Contact Information
Prof.: Bruce Baugus
Office Phone: 601-923-1696 (x696)
Cell Phone: 601-519-9091
Email: bbaugus@rts.edu or bpbaugus@gmail.com

TA: Derek Moore
covenanterderek@gmail.com

Catalog Course Description
The course topics include Christology, soteriology, and eschatology.

Explanation
This course will focus on three of the six (or seven) standard loci or major doctrinal topics of systematic theology. The first loci, Christology, is on the person and work of Jesus Christ and includes the incarnation, states of humiliation and exaltation, his prophetic, priestly, and kingly offices, and the atonement. Following immediately on this topic is the second loci, Soteriology, which considers the Spirit’s application of Christ’s redemptive work to his people. In addition to discussing the nature of saving grace (as distinct from common grace) and union with Christ, the points of this loci include the various elements of the ordo salutis: calling, regeneration, conversion (faith and repentance), justification, adoption, sanctification, perseverance, and glorification. Although the ordinary progression leads through the doctrine of the church to last things, the consideration of glorification will lead us directly to the final loci, Eschatology. Under this heading we will consider different schematic views of the end times; death, immortality, and the intermediate state; the return of Jesus Christ and the resurrection; and final judgment and eternal states. The heart of eschatology is our hope in Christ which will be our primary focus.

My goal in this class is that, by the conclusion of the course, you are (1) prepared for ministry in an evangelical Reformed or Presbyterian church context on the topics covered, confident in (2) the biblical foundation and (3) practical usefulness (for yourself and your ministry to others) of the doctrines of Jesus Christ, Salvation, and Last Things.

Textbooks (Required)

Recommended

Note: Students are expected to bring a Bible (preferably ESV) and a copy of the Westminster Standards (Confession of Faith and Larger and Shorter Catechisms as adopted by the OPC and PCA) to class each day.

Assignments
Reading Reports
Submit concise summaries of Murray, *Redemption Accomplished and Applied*, and Venema, *Christ and the Future*. For Murray, summarize each chapter in no more than three sentences per chapter; for Venema, do likewise in no more than one sentence per subheading. Summaries that are choppy and note-like in form are acceptable (but will not receive an “A”); summaries that read as a single, coherent digest or compendium essay on each book are preferred. Reading assignments are due by the assignment deadline.

Devotional Exercises
Using John Piper’s short chapters and prayers in *Seeing and Savoring Jesus Christ* as a rough model, write your own set of short devotional pieces suitable for private or family worship (as might be distributed in a newsletter or posted online), on specific points of the other two loci: soteriology and
eschatology (Piper’s work covers Christology). Use Bavinck’s detailed table of contents as a guide and select any twelve of the twenty-seven subheadings from parts V and VII that you want to write on. Devotional exercises are due by the assignment deadline.

*Essay Exam*
There will be one essay exam that will ask you to select and answer ten (10) out of the twelve (12) questions or writing prompts. All answers must be *less than* three paragraphs of reasonable length (roughly 3-5 sentences each). You may use your Bible, class notes, textbooks, and other resources but you must not plagiarize, use a classmate, or represent anyone else’s work or words as your own. Exams are due by the assignment deadline.

**Assignment Deadline: March 13; 5:00 PM ET**
Submit all assignments as three files (one for each assignment) attached to a single email and send to bpbaugus@gmail.com. I will confirm receipt (hopefully within 24 hours). If you have not received a confirmation from me within three business days be sure to follow up promptly.

**Course Grade**
- Reading Reports  30%
- Devotional Exercises  30%
- Take Home Exam  40%
- Total  100%
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MDiv Student Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Rubric</th>
<th>Mini-Justification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Articulation (oral &amp; written)</strong></td>
<td>Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both oral and written, of essential biblical, theological, historical, and cultural/global information, including details, concepts, and frameworks.</td>
<td>Strong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Scripture</strong></td>
<td>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.)</td>
<td>Strong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reformed Theology</strong></td>
<td>Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.</td>
<td>Strong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sanctification</strong></td>
<td>Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student’s sanctification.</td>
<td>Strong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Desire for Worldview</strong></td>
<td>Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God.</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Winsomely Reformed</strong></td>
<td>Embraces a winsomely Reformed ethos. (Includes an appropriate ecumenical spirit with other Christians, especially Evangelicals; a concern to present the Gospel in a God-honoring manner to non-Christians; and a truth-in-love attitude in disagreements.)</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Preach</strong></td>
<td>Ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Worship</strong></td>
<td>Knowledgeable of historic and modern Christian-worship forms; and ability to construct and skill to lead a worship service.</td>
<td>Minimal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Shepherd</strong></td>
<td>Ability to shepherd the local congregation: aiding in spiritual maturity; promoting use of gifts and callings; and encouraging a concern for non-Christians, both in America and worldwide.</td>
<td>Minimal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Church/World</strong></td>
<td>Ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues.</td>
<td>Minimal</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>