

**History and Theology of the Puritans
05HT6300**

**Winter 2021
January 12–15, 2020**

**Dr. Greg A. Salazar
Assistant Professor of Historical Theology
Puritan Reformed Theological Seminary**

1. Instructor Information:

Email: greg.salazar@prts.edu
Office hours: By appointment

2. Location, Time of Class:

Location: RTS Houston

Time: 2–9:30pm, Tuesday—Friday, January 12–15

We will break 10 minutes on the hour and from 6–7pm for supper.

3. Educational approach

This module is delivered through contact seminar. Class participation is encouraged. Students are requested to read the assigned readings and to participate. While a required reading list is given, students are encouraged to research and read the recommended reading material.

4. Course description, purpose, and objectives

This course will survey the major historical and theological themes of 16th and 17th century Puritanism and will examine the lives and works of leading puritan theologians—like John Owen, Jonathan Edwards, John Bunyan, Richard Sibbes, Richard Baxter, Samuel Rutherford, Thomas Goodwin, and William Perkins. Additionally, it will explore the historical, ecclesiastical, theological, and pietistic contexts of the English Puritanism from (c.1560-1700). It will introduce students to some of the major primary and secondary sources, as well as the major historiographical themes that have shaped our understanding of puritanism.

This course aims to prepare students to serve Christ and His Church through biblical, theological, and practical ministry. In particular, this course aims to contribute to the spiritual formation students by not only imparting a historical knowledge of the Puritans, but applying this knowledge in a pastoral ministry context. Thus, this course will be structured to shape not only our minds, but our hearts. Particular attention will be given to how the themes of this period are applied to our hearts and a pastoral ministry context, so students might gain encouragement, be challenged, and thrive in ministry.

5. Course Calendar

Tuesday January 12

Part 1: The History of Puritanism

- Lecture 1—Introduction to Course and Puritanism
- Lecture 2—Puritanism During the Reign of Elizabeth I, c.1558-1580
- Lecture 3—Puritanism During the Reign of Elizabeth I, c.1580-1603
- Lecture 4—Puritanism During the Reign of James I, c.1603—1625
- Lecture 5—Puritanism During the Reign of Charles I, c.1625–1642
- Lecture 6—Puritanism During the Interegnum, c.1642—1660

Wednesday January 13

- Lecture 7—Puritanism During the Reign of Charles II, c.1660–c.1700
- Lecture 8—The End and Legacy of Puritanism

Part 2: Introduction to Puritan Theology

- Lecture 9—Puritanism and The Formation of Reformed Orthodoxy
- Lecture 10— Puritanism and Soteriology
- Lecture 11—Puritans on Union with Christ
- Lecture 12—Puritans on Sanctification: The Renewal of the Affections through Mortification Vivification

Thursday January 14

Part 2: Introduction to Puritan Theology (Continued)

- Lecture 13—Puritans and Eschatology
- Lecture 14—Intra-Puritan Theological Diversity

Part 3: Puritans on the Christian Life

- Lecture 15—Puritan Piety and Practical Divinity
- Lecture 16—The classicals of Puritan devotional literature
- Lecture 17—Puritans on Communion with the True God
- Lecture 18—Puritans on the Holy Spirit

Friday January 15

Part 4: Puritans and Pastoral Ministry

- Lecture 19—Puritans as Pastors and Counselors
- Lecture 20—Puritans on Preaching
- Lecture 21—Lessons from the Puritans
- Catch up

6. Course Assessment and Grading procedure

a. **Research Paper (40%):** Each student will be expected to submit a major paper of original research on a topic related to English Puritanism. The course paper is due by **Friday February 26th at 6pm** by **emailing the paper to greg.salazar@prts.edu**. Course papers will be graded in accordance to the grading scale. Failure to meet the due date and time of the course paper will result in half grade deduction for each day late.

Length: 12–15 pages. The paper should be properly footnoted, in accordance with the Turabian conventions, and must include a bibliography, and make use of primary and secondary texts. Define a clear thesis statement, reason and ground for conclusion, demonstrate coherence, etc.

Topic and outline: Each student must email me their proposed research paper topic and receive approval before proceeding with the research paper. Students are also welcomed to make a preliminary appointment with the professor to discuss potential research topics.

b. **Final Exam (30%):** Each student will need to complete this course's final exam by **Friday February 12th at 6pm**. This exam will take between two and three hours and will consist of short (100-250 words) and long essay questions (500-750 words). To prepare for the exam, students will be given a longer list of potential questions in advance. *NB:* During the exam students will also be given a choice of essay questions (i.e. will be expected to choose three short essays out of five or two long essays out of three).

Students will need to have their exam proctored by a staff or faculty member at either RTS Houston or their church. Following completion of the exam, students will have their proctor email the exam to **greg.salazar@prts.edu**.

c. **Reading Assignments (30%):** Students will be expected to complete the reading assignments in the course outline **by no later than Friday February 26th at 6pm**. **Send a statement of the completed reading to greg.salazar@prts.edu**. Students will be expected to submit a signed reading completion form, indicating which works they read and the percentage they completed.

Required Reading:

John Bunyan, *The Pilgrim's Progress* (Originally published, 1678; Reprinted, Edinburgh: Banner of Truth Trust, 1977), all [408 pages]

John Owen, *Communion with God* (Originally published, 1657; Reprinted, Edinburgh: Banner of Truth Trust, 1991), all [209 pages]

Joel Beeke, *A Puritan Theology: Doctrine for Life* (Grand Rapids: Reformation Heritage Books, 2012), 500 pages [Read and select at least 30 chapters, totaling at least 500 pages that most interest you]

David D. Hall, *The Puritans: A Transatlantic History* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2019), all [355 pages]

d. Extra Credit: Any student who reads a total of 500 pages of reading from

The recommended reading lists (See Appendices A and B, to be supplied) will receive a half letter grade of extra credit. Students will need to submit a signed reading completion form detailing the readings completed (including page numbers).

Extra credit is due by **Friday February 26th at 6pm** by **emailing a statement of completed reading to greg.salazar@prts.edu**.

7. Resources

Internet resources: There are many useful internet resources for Puritanism. The most important are:

JSTOR (journal articles).

ODNB (Oxford Dictionary of National Biography).

EEBO (Early English Books Online: for pre-1700 printed texts).

ECCO (Eighteenth-Century Collections Online: for 1700-1800 printed texts).

ESTC (English Short Title Catalogue: bibliography of pre-1800 printed books).

Bibliography of British and Irish History (via Brepolis).

Records of the Parliaments of Scotland to 1707 (www.rps.ac.uk)

English Historical Documents Online, vols. IV, Va, Vb, VI.

Journals: The journals which contain most key articles on English Puritanism and English Post-Reformation are:

English Historical Review

Historical Journal

Journal of British Studies

Journal of Ecclesiastical History

Past and Present

Other Important Journals:

Calvin Theological Journal

Church History

Church History and Religious Culture

Harvard Theological Review

Historical Research

Journal for the History of Reformed Pietism

Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society

Journal of History and Cultures

Recusant History

Reformation

Sixteenth Century Journal

The Seventeenth Century

Westminster Theological Journal

Lectures: For an excellent series of introductory lectures on English Puritanism please see J.I. Packer's *The English Puritanism*:
<https://itunes.apple.com/us/podcast/the-english-puritans/id378878741?mt=2>

For an excellent series of lectures on the historical, intellectual, and political context of English Puritanism see Dr. Keith Wrightson's online course 'Early Modern England: Politics, Religion, and Society Under the Tudors and Stuarts', originally given at Yale University: <http://oyc.yale.edu/history/hist-251>

8. Policy on Plagiarism [From RTS's Academic Policies]:

Research papers require borrowing other people's ideas and words. However, the source of such borrowing must be acknowledged properly so that your ideas are clearly distinguished from ideas that you borrowed. If the source is not acknowledged properly, your work is plagiarism. For an excellent summary on what constitutes plagiarism, see Kate L. Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations* (rev. by Wayne C. Booth, etc.; 7th ed.; Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2007), pp. 77-80 (section 7.9).

Plagiarism includes word-for-word copying, lifting terms, restatement of someone's argument or line of thought, etc.—all without acknowledgment of source. Plagiarism also includes giving a source partial credit when more is taken from that source than indicated.

Plagiarism, whether intentional or unintentional, is very serious. All plagiarism cases are referred to the Academic Dean for resolution. Consequences may include some of the following:

- repeat the assignment and receive a maximum of a D on the assignment
- receive an F on the assignment
- receive an F in the course
- expulsion from the seminary

9. Policy for Late Assignments and Extensions:

Assignments are due at the dates and times indicated in the syllabus. A half letter grade will be deducted from the assignment's grade for each additional day the assignment is submitted after the due date.

Extensions may be granted on the following basis. The student requesting an extension must submit in writing to greg.salazar@prts.edu, the reason for his/her inability to meet the deadline of the assignment before the scheduled due date. Upon receipt, the professor will consider the validity of the request. An extension would not normally exceed three weeks after the original date. Only one extension will be granted.

10. Classroom Policies: Please come to class well caffeinated and hydrated—the latter especially helps one’s attentiveness. Please come to class on time—punctuality is a virtue no matter the environment, but especially for those who are training for full-time ministry. We will take regular breaks and I am supportive of various activities you wish to employ to stay alert, provided it does not disrupt the class.

Please do not use the Internet during class unless for a course related purpose. Please also turn your mobile phone on silent and put them away. Checking your mobile phone during a lecture or class discussion is as thoughtless as checking it when you are holding a conversation with another person.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

<u>MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes</u>		<u>Rubric</u>	<u>Mini-Justification</u>
<i>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 overall outcomes. This rubric shows the contribution of this course to the MDiv outcomes.</i> <i>*As the MDiv is the core degree at RTS, the MDiv rubric will be used in this syllabus.</i>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Strong ➤ Moderate ➤ Minimal ➤ None 	
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	The final exam and major research paper provide ample opportunity for students to exercise these skills.
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.)	Moderate	The course examines the Puritan’s application of their exegesis of Scripture to their personal and pastoral contexts. It particularly focuses on the role of exegesis in Puritan theology
Reformed Theology	Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.	Strong	Since the Puritans were the authors of the Westminster Standards, significant

			attention is given to these themes.
Sanctification	Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student's sanctification.	Strong	This course uses the Puritans and their understanding of sanctification to foster a greater love for the Triune God and to grow in personal sanctification.
Desire for Worldview	Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God.	Strong	This course uses the Puritans and their God-centered, biblically saturated worldview to foster a burning desire for students to embrace this worldview.
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	This course explores the Puritans's articulation and pursuit of a winsomely Reformed ethos, particularly in its exploration of Puritan theological diversity, to urge students to pursue this spirit in their own ministries.
Preach	Ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.	Strong	This course gives extensive focus to puritan preaching and teaching that was exemplary in its melding of heart and mind.
Worship	Knowledgeable of historic and modern Christian-worship forms; and ability to construct and skill to lead a worship service.	Strong	The Puritans were major contributors to our understanding of God-centered worship. Emphasis is given to understanding proper worship and applying this knowledge in a worship setting.

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.	Moderate	The course focuses on the Puritans as “physicians of the soul” and pastor-shepherds. However, less focus is given to evangelism.
Church/ World	Ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues.	Strong	The Puritans were known for their desire to reform the Church of England and the broader International Protestant Church. They were also involved in the cultural political issues of their day. The course applies these themes to our contemporary church and world.