

Systematic Theology I – Scripture and Theology (Proper)

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Class Schedule

- Tuesday evenings 6-9 pm 11 Sept 07– 11 Dec 07
- NO CLASS on 20 Nov 2007

Student Evaluation

- Mid-term and final exam (worth 90% of final grade, 45% each) and will cover both material delivered in lecture as well as material from reading assignments.
 - Mid-term due 23 Oct 07 at beginning of class (late submissions have 5 grade points deducted per day)
 - Final exam distributed 4 Dec 07
 - Final exam due 18 Dec 07
- Exams are closed book, only an unmarked pew Bible may be used. NO COMPUTER BIBLES.
- Exams will be posted via IQ Web and must be submitted via hardcopy. NO E-MAIL SUBMISSIONS ACCEPTED.
- Completion of all required reading (worth 10% of final grade). Reading report is due with the final exam on 18 Dec 07. Indicate the percentage at the top of your exam. If you do not indicate a percentage, you will not get credit. You may also submit “prophetic reading reports” so long as you commit to complete the reading by 18 Dec 08.
- Final grades will be distributed via IQ Web.

Academic Policies

Class academic policies are those that are outlined in the current RTS Course Catalog (grading scale, class attendance policy, conduct, and examination policies).

Taping of Class Lectures

You are permitted to tape class lectures for note taking purposes or in the event that you miss a portion of a class day (students are responsible for getting a member of the class to tape the lecture for them).

Obtaining Class Lecture Notes in event of an absence

You are responsible for obtaining lecture notes in the event of your absence from a fellow student. The professor will not provide lecture notes.

Failure to turn in required materials

In the event that you fail to turn in required assignments, you will receive the grade of an “F.” In the event that you need a time extension, you must obtain an official extension request form from the administration, which must be approved by the professor and academic dean. If an extension is granted you will receive an “INC” until all assignments are completed. Extensions will be granted only in the event of extenuating circumstances such as severe illness or death in the family.

Required Textbooks

Holy Bible (any version)

Louis Berkhof, *Systematic Theology: Combined Edition* (1949; Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1996).

*Note, if you already have an earlier edition of Berkhof and do not want to purchase the combined edition, you have one of two options:

1. Purchase Berkhof’s *Introduction to Systematic Theology* off the used book market. Try www.bookfinder.com.
2. Purchase Herman Bavinck, *Reformed Dogmatics: Prolegomena*, vol. 1, trans. John Vriend, ed. John Bolt (Grand Rapids: Baker, 2003).

John Calvin, *Institutes of the Christian Religion*, ed. John T. McNeill, trans. Ford Lewis Battles, Library of Christian Classics, vols. 20-21 (Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1960).

<http://www.ccel.org/ccel/calvin/institutes.html>

D. A. Carson, *Divine Sovereignty and Human Responsibility* (Grand Rapids: Baker, 1981).

Meredith G. Kline, *The Structure of Biblical Authority* (Eugene: Wipf & Stock, 1997).

Herman Ridderbos, *Redemptive History and the New Testament Scriptures* (Phillipsburg: P & R, 1988).

Westminster Confession of Faith (preferably w/ Scripture Proofs).

<http://opc.org/confessions.html>

Required supplementary reading

* B. B. Warfield, “The Task and Method of Systematic Theology,” in *Works*, v. 9, ed. E. D. Warfield, et al. (1931; Grand Rapids: Baker, 1981), pp. 91-108.

* Geerhardus Vos, "The Idea of Biblical Theology as a Science and as a Theological Discipline," in *Redemptive History and Biblical Interpretation*, ed. Richard B. Gaffin (Phillipsburg: P & R, 1980), pp. 3-24.

* Available IQ Web

Lecture Schedule

Topic	Time	Day	Reading
Intro to ST	6-7pm	Sept 11	Warfield, "Task and Method of ST" Vos, "Idea of BT"
Principia in general	7-8pm		Berkhof, pp. 93-97
Principia cognoscendi externum	8-9pm		Berkhof, pp. 116-43 Bavinck, pp. 283-353 * alternate Calvin, 1.1-5, pp. 33-68
Inspiration of Scripture	6-7pm	Sept 18	Berkhof, pp. 144-69 Bavinck, pp. 387-496 * alternate Calvin, 1.6-10, pp. 69-98 WCF 1
Principium cognoscendi internum	7-8pm		Berkhof, pp. 170-86 Bavinck, pp. 497-620 * alternate
Existence	8-9pm		Berkhof, pp. 19-28
Knowability	6-7pm	Sept 25	Berkhof, pp. 29-40
Relation of the being and attributes	7-8pm		Berkhof, pp. 41-46
Names	8-9pm		Berkhof, pp. 47-51
Attributes	6-7pm	Oct 2	Berkhof, pp. 52-56 Calvin, 1.11-12, pp. 99-119
Incommunicable attributes	7-8pm		Berkhof, pp. 57-63
Communicable attributes	8-9pm		Berkhof, pp. 64-81
Communicable attributes, cont.	6-7pm	Oct 9	<u>MID-TERM END OF MATERIAL</u>
Trinity	7-8pm		<u>BEGIN MATERIAL FOR FINAL EXAM</u> Berkhof, pp. 82-99 Calvin, 1.13, pp. 120-58 WCF 2
Trinity, cont.	8-9pm		
Trinity, cont.	6-7pm	Oct 16	
Divine decrees	7-8pm		Berkhof, pp. 100-08 Carson, <i>Divine Sovereignty</i> , pp. 1-40, 125-222. WCF 3
Divine decrees, cont.	8-9pm		
Predestination	6-7pm	Oct 23	<u>MID-TERM DUE</u>

			Berkhof, pp. 109-18 Calvin, 3.21-24, pp. 920-86
Predestination, cont.	7-8pm		
Covenant of Redemption	8-9pm		Berkhof, pp. 265-71
Creation	6-7pm	Oct 30	Berkhof, pp. 126-40
Creation of the Spiritual world	7-8pm		Berkhof, pp. 141-49
Creation of the material world	8-9pm		Berkhof, pp. 150-64 Calvin, 1.14, pp. 159-82
Creation-intro	6-7pm	Nov 6	WCF 4
Creation-intro	7-8pm		
Creation-Gen 1.1	8-9pm		
Creation-Days 1-3	6-7pm	Nov 13	
Creation-Days 4-6	7-8pm		
Creation-Day 6	8-9pm		
Creation-Day 7	6-7pm	Nov 27	
Providence	7-8pm		Berkhof, pp. 165-80 Calvin, 1.16-18, pp. 197-238 WCF 5
Providence, cont	8-9pm		
Buffer	6-7pm	Dec 4	
Buffer	7-8pm		
Buffer	8-9pm		<u>FINAL EXAM DISTRIBUTED</u>