Meeting Time: Mondays, 1:00 PM–3:55 PM; Aug 24–Nov 30
Meeting Place: DC 2

Contact Information
Prof.: Bruce Baugus (office in Dean Center faculty suite)  
Office Phone: 601-923-1696 (x696)  
Email: bbaugus@rts.edu or bpbaugus@gmail.com  
Hours: W 1:00 PM–3:00 PM and by appointment

TA: Chris Pechan

Catalog Course Description
This survey of theology emphasizes the practical applications of the doctrines to the ministry of the gospel in contemporary culture. Topics include theology proper (God) and anthropology (humanity).

Explanation
This course is designed for the M.Div. degree program. (All students are welcome, but those wanting a more general overview of Systematic Theology should consider taking the “ST Survey” course instead.) M.Div. students are supposed to have completed Covenant Theology, History of Philosophy and Christian Thought, and Doctrine of Scripture (covering theological prolegomena) in theology and Hebrew and Greek in biblical studies. This course will focus on (1) presenting a systematic statement of the biblical teaching on the topics of God and humanity as understood and taught within the Reformed tradition, demonstrating that these formulations represent (2) the correct understanding of Scripture and (3) the doctrine God’s people need to thrive as disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ. My goals in this class correspond to our focus: that at the conclusion of this course you are (1a) properly prepared for pastoral ministry in an orthodox Reformed or Presbyterian church on the topics covered, confident in (2a) the biblical foundation and (3a) practical usefulness of the Reformed understanding of God and humanity.

Textbooks
Dogmatic Summary (Required)
Herman Bavinck, Reformed Dogmatics: Prolegomena, vols. 2 & 3 (Baker: ISBN 9780801026553 and 9780801026560)

Contemporary Issues (Required)

Recommended
Michael Allen and Scott Swain, Reformed Catholicity: The Promise of Retrieval for Theology and Biblical Interpretation (Baker: ISBN 9780801049798)
Richard A. Muller, Dictionary and Latin and Greek Theological Terms (Baker: ISBN 9780801020643)

Assignments
Essay Exams
There is just one exam in this course, a cumulative essay exam students will sit for during finals week. Students are provided a set of questions at the beginning of the course as a study guide (see “Addendum” posted on Canvas). Final exam questions will be drawn from that list. Students should be ready to answer each question on the list with a solid three to five paragraph essay and have the full semester to prepare to do so.
Book Report
Write a careful and penetrating five (5) page review of the doctrine of God at work in Miroslav Volf’s influential book, *Allah: A Christian Response*. Reviews should be written in a spiritually mature, respectful, and professional tone that would be suitable for a broad audience that includes Christians, Muslims, and possibly even Volf. Proper style and formatting are expected (see latest edition of Turabian).

Term Paper
Students will also write a 10-12 page term selected from a short list of possible topics (see “Addendum” posted on Canvas). Papers must integrates exegetical, systematic, and historical perspectives and employ sound argumentation (demonstrating a clear thesis that makes an arguable claim). Proper style and formatting are expected (see latest edition of Turabian). Papers ought to be error-free and reflect quality research and careful, critical thinking.

Course Grade
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<tr>
<td>Exams</td>
<td>20% each; 40% combined</td>
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<tr>
<td>Book Report</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term Paper</td>
<td>40%</td>
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<td>Total</td>
<td>100%</td>
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## Course Objectives Related to MDiv Student Learning Outcomes

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<tr>
<th>MDiv Student Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Rubric</th>
<th>Mini-Justification</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Articulation</strong> (oral &amp; written)</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>
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<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>
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<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>
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<td><strong>Sanctification</strong></td>
<td>Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student’s sanctification.</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
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<td><strong>Desire for Worldview</strong></td>
<td>Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God.</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
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<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>
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<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>
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<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>Moderate</td>
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<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>
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<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>
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