Systematic Theology Survey Part II
2ST5012

Reformed Theological Seminary - Orlando
Tuesday mornings 8:30 – 10:30am
Spring Semester, 2005
Office Hours: By appointment
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PURPOSE

To understand and wrestle with the major doctrines of the Christian faith in light of the unique challenges and context of Christian counseling.

OBJECTIVES

At the completion of this course, students will:
1. More fully value the importance of systematic theology
2. Be able to articulate the importance of systematic theology
3. Be able to articulate a Reformed and evangelical understanding of the doctrines covered in the class.
4. Be able to connect the importance and usefulness of these doctrines to human struggle and suffering.

FORMAT

Teaching will include lecture, discussion, and video and visual aids where applicable.

REQUIRED TEXTS

1. Grudem, Wayne. Systematic Theology
2. Edwards, Jonathon. Religious Affections

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Students will strive to be present (physically-emotionally-spiritually) and participate actively throughout class presentations and discussions. Differing perspectives and questions will not be ignored, but are encouraged to be shared with the whole class. Discussion will be a major component of the class.
2. Short Paper – Due on the last day of finals. Based on your reading of the texts and class discussions, you will write a 5-8 page paper covering the following questions: [students are encouraged to interact and research together, but write independent of one another]
   a. What was Edwards responding to?
   b. How did he respond?
c. Did he do a good job?
d. Is there a similar problem [suspicion of emotion/hyper-intellectual faith] in the church today? How and where?
e. How would you articulate the balance between emotion and intellect today? Is Edwards helpful? How?

3. Final Exam – You will be required to write short essays responding to class discussions and reading related to the following issues:

a. Soteriology – What is it? How does it impact counseling?
b. Ecclesiology – What is it? How does it impact counseling?
c. Eschatology – What is it? How does it impact counseling?

READING ASSIGNMENTS and CLASS SCHEDULE

Spring Semester, 2005

January 31 Registration
February 1 Introduction – What is Systematic Theology? Why Study It?
February 8 Grudem Chs. 26, 27 – Jesus, His Life and Death
February 15 Grudem Chs. 28, 29 – Jesus, His Resurrected Life
February 22 Grudem Ch. 30 – The Holy Spirit
March 1 Grudem Ch. 31 – Common Grace
March 8 Grudem Chs. 32-34 – God’s Love in Choosing Us
March 15 Spring Break, March 14th-18th – Read Edwards, Religious Affections
March 22 Grudem Chs. 35-37 – Freedom and Family
March 29 Grudem Chs. 38, 39 – How People Grow
April 5 Grudem Chs. 40-42 – Life After Death
April 12 Grudem Ch. 43 – Union with Christ
April 19 Grudem Chs. 44-46 – What is the Church?
April 26 Grudem Chs. 47, 48 – How the Church Runs and Who Leads
May 3 Grudem Chs. 49-51 – The Means of Grace [What Clients Really Need]
May 10 Grudem Chs. 52, 53 – The Gifts of the Spirit
May 11 Grudem Chs. 54-57 – The Hope We Give Our Clients
May 16 Final Exams: May 16, 17, 18 & 19

GRADING SCALE

Listed below are the assignments that will determine your final course grade.

Class Participation and Attendance 30 points
Paper 30 points
Final Exam 40 points

A (97-100), A- (94-96), B+ (91-93), B (88-90), B- (86-87), C+ (83-85), C (80-82), C- (78-79),
D+ (75-77), D (72-74), D- (70-71), F (below 70)

ACADEMIC STANDARDS

If you should miss a class, you are expected to contact another student regarding the information
covered.

All assignments will be due on the date specified in the syllabus. For each day a paper is late, 2
points will be deducted from the score of the assignment. Papers may be emailed to me at
cdegroat@willowcreekchurch.org.

Plagiarism/cheating will result in the failure of the course.

Format for the clinical assessment: Staple the paper in the upper left corner. DO NOT use a
binder of any sort. Use a cover page with your name and the page number in the running head.
Use a 12-point, black ink, Times New Roman font, double-spaced with 1” margins all around.
Use headings from the outline above to organize your paper. The cover page is to look like this: