

Scottish Theology
ST 603
Fall 2015
Dr. Douglas F. Kelly

I. CONTENT OF THE COURSE

We survey major themes of Scottish theology from the Reformation to the twentieth century by studying the writings and lives of representative theologians of each period in light of the history, culture, and spiritual issues of their time. It is our intention to study how the Reformed Faith developed in the Scottish tradition; how did they use the Scriptures; what were the results of their theology on personal life, church, and culture, and in particular, how did they deal with some of the major issues facing Christianity in the late 20th century? Throughout the course we will be on the lookout to see how much of this material can give life to a pulpit ministry today.

II. STRUCTURE OF THE COURSE

Our course is based on both lectures and seminars. After every three class hours of lecture, there will be an hour seminar which will take the form of class discussion based on the required reading for that part of the course. Everyone is to take notes on the readings (a copy of these notes is to be turned in to the instructor after each seminar). Participation in the discussion is encouraged, and will constitute 25% of the course grade. You will be given some questions to help guide you in the various readings.

III. REQUIREMENTS OF THE COURSE

A. **Required Reading:** Do the required reading (on reserve in the library as well as in the course overview, which will be posted on Canvas), on time in preparation for class seminars every other week. With Seminar Six, reading is replaced by listening to three lectures by Sinclair Ferguson online here:

<http://www.sermonaudio.com/search.asp?seriesOnly=true&currSection=sermonstopic&SourceID=gpts&keyworddesc=The+Marrow+Controversy&keyword=The+Marrow+Controversy> In addition to these readings, read the following readings found on reserve at the RTS-Charlotte Library:

1. Thomas F. Torrance, "Newton, Einstein, and Scientific Theology", chapter 8 in T.F Torrance, *Transformation & Convergence in the Frame of Knowledge* (Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans, 1984), pp. 263-283.
2. Donald MacLeod, "Divine Election", chapter 22 in Donald MacLeod, *Behold Your God* (Ross-shire: Christian Focus, 1990).

B. **Class Discussion:** Be prepared to participate in class discussion on the basis of the course readings. **This is worth 20% of the course grade.**

C. **Mid-Term Paper:** This paper should be from 12 to 15 pages in length (typed and double-spaced) with appropriate footnoting and bibliography. Do not include a string of

long quotations. Make sure you (1) deal with the relevant information competently and fairly to all sides and (2) interact with the material yourself so that you demonstrate that you have “thought about it theologically.” (3) Have a proper introduction and conclusion and a clear structure for your essay. (4) Use good grammar and write clearly. Essay topics will be available on Self-Service. The essay is **due by 5 PM, Wednesday, October 14th. This is worth 40% of the course grade.**

D. **Final Exam**: There will be a final exam consisting of essay questions. A study guide will be given and posted on Canvas. **The final exam is worth 40% of the course grade.**