

Advanced Theology

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is designed to expose students to a variety of detailed theological discussions and to equip them to evaluate, synthesize and clearly communicate complex material to a lay audience. In the process of completing the assignments for this course, students will create lessons suitable for adult curriculum.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon successful completion of this course you should be able to:

- Display an understanding of a variety of complex theological issues and the implications of alternate views
- Articulate an evangelical Christian position on theological issues
- Defend your theological position from Scripture
- Clearly communicate complex issues at a level understandable to the average lay person

COURSE MATERIALS

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS:

Stanley Grenz and Roger Olson, *Who Needs Theology? An Invitation to the Study of God*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1996.

H. Orton Wiley, *Christian Theology*, 3 volumes. Kansas City: Beacon Hill Press, 1952.
ISBN 0834118319 This set is also available for free online at
http://wesley.nnu.edu/holiness_tradition/wiley/index.htm.

A copy of the current *Wesleyan Discipline*. If you do not have a copy of the current Discipline borrow one, or photocopy from the Discipline the “Articles of Religion”

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Assigned Reading: You will be responsible for reading all of the required reading. Reading must be completed before the class begins.

Read *Who needs Theology? An invitation to the Study of God* and write a one page book review.

Read chapters 1-6 (pages 1-166) of volume one of *Christian Theology* and the appropriate chapters to complete your assignments below.

2. Classroom Instruction: You will be responsible to participate in classroom discussions and assignments.

3. Written Project: Write 2 teaching lessons, suitable for adult study, on two separate theological issues of your choice from the list provided. Each lesson should be approximately 3-4 pages, typed in 12-point type, double-spaced, with one-inch margins. Work must be original and reflect your mastery of the appropriate chapters in the textbook. Lessons should begin with a Scripture passage for study, an analysis of the theological problem presented in the passage, questions to help the student explore the implications of various theological positions, an examination of supporting biblical evidence, and conclusions. One teaching lesson must be completed before the beginning of the class. You should be prepared to present your lesson to the entire class for discussion. The second teaching lesson is due three weeks from the end of class.

4. Final Project: Submit a typed list of 5-20 insights gleaned from your study — information you found interesting, something new you learned that impacted your understanding of a theological issue, or significant insights that affected you personally. This paper should be one page maximum and is due three weeks from the end of the class.

COURSE CALENDAR

The course is scheduled for November 10-12, 2011, at the Zephyrhills Wesleyan Church. Class hours will be 1:00 to 8:00pm on Thursday, 8:00am to 8:00pm on Friday, and 8:00pm to 12:00pm on Saturday. All course work is to be completed and submitted to the instructor by midnight on December 4, 2011. The course calendar has been approved by the Florida District Ministerial Institute and the Zephyrhills Wesleyan Church.

COURSE INSTRUCTOR

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