not be able to rewrite the paper to change the grade. Other formatting requirements include the following points:
 - * The paper must be typed in New Roman 12-point font, but not in italics, bold, or upper case-lettering. It must also be printed out in black ink.
 - * All margins must be one inch.
 - * Paper must have an unjustified right margin.
 - * While footnotes are preferred, endnotes are acceptable.
 - * Also, to see how the paper is to be formatted properly, students can reference templates for the title page, research paper and bibliography under the *Paper Assignment* rubric, which again is located on the Canvas homepage.
4. **On Time:** Finally, one must turn in a paper to receive a passing grade in the course. The paper is due by 5/6/19.

Due Dates and Late Assignments

The Textbook/Bible Reading Reports and the Bibliography are due by 5/5/22 as indicated on the Course Schedule. Note that none of these assignments will be accepted after the due date.

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. Also, three instances of tardiness of fifteen minutes or less equals one absence. Finally, three absences will result in a full letter reduction of one's final grade and absences exceeding three will result in failing the course.

Campus Closure

To ensure the health and safety of students and employees, college administrators may decide it is necessary on rare occasions to close the campus. Once this decision is announced, instructors will contact students to provide further details regarding the campus closure's impact on those courses. Students are responsible to watch for communication from their instructors and respond appropriately. (Unless otherwise specified by the instructor in this syllabus, this communication will be sent to the student's Criswell College e-mail account.)

In order to make progress toward the courses' objectives, instructors have the freedom during most campus closures to require students to participate in activities as alternatives to meeting on campus. An instructor may, for example, hold class remotely (through Zoom) at the scheduled time, provide a recording of a class or presentation for students to watch independently, or assign other activities that students are to accomplish before returning to campus. Students are responsible for accomplishing these alternative activities as well as any course requirements listed in this syllabus during the period of the campus closure. If, during the period of the campus closure, personal circumstances prohibit a student from accomplishing these alternative activities or course requirements and assignment listed in the syllabus during the campus closure, the student is responsible for communicating with the instructor as soon as possible. Instructors will not penalize students who do not have the means to accomplish the alternative activities during the period of the campus's closure and will work with students whose circumstances during the campus closure prohibited their timely completion of course requirements and assignments in the syllabus.

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	TEXTBOOKS
1/20	* Intro to Class * Intro-Writing & Research		
1/27	* Intro- Theological Method * Sources of Theology	Acts 17-18; Rom 1:1-4; 10:1-10; 1 Cor 15:1-4	Erickson: Q#1: 1 Clark: 1-4
2/3	* Challenges to Theology * The Nature of Revelation	Ex 4:10-16; 7:1-4; Num 12:6-8; Dt 18:14-21; Jer 1:4-10; Lk 1:1-4	Erickson: 2-7 Clark: 5-8
2/10	* Defining the Canon * The Bible as God's Word * What is Inerrancy?	Ps 119; 2 Tim 3:16-17; 2 Pet 1:20-21; Rev 1:10-16	Erickson: Q#2: 8 9-10 Clark: 9-12
(2/14-2/18) EXAM #1			
2/17	* Intro- Theology Proper * Models of Theism	Job 38-42; Ps 90; 102; Isa 43-45; Rom 11:33-36; Jms 1:16-17; Rev 4	
2/24	* The Existence of God * The Divine Attributes		Erickson: Q#3: 11 13
3/3	* The Trinity	Isa 61, 63; Matt 3:16-17; 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 Tim 3:15-16; Tit 3:4-6; Rev 1:4-5	Erickson: Q#4: 12 Holmes: 1=4
3/10	* 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	Erickson: Q#5: 14 16
(3/14-3/18) SPRING BREAK			
3/24	* Divine Providence * The Problem of Evil	1 Kgs 22:34-38; Jb 21; Ps 73; Isa 30:31-32; Jer 12; Hab 2:16-17; Lk 13:1-5; Rom 7:13-24	Erickson: Q#6: 17 15, 18
(3/28-4/1) EXAM #2			
3/31	* Intro- Christology * Pre-Existence of Christ	Gen 3:8-15; 12:1-3; 17:1-5; Ex 20:1-21 Deut 18:15-19; 2 Sam 7:12-16; Ps 2; 110; Jer 31:33-34; Ezek 11:19-20; 36:25-27	
4/7	* Deity & Humanity of Christ	Dan 7; Jn 1; Col 1:15-17; Heb 1; I Pet 3:14-15; Rev 1:17-18	Erickson: Q#7: 31 30, 32
4/14	* The Virgin Birth * The Kenosis	Isa 7; Matt 1; Mk 3-4; Lk 1-2; 2 Cor 5; 8:9; Phil 2:5-11; Heb 2; Jms 1:13; 1 Jn 1:1-3	Erickson: Q#8: 34 33
4/21	* Christology in History * Intro- Pneumatology	Isa 11; 63:1-11; Jn 3; 14-15; Acts 5:1-4; 28:25-27; 1 Cor 3; 6:19-20; 2 Cor 3:16-17; 6:16; Heb 10	Erickson: Q#9: 39
4/28	* Spirit in the OT * Spirit in the NT		Erickson: Q#10:40 41
5/5	* Spirit Baptism * Pneumatology in History * Read Reports & Paper Due	Dan 4:8-18; Joel 2:28-32; Matt 3; Mk 1; Lk 1; Jn 14; Acts 2:1-21; 8, 10, 19:1-7; 16-21; 1 Cor 12; 2 Cor 1; Gal 5:22-26; Eph 1; 5	
(5/9-5/13) FINAL EXAM			

Selected Bibliography

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

Resource Works

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- _____. *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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- * 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

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Baptist

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