



The Grove Theological School

*“Equipping Ministry Leaders
And Laity For The Journey”*

F
A
I
T
H

S
E
E
K
I
N
G

U
N
D
E
R
S
T
A
N
D
I
N
G

The Grove Theological School

Oak Grove Baptist Church



Rev. Dr. Franklin D. Watkins, Pastor
200 Sims Parkway | Harrisburg, NC 28075



Please Visit Us At Our Website:

www.oakgrovebaptist200@gmail.com

Table of Contents

Greetings..... 3-4

About Us..... 5

Vision, Mission & Values 6

Staff 7-9

Courses 10-12

Course Learning Outcome and Procedures 13

Class Absences..... 14

Course Schedule..... 15

Grading System 16-17

How To Write Papers and Projects 18-20

Tuition and Fees..... 21

Course Syllabus..... 22-23

Course Syllabus



Introduction to the Old Testament I

Course Timeline

Spring Semester

Class will be held on Tuesdays, 7:00pm - 9:00pm

April – May 2023

Course Professor

Dr. Alexander McDonald III

Email: amcdon2802@aol.com

Cell Phone: 862-223-9469

Course Name

The Introduction to the Old Testament I

Course Purpose

This course is a historical and theological survey of the Old Testament.

Course Objective

To Demonstrate an understanding of the chronological framework of the Old Testament as well as explain the literary contents of the Old Testament;

Required Textbook

Introduction to the Old Testament: A Liberation Perspective, Anthony R. Ceresko, Books can be purchased at the OGBC office.

Schedule of Topics

Date	Topic
April 11, 2023	Part I: Introduction: (The Bible in the Modern World), pages 3-15
April 18, 2023	Part I: Introduction (A Modern Look at Biblical Times), pages 17-22
April 25, 2023	Part II: The Pentateuch (The Historical Background of the Ancient Near East / The Ancestors of Israel), pages 29 – 46 ~Reading Assignment: Read Genesis Chapters 12-50 for class discussion
May 2, 2023	Part II: The Pentateuch (The Documentary Hypothesis / The Four Sources / The Exodus / Covenant), pages 57 - 87
May 9, 2023	Part III: The Rise of Israel In Canaan (The Conquest of Canaan / Israel in the Period of the Judges), pages 97 – 117
May 16, 2023	Part IV: The Period of the Monarchy (The Book of Deuteronomy and the Deuteronomistic History/The Philistines and Saul) pages 123–144
May 23, 2023	Part IV: The Period of the Monarchy (From Chieftain to King / The Divided Monarchy), pages 148 – 177
May 30, 2023	~Course Summary and Final Paper is Due

Course Syllabus

Introduction to the New Testament I

Course Timeline

Spring Semester

April – May 2023

Class will be held on Saturdays, 1:00pm – 3:00pm

Course Professor

Dr. Franklin D. Watkins

Email: frankwatkins@bellsouth.net

Cell Phone: 704-351-0070

Course Name

The Introduction to the New Testament I

Course Purpose

This course is designed to explore the historical, social, and literary aspects surrounding the New Testament text.

Course Objective

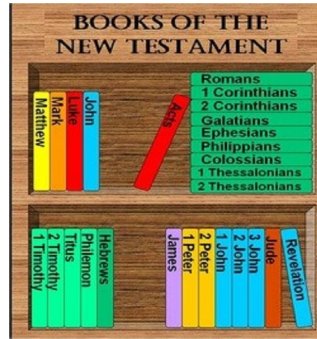
The student will strive to learn about the world in front of the text, the world during the writing of the text, and the world after the text.

Required Textbook

New Testament Story: An Introduction, David L. Barr, Third Edition, 2002. Used Books can be purchased at the OGBC office.

Schedule of Topics

Date	Topic
April 8, 2023	The Three Worlds of the Text
April 15, 2023	Preparing to Hear the Stories
April 22, 2023	The Story Before the Writings
April 29, 2023	The Earliest Christian Literature
Quiz	
May 6, 2023	Paul's Letter to His Followers
May 13, 2023	Paul's Address to Those Outside His Circle
May 20, 2023	Paul For a New Day
May 27, 2023	Echoes of Other Stories
Final Paper	



*Rev. Dr. Franklin D. Watkins, D.Min
President*

Greetings to you in the name of Our Lord, Savior, and King, Jesus Christ.

I want to be the first to welcome you to our newly developed School of Theology. We are glad that you have shown an interest in the work that we have started. This is a work of Christ where as He instructed us to.

The Grove Theological School (GTS) strives to be a place where you can come, learn, and grow. We desire that this will be an educational program for you to take the yoke of Christ and then learn and grow in Him.

This will be accomplished by offering insightful and challenging coursework, along with engaging and energetic classroom participation. We together will create an academic environment of growth in the word and works of God.

Again, welcome to this community of excellence as we study to show ourselves approved of God.

*Dr. Franklin D. Watkins, President
The Grove School of Theological Studies*



Rev. Dr. Alexander McDonald III
Dean and Executive Director

Greetings, my fellow laborers in the Gospel. It is with great joy, honor and excitement that I greet you in the name of our Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ.

I thank God for Pastor Watkins and the vision that God has placed upon his heart to implement “The Grove Theological School” (GTS). I bless God for him allowing me the opportunity to participate in such an awesome and spiritually enriching endeavor.

As ministers and lay leaders in the gospel, we are encouraged to make full proof of our ministry/calling. In doing so, it is our aim, goal and ambition to seek a deeper knowledge and understanding of the work to which we are called through higher, continued learning and study of scripture. With the anointing and grace of God, our pastor, (Dr. Franklin D. Watkins) is passionately and whole heartedly opening the doors of opportunity to make this a reality.

It is my prayer that every spiritual leader who sit under the anointed teaching of our pastor within our Christian community will take advantage of this God given opportunity to seek a deeper and fuller development of the gift that God has instilled in you. Looking forward to seeing you in class!

God’s Blessings and Favor,

Rev. Dr. Alexander McDonald III
Dean and Executive Director
The Grove Theological School

Tuition and Fees

Fee Per Course:

A nominal fee of **\$75.00** (plus cost of text books) is assessed to each student per course taken. This fee is used to assist with advertising and other miscellaneous administrative cost.

Tuition Refund Policy:

Students who wish to drop a course or withdraw from the School, having provided written notification and secured the requisite approval (such as authorized Add/Drop form), shall be entitled to a refund (fees are non-refundable) according to the following categories:

Refunds are calculated based on the following schedule:

1. No refund after the start of the first class (per course)
2. Drop form must be submitted to the administration office 48hrs prior to the start of the first class in order to receive a refund.
3. Drop forms are available on line and in the church administrative office



How To Write Papers and Projects (continued)

Sample Paper Format:

“Turabian” style is an abbreviated version of the more-comprehensive “Chicago” style. Turabian is named for Kate L. Turabian, the author of *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Thesis, and Dissertations: Chicago Style for Students & Researchers*, which is currently in its 9th printed Edition.¹ This sample paper will strive to provide students with all the foundational elements of a Turabian paper using the Notes-Bibliography format for students majoring in History, (some) Government, and Divinity programs of study. All class assignments will follow the Notes-Bibliography format except book reviews, which use the Author-Date format (see the Author-Date section of the OWC’s Turabian Quick Guide for resources on that format).

Many incoming students have opted not to purchase the Turabian manual; this can have significant negative effects on those students’ ability to learn and master Turabian format. Since the Turabian manual is the official resource commonly used in academia, the Online Writing Center (OWC) strongly encourages students to buy the current Turabian manual (about \$10 for hard copy or electronic version).

¹ Kate L. Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, 9th ed. (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2018).

About Us

Our President:

Dr. Franklin D. Watkins believes in ministering to the total person: mind, body, and soul. He believes in reaching out and serving the community. He is firmly committed to seeking the Lord and being led by the Spirit of God in every aspect of his life. His focus is on studying the Word of God and seeking the will of God through prayer. He strives to create a church environment where love abounds.



The Grove Theological School (GTS), is a God inspired vision of Dr. Franklin D. Watkins. While morning worship, Bible Study and Christian Education Development (formerly Sunday School) are vital and awesome weekly teachings that provides for spiritual growth and development, Dr. Watkins continues to seek avenues and resources for spiritual enhancement, full Christian development and spiritual wholeness.

Scope / Aim

The Grove Theological School (GTS) is a certificate program designed to train laity and ministerial students who are serious about growing in church leadership and ministry development. The school will focus on keeping cost low while delivering quality instruction through seminary level subjects and courses. Instructors will be men and women who have received Master’s and Doctorate’s degrees from accredited schools and who have an interest in simply giving back to the Kingdom of God. Courses are designed to be grounded in the Holy Bible and in Christian values, principles, and beliefs.

Are you called to do more in your church? Do you want to be a better teacher, mentor, leader, or lead the way in church ministries? Do you need more training to complete your mission and calling? Are you seeking to enhance your knowledge and understanding of the word?

Vision / Mission / Values

OUR MISSION:

The Grove Theological School (GTS) prepares women and men who want to grow in Christian wisdom and knowledge and become bold and creative leaders for the Christian church in this diverse world.

OUR VISION:

Our vision is to be the school of choice for persons who desire to reflect the Kingdom of God in the cutting-edge study of scripture and theology, in relationships of equality and diversity, and in actions which embrace racial reconciliation and economic justice.

OUR VALUES:

The Grove Theological School embodies values that define us as:

- ◆ **A Community of Hospitality:** where we welcome persons of all races and backgrounds.
- ◆ **A Community of Worship:** where we come together, listen to God's Word, and discern God's will and ways in this complex and resistant world.
- ◆ **A Community of Excellence in Teaching and Learning:** where we seek to "love" God with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength"; where we grow in theological knowledge; and where we implement such knowledge for being God's people in the world.
- ◆ **A Community of Discernment and Practical Wisdom:** where we engage in practices that promote peace, justice, and mercy in all human relationships and institutions.

OUR FOCUS:

We strive to develop lay persons and ministers who seek a deeper understanding of God's Word and who strive towards the higher calling in Jesus Christ.



How To Write Papers and Projects (continued)

General Formatting (Turabian Style)

- 1. Font:** The paper should use Times New Roman, 12 point font. Footnotes use Times New Roman, 10 point font
- 2. Margins:** 1" margins all around. For bound theses or dissertations (rare), include a 1.5" left margin
- 3. Spacing and Indentation:** The body of the paper should be double-spaced.
 - Block quotations, table titles, figure captions, and appendixes are to be single spaced.
 - Quotes should be blocked if the citations are five or more lines.
 - Footnotes should be single-spaced, but add a blank line between individual footnotes.
- 4. Footnotes and Bibliography:**
 - Indent Footnotes on the first line
 - The bibliography is single-spaced, with a blank line between entries.
- 5. Page Numbers:** In general, page numbers in Turabian Style should begin after the title page and any front matter; they should continue through the rest of the paper.

How To Write Papers and Projects

The use of inclusive language is a requirement for all written work, and encouraged in all other written or oral communications. Students are urged to develop greater sensitivity in their written work to issues of inclusion in all forms, but especially regarding humankind. Terms such as “mankind” or “sons of God” are not inclusive of women. Students will be urged in classes to consider more inclusive ways of speaking about God as well.

ACADEMIC HONESTY (Plagiarism)

One of the primary learning objectives of The Grove Theological School is to help students acquire the gift of discernment—the ability to think critically and ethically. Essential to this task is the requirement that students learn how to investigate the thoughts of others, to organize these thoughts in a fresh way, and, in combination with one's own thoughts and experiences, to communicate one's findings.

It is with this conviction that The Grove Theological School does NOT permit the presentation of someone else's thoughts as one's own. Books, articles and other materials used in the presentation of assignments must be credited properly in the footnotes / endnotes and the bibliography. Sentences, paragraphs or entire pages may not be copied without proper attribution. A student may not turn in a paper written in part or entirely by another, claiming it to be solely his or her own work. It is the school's view that plagiarism is not only personally dishonest, but also a violation of the integrity of the practice of ministry.

Plagiarism, in those instances where the original source cannot be located, may be determined by three members of the staff, who report their judgment of plagiarism to the full staff, and have their judgement of plagiarism confirmed by the majority vote of the full staff. Plagiarism may result in automatic course failure and/or dismissal from the school.

Staff



Rev. Dr. Franklin Watkins, D.MIN.

Dr. Watkins is the Senior Pastor of Oak Grove Baptist Church in Harrisburg, North Carolina. He is committed to preaching and teaching the Word of God and he is a fervent believer in prayer. Rev. Watkins believes in ministering to the total person: mind, body, and soul. He believes in reaching out and serving the community.

Dr. Watkins was ordained as a Gospel Minister in the Mount Peace Association, Charlotte, NC in 1999. He was called as Pastor of Oak Grove Baptist Church in March 2005 and has served for 17 years. Rev. Watkins educational achievements are: Doctor of Ministry, Hood Theological Seminary, 2014, Salisbury, NC, Master of Divinity Degree, Hood Theological Seminary, Salisbury, NC, Bachelor of Science Degree in Mathematics, Tennessee State University.

Rev. Watkins is married to Mrs. Karen Watkins, and they are the parents of a son, Duane (Oshana) and a daughter Michelle (Adrian). They are also the proud grandparents of Vivienne and Ace.



Rev. Dr. Alexander McDonald III, D.MIN.

Dr. McDonald is the former Pastor of The Second Baptist Church of Paterson, NJ, where he served for 35yrs prior to retiring (in good standing) in October of 2020. In December of 2020, Reverend McDonald and his wife moved to Charlotte, NC. They soon joined the Oak Grove

Baptist Church of Harrisburg, NC, under the pastoral leadership of The Reverend Dr. Franklin D. Watkins.

Dr. McDonald is a 1980 honor graduate of Livingstone College, Salisbury, North Carolina, where he received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration (with a concentration in Accounting). He is a 2001 graduate of New York Theological Seminary, Manhattan, NY, where he received his Master of Divinity Degree. He was elected to render the student body address during the graduation ceremony. He is also a 2006 graduate of Drew University, Madison, NJ earning a Doctorate of Ministry.

Dr. McDonald is the husband of his childhood sweetheart, Jacqueline Boyd McDonald since July of 1980. They are the proud parents of three: Alexander IV (Clare), Tiffany Nicole (Robert) and Stephanie Renee. Reverend McDonald is also the proud grandfather of Olivia Jacqueline Marche and Samantha Erin Marche.

Staff (continued)



Rev. Dr. Earl James, Th.D.

Dr. James served as interim pastor for three years and as pastor for seventeen years at the New Hope Missionary Baptist Church, in Santa Maria, California from 1986-2006. Director of New Hope Seminary Extension, Santa Maria California 2004-2006.

Dr. James married Ms. Sydney A. Barnes in 1959. They had five children; three daughters and two sons. He was drafted by the US Army in the early 60s, received an honorable discharge, . Dr. James and his wife in 2006 decided to retire. He and his wife resolved to move to the East Coast, after much thought and prayer. Soon they became members of the Oak Grove Baptist Church, of Harrisburg, NC where he served as the facilitator for the Men’s Department and Instructor for the Associate Ministers of the church along with preaching assignments under the leadership of Rev. Dr. Franklin D. Watkins, Pastor, for fifteen years.

Dr. James graduated from: Mt. San Antonio Community College, Pomona, California with an Associate Science Degree, in General Business. the University of La Verne, La Verne, California with a Bachelor of Arts Degree, a California Teacher's Credential from the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA), two Master Degrees from the American Baptist Seminary of the West at Berkeley, California one in Ministerial Arts and the other a Master of Divinity, and an earned Doctoral Degree from the same seminary.



Rev. Melissa Heyward, M.Ed., M.Div.

Rev. Heyward moved to Charlotte in 1985 after accepting a position at UNC-Charlotte. She has worked over 25 years in areas of training, teaching, counseling, social work, and mental health case management.

Rev. Heyward resides with the love of her life, husband Eugene. She joined Oak Grove Baptist Church-Harrisburg in 1987 and currently serves as an Associate Minister under the leadership of Rev. Dr. Franklin D. Watkins.

Rev. Heyward teaches Adult Christian Development classes. In addition , she teaches Bible Studies to the congregation as needed by the Pastor. Most recently, she has been appointed to the role of Membership Counseling and Clergy Support Minister. In this role she serves with Pastor Watkins as a resource and teacher for the Associate Ministers team .

Rev. Heyward received a Bachelors of Arts degree in 1980, in Sociology with a minor in Psychology from Bennett College in Greensboro, NC. She received a Masters of Education degree in Counseling from UNC-Greensboro in 1983. In 2020, she received a Masters of Divinity Degree in the dual majors of Pastoral Counseling and Chaplaincy from the Charlotte Christian College and Theological Seminary.

Grading System (continued):

Any student who receives an NC (No Credit) for a required course in the curriculum will be required to repeat the course in order to pass. When a student has repeated such a course, both the original grade of NC and the subsequent grade will be recorded and will be factored into the overall student GPA. Students repeating a course must pay full tuition.

- F: Failure due to Plagiarism.
- I: An "Incomplete" may be given when a student is unable to complete all assigned work within the particular semester. Incompletes are only granted at the discretion of the instructor, for any period of time up to 60 days, and must be reported on the appropriate form that is available from the office. After 60 days, an Incomplete will automatically be converted to an NC.
- X: Final materials presented to the Instructor; but final grade not yet submitted.
- P: Pass; automatically given for a small number of courses that are so designated in the curriculum.

INCOMPLETE GRADES

An extension for a course may be granted by an instructor for any length of time up to 60 days, during which time all outstanding work is to be completed. Students who have been granted an extension receive an “Incomplete” until the work is completed. At the conclusion of the allotted time period all outstanding work must be completed. When the required work is completed, the instructor will enter the grade on the extension form and turn this in to the office for a permanent record. If sufficient work has not been completed for a passing grade for the course, the student will receive a “No Credit.” Even if no grade is turned in, the “Incomplete” becomes “No Credit.”

Students wishing to receive an extension for their work must fill out the appropriate form (available from the office) prior to the last day of class for the semester. The form must be completed by the student and signed by the instructor. Instructor and student must agree on the completion date for outstanding work (60 days maximum) and list this on the form.

GRADING PERCENTAGES:

Attendance	_____	10%
Class Discussion	_____	10%
Group Project	_____	20%
Exams	_____	30%
Papers	_____	30%

Grading System

98-100%	A+
94-97%	A
90-93%	A-
87-89%	B+
84-86%	B
80-83%	B-
77-79%	C+
74-76%	C
70-73%	C-
68-69%	D+
64-67%	D
63 and below	NC (No Credit)

Grade Definitions:

- A+/A: Conspicuous excellence, showing a thorough mastery of the material, critical use of sources, exceptional creativity, constructive imagination, outstanding oral and written expression and organization.
- A-: Exceptional graduate-level attainment, with conspicuous excellence in most respects, but not uniformly so.
- B+: Superior level of attainment, marked by consistently good work, advanced understanding of the material, clear logic, circumspect judgment, originality and clear communication.
- B: Good work, with general indication of constructive ability in application.
- B-: Satisfactory achievement, with assignments completed accurately and on time, but without significant evidence of excellence or distinction.
- C+: Satisfactory understanding of course contents, with significant limitations in analysis, communication, integration, or class participation.
- C: Minimal understanding of course content, with significant limitations in several of the following: analysis, communication, integration, and class participation.
- C-: Minimum understanding of course content, with significant limitations in all of the following: analysis, communications, integration, and class participation. (NOTE: A grade of C- or higher must be received in order for a required course to be considered successfully completed.)
- D: Faithful participation and effort, but inability to grasp the most important essentials of the course
- NC: Work is unacceptable and fails to meet requirements.

Staff (continued)



Rev. Dr. Delton Wardell Cooper, Sr.,
D.MIN, PI, CFE, CICA

Dr. Cooper was ordained in 2006. He is the Chaplain of the 49th Military Police Brigade Alumni Association of the California Army National Guard and an Associate Chaplain for the Cabarrus County North Carolina Sheriff's Department.

Dr. Cooper confessed his call to the ministry in June of 1998 and graduated summa cum laude from the Southern Baptist Seminary, Nashville Tennessee, in 2006 with a degree in Biblical Studies. He was the valedictorian of his class. He is a graduate of the California Peace Officers and Specialized Training Police Academy of College of the Redwoods, Eureka, CA. Dr. Cooper served as associate minister of St. Luke Missionary Baptist Church of San Luis Obispo, CA. He was elected Treasurer for the Central Coast Council of the Southern Baptist Association of California. He served as an associate minister at Bayview Baptist Church of San Diego, CA. and currently serves as an associate minister at Oak Grove Baptist Church of Harrisburg, NC.

Dr. Cooper is a graduate of Hood Theological Seminary of Salisbury, North Carolina with a Master's of Divinity. He has completed the Doctor of Ministry matric from Charlotte Christian College and Theological Seminary of Charlotte, North Carolina with a Biblical emphasis on Christian Ethics. He has been awarded the designation of Magna Cum Laude.

"He was blessed to meet his best friend and true love of his life in 2006 and was honored to marry Brenda Aven Lively in 2007. She understood, encouraged and supported his ministry journey to humbly serve, teach, preach, write and lead in God's Word. Brenda and Delton are the proud parents of two, Delton II, and Mallory and the blessed grandparents of Delton III, Simone, and Mariah and the emotional great-grands to Mr. Santana Michael Vela Cooper."

Courses Offered

Real learning takes place as you carefully process the information through higher order thinking skills such as comprehension, application, analysis, synthesis and evaluation (it is not simply taking in information from outside sources (a book, teacher, web site, field experience, etc). Your performance in this class will be based on your demonstration of your learning, not by simply repeating back basic facts (your knowledge of the facts will become clear as you demonstrate higher order thinking skills). In all you do in this class, you should always remember to use higher order thinking skills, as described below:

- 1) **Comprehension:** demonstrates the ability to grasp meaning, explain, and restate ideas,
- 2) **Application:** demonstrates the ability to use learned material in new situations,
- 3) **Analysis:** demonstrates the ability to separate material into component parts and show relationships between parts,
- 4) **Synthesis:** demonstrates the ability to put together the separate ideas to form a new whole, to establish new relationships, and
- 5) **Evaluation:** demonstrates the ability to judge the worth of material against stated criteria. (ref: Mark D. Wessner, PhD, American Public University Systems, Introduction to New Testament)

Introduction to the Old Testament:

Required Text Book: Introduction to the Old Testament :A Liberation Perspective
Anthony B. Ceresko, O.S.F.S. Books can be purchased at the OGBC office.

Course Scope:

This course is a historical and theological survey of the Old Testament. Emphasis is placed on canonical formation, historical background, theological themes, redemptive history, and key interpretative issues.

Course Objectives:

Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Articulate an acquaintance with the purpose and themes of the books of the Old Testament;
2. Identify major characters of the Old Testament;
3. Locate geographical locations in the Old Testament world;
4. Demonstrate an understanding of the chronological framework of the Old Testament;
5. Explain the literary contents of the Old Testament;
6. Discuss a variety of theological and ethical issues.

Introduction to the New Testament

Required Text Book: New Testament Story: An Introduction, David L. Barr, Third Edition, 2002. Books can be purchased at the OGBC office.

Course Scope:

Study of the historical context, development, literary styles and theological themes of each of the twenty-seven books of the New Testament. We will explore the text from both historical-critical and literary perspectives, observing the strengths and weakness of each approach.

Course Objectives:

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Describe the cultural, political and religious background of each New Testament book,
2. Describe the historical development and intended purpose of each book,
3. Identify and assess the various critical approaches to studying the New Testament,
4. Identify and explain the central themes of each book as well as the themes running through the New Testament as a whole, and
5. Discuss the influence of the New Testament in both the early and modern Church.

Course Schedule

The schedule below includes the day and time of courses. It is recommended that you place this Course Schedule in a convenient place and refer to it each week of the course. Follow it closely as late assignments are subject to a grade reduction. All courses use group discussion questions, postings cannot be made up once the week is over, as the rest of the class will have moved on to the next topic.

Classes will be held twice a week

~Tuesdays – 7:00pm – 9:00pm

~Saturdays – 1:00pm – 3:00pm

Two courses will be taught during the week

~one on Tuesday

~another on Saturday

(example: Old Testament class – Tuesdays; New Testament class – Saturdays)

A Semester consist of one 8-week course

Initially, courses will be offered annually (spring semester)

An average grade of C- is required per course to receive a Certificate of Completion

STUDENT COURSE EVALUATION

Students have the opportunity to provide feedback throughout the course through e-mail, telephone, and appointments. Near the end of the course, students will complete an anonymous course evaluation form. Since the results contribute to improving course design and presentation, it is important that students be honest and constructive in their evaluations. Please take time to provide this input.



Class Absences

Though class absences are sometimes necessary for extenuating professional or personal situations, each student's participation is beneficial for the whole class. It is critical for students to attend all their classes and submit all assignments to accomplish the learning outcomes.

Three instances of tardiness will be equivalent to an unexcused absence. Three (3) unexcused absences in a course will result in the student receiving a No Credit (NC) for the course. In extraordinary circumstances, and at the sole discretion of the Instructor and/or Provost, a student with three (3) unexcused absences may be allowed to continue (and obtain a passing grade) in the course, on condition of no further absences in the course (whether excused or unexcused), the completion of all missed course assignments, and the performance of additional work (if any) assigned by the instructor.

Upon three (3) unexcused absences a student may petition to withdraw and receive a "W" instead of a "NC". The granting or denial of any such petition is within the discretion of the Provost and the instructor. In neither case a withdrawn student (W) will not receive a tuition refund.

Absences (excused or unexcused) may result in the reduction of percentage points (10%) from the student's final grade. The instructor may at her or his discretion offer a student an opportunity to gain back the lost percentage points through whatever means are appropriate to the situation. Any additional assignment given to the student as an option for replacing missed work must be completed within seven (7) days after the instructor determines the work may be replaced.

The criteria for excused absences are:

- family emergency or a serious personal illness
- an unavoidable and non-reoccurring work conflict
- non-reoccurring technical problem with the student's personal computer that has not been previously identified or that is beyond the student's control (cannot be habitual)

Contact the instructor before the absence or up to four (4) days after the absence if the reason for the absence prevented communication with the instructor. The instructor is not responsible to contact a student to inform him/her of a missed assignment.



Course Offered (continued)

Church History:

Required Text Book:

Course Scope:

This course offers a unique contextual view of how the Christian church spread and developed. To expose the student to the broad flow of church history from its beginning at Pentecost to the time just prior to the Reformation. The time of the Renaissance and Reformation up to the present era.

Course Objectives:

By the end of this course the student will be able to understand and articulate the major events, movements and theological debates in Church History with special reference to three major epochs:

1. The Early Church (prior to Nicaea)
2. The Protestant Reformation
3. The rise of the modern missionary movements and of global Christianity.

Introduction to the Bible (Bibliology)

Required Text Book:

Course Scope:

This course is to introduce you to the Bible, its origins, its basic structure and message, and how you might use it to better inform your faith. It traces the history of the Bible and includes discussions of inspiration, the biblical canon, major manuscripts, textual criticism, early translations, and modern versions.

Course Objectives:

By the end of this course the student will:

1. Understand the basic structure of the Bible.
2. Understand where and when the Bible was written.
3. Understand how the Bible was written and by whom.
4. Have a basic idea of the story-line or "big picture" of the Bible.
5. Able to answer some of your questions about the Bible.

Courses Offered (continued)

Systematic Theology

Required Text Book:

Course Scope:

This course is a discipline which addresses theological topics one by one (God, Sin, Humanity) and attempts to summarize all the biblical teaching on each particular subject. To present the major themes (doctrines) of the Christian faith in an organized and ordered overview that remains faithful to the biblical witness.

Course Objectives:

By the end of this course the student will:

1. Draw a clear description of what the Bible teaches about a particular doctrine.
2. Be able to biblically construct individual doctrines of the Christian faith.
3. Be aware of the cause-effect relationship of each doctrine.
(That is, on the one hand, if one doctrine is changed, effects will take place in other areas of doctrine. On the other hand, each doctrine has implications for other doctrines.)

Expository Preaching

Required Text Book:

Course Scope:

This course emphasizes a method of sound, Biblical preaching. The communication of a biblical concept, derived from and transmitted through a historical, grammatical, literary study of a passage in its context.

Course Objectives:

By the end of this course the student will promote the following sermon preparations:

1. Focus careful attention to the context of the text.
2. Promote a high view of Scripture and a strong conviction about the profitability of all Scripture.
3. Understand that all sermons must be rooted in and shaped from the biblical text at hand.
4. Understand that the thrust of the sermon comes from the text;
(the main points and sub-points coming directly from the text)
5. Understand that contemporary implications flows naturally from the author's intended meaning.

Course Learning Outcome and Procedures

Course Objectives Related to Student Learning Outcomes:

1. **Articulation (oral & written):** Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both oral and written, of essential biblical, theological, historical, and cultural/global information, including details, concepts, and frameworks.
2. **Scripture:** Significant knowledge of the original meaning of Scripture. Also, the concepts for and skill to research further into the original meaning of Scripture and to apply Scripture to a variety of modern circumstances. (Includes appropriate use of original languages and hermeneutics; and integrates theological, historical, and cultural/global perspectives.)
3. **Sanctification:** Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student's sanctification.
4. **Desire for Worldview:** Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God.
5. **Teach:** Ability to teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.
6. **Church/World:** Ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues.

Course Procedures and Student Expectations:

There are several key elements you will need to fully understand prior to enrolling in these courses.

1. All courses require extensive interaction and the completion of assignments according to a weekly schedule. Thus, keeping up with the schedule is essential to your success. Your personal schedule must allow you to keep up with the due dates for the readings and other assignments as found in the Course Schedule.
2. Be sure you can complete this course in the scheduled period. Incompletes will only be granted for true emergency situations, not for poor planning.
3. Student Expectations/requirements:
 - o Must have access to a personal computer (allowed in class)
 - o Must know how to access/work on the website
 - o Must purchase the required textbook
 - o Must provide your own pad/paper and writing instruments for class participation
 - o Must agree to the use of personal name (first and/or last) without formal titles

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION IS REQUIRED!