Reformed Theological Seminary
Washington DC
Revised Syllabus

NB: Please read James I. Packer, "Introduction: On Covenant Theology" in Herman Witsius, The Economy of the Covenants (on the course homepage) before the first class period.

06ST514 (2 Credits)
Winter 2016
January 27 - January 30

Wednesday 8:30 AM - 3:00 PM
Thursday 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Friday 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Saturday 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Dr. Howard Griffith
Associate Professor of Systematic Theology
hgriffith@rts.edu

Office Hours: TBA. Feel free to call me – 703/408-3157—I will be happy to meet with you.

You may record class lectures, but please do not distribute the recordings.

Course Description:

Goals

1. To increase understanding and confidence in historic Christian doctrine.

2. To present our creation and fall in Adam and our salvation accomplished by Christ, and ways of speaking of them faithful to Holy Scripture.

3. To elicit a greater love for Christ our Lord.

Class attendance is required. I will not call the roll, but students who are often absent or late without excuse will be penalized.

Texts¹

¹Although I do not require that you purchase them (a number of these titles are available as e-books), I recommend printed books for study. Bavinck, and Macleod, Christ Crucified, are books you will almost certainly want to read and reread.
Herman Bavinck, *Reformed Dogmatics, Volume 2; 978-0801026553 and Volume 3; 978-0801026560 (HB2 and HB3) These are two books.*

Richard B. Gaffin, “The last Adam, the life-giving Spirit” (on the course homepage).

Richard B. Gaffin, “All Mankind Descending from Him…” (on the course homepage).

Richard B. Gaffin, *No Adam, No Gospel, Adam and the History of Redemption; ISBN 978-1-59638-967-0. This is on the reserve shelf.*

Jonathan Gibson, “For Whom Did Christ Die? Particularism and Universalism in the Pauline Epistles” (on the course homepage).


Fred Sanders, “Introduction to Christology: Chalcedonian Categories for the Gospel Narrative,” pages 1-36 (on the course homepage).

The *Westminster Confession of Faith (WC) and the Westminster Shorter Catechism (SC).*

**Assignments**

1. Final Exam (50 %): Students will take a short essay exam that assesses their understanding and articulation of the course lectures, reading assignments, and relevant creeds and confessions. The exam is due emailed to me by 11:59PM on February 20, 2016.

2. Reading report (25 %): Attached to the final exam, students will turn in a reading report that states the percentage of assigned readings that they have read with reasonable care by the due date of the final exam.

3. Research paper (25 %): Students will write a research paper (12-15 pages, double spaced, 12 pt Times New Roman font, Turabian format, with bibliography) that argues a specific thesis (i.e., a specific claim that can be argued on the basis of sound biblical and theological reasoning and defended against objections). More details will be forthcoming. See “Research Paper Guidelines” in the Modules section of the Canvas course homepage. The paper is due emailed to me by 11:59PM on March 12, 2016.

4. For M.Div. students: memorize and recite *Westminster Shorter Catechism, questions and answers 12-28. Include a statement that you have done this on the final exam.*

**Academic Policies**

1. Late assignments: apart from exceptional circumstances, I will not accept late assignments for credit.

2. Plagiarism: plagiarism, whether intentional or unintentional, will result in a failing grade for the course.
Reading Assignments

Please do your best to complete as much of this as possible before class in January.

1. Anthropology

   The Covenant of works:
   - HB 2: Chapter 13; WC Chs. 4 & 7.
   - Gaffin, “The Last Adam, the life-giving Spirit.”

   Human origin and nature:
   - HB 2, Chapters 11-12.
   - Gaffin, No Adam, No Gospel, Adam and the History of Redemption

   The Origin and nature of sin:
   - HB 3: Chapters 1-4.

2. Christology

   Protology and Eschatology in the Pactum Salutis:
   - Gaffin, “The last Adam, the life-giving Spirit” (review)

   The Person of Christ:
   - Macleod, Person of Christ
   - Sanders, “Introduction to Christology,” 1-36
   - WC chapter 7 (the chapter numbers are to the PCA version)

   The Work of Christ:
   - Macleod, Christ Crucified
   - Gibson, “For Whom Did Christ Die?”
   - WC chapter 8
   - HB3, Chapter 8, pp. 418-47 only.

Course Objectives Related to MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes

Course: 6ST514, The Doctrines of Anthropology and Christology
Professor: Howard Griffith
Campus: Washington
Date: Winter 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Rubric</th>
<th>Mini-Justification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In order to measure the success of the MDiv curriculum, RTS has defined the following as the intended outcomes of the student learning process. Each course contributes to these</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Minimal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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. | Strong | Exams and a paper on doctrinal matters vitally related to everything.

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.) | Strong | Not an exegesis class, but we read and lecture on both systematic and biblical-theological aspects of each doctrine.

Reformed Theology | Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards. | Strong | The covenantal character of redemption is stressed.

Sanctification | Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student’s sanctification. | Strong | Christ himself is the subject of our study.

Desire for Worldview | Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God. | Moderate | Stresses the nature of Christ’s Kingdom.

Winsomely Reformed | 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.) | Strong | I will seek to show the value of Reformed theology for the benefit of all Christians.

Preach | Ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm. | Moderate | Informs about the message of preaching.

Worship | Knowledgeable of historic and modern Christian-worship forms; and ability to construct and skill to lead a worship service. | None | Stress on the importance of these issues as people deal with life.

Shepherd | 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. | Strong | Stress on the importance of these issues as people deal with life.

overall outcomes. This rubric shows the contribution of this course to the MDiv outcomes. *As the MDiv is the core degree at RTS, the MDiv rubric will be used in this syllabus.

| 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. | Strong | Exams and a paper on doctrinal matters vitally related to everything.

| 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.) | Strong | Not an exegesis class, but we read and lecture on both systematic and biblical-theological aspects of each doctrine.

| Reformed Theology | Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards. | Strong | The covenantal character of redemption is stressed.

| Sanctification | Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student’s sanctification. | Strong | Christ himself is the subject of our study.

| Desire for Worldview | Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God. | Moderate | Stresses the nature of Christ’s Kingdom.

| Winsomely Reformed | 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.) | Strong | I will seek to show the value of Reformed theology for the benefit of all Christians.

| Preach | Ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm. | Moderate | Informs about the message of preaching.

| Worship | Knowledgeable of historic and modern Christian-worship forms; and ability to construct and skill to lead a worship service. | None | Stress on the importance of these issues as people deal with life.

| Shepherd | 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. | Strong | Stress on the importance of these issues as people deal with life.
| **Church/World** | Ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues. | **Moderate** | We do consider common grace—thus the value of God’s mercy expressed beyond the elect. |