



LEAVELL COLLEGE

NEW ORLEANS BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Special Topics in Theology and Historical Studies (Defend): LCTH4346 January 6-10, 2020 (203)

Dr. Jeffrey Farmer

Assoc. Professor Church Ministry and Evangelism
504-282-4455 ext. 8227

Hardin 215

jfarmer@nobts.edu

The mission of Leavell College of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary is to equip leaders to fulfill the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.

CORE VALUE

Each academic year, a core value is emphasized. This academic year, the core value is *Spiritual Vitality*. “We are a worshipping community emphasizing both personal spirituality and gathering together as a Seminary family for the praise and adoration of God and instruction in His Word.”

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The purpose of this course is to examine barriers to Christian faith as well as efforts to provide convincing presentations of the Christian faith. Attention is given to biblical foundations, historical development, apologetic method, and contemporary issues related to apologetics.

Prerequisite: None

GENERAL EDUCATION COMPETENCIES (GECs)

Leavell College has identified four General Education Competencies, which are indicated in the Leavell College catalog.

This course addresses GECs #1 and #3.

PROGRAM STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (PSLOs)

Leavell College offers four BA degrees and four AA degrees. For each degree program, the faculty has identified specific Student Learning Outcomes for the degrees. For a description of the specific SLOs and their abbreviations by degree, consult the Leavell College catalog.

This course addresses PSLO #3.

COURSE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (CSLOs)

At the conclusion of the semester, the student will:

1. Understand the importance of intellectual accountability in relation to issues of ultimate concern to Christian faith.
2. Apply their knowledge and comprehension of how to defend and support Christian belief to academic and ministerial issues.
3. Communicate the Christian faith in a reasonable and attractive form to skeptics and other non-Christians.

COURSE TEXTS

- Holy Bible. You may bring any reliable, modern translation.
- Bowman, Robert and J. Ed Komoszewski. *Putting Jesus in His Place: The Case for the Deity of Christ*. Grand Rapids: Kregel Publications, 2007.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Lecture Attendance

Student must attend all sessions of the Defend the Faith Christian Apologetics Conference, January 6-10, 2020. Student must affirm that he/she has completed this by submitting a statement affirming attendance or detailing which sessions were missed. This assignment relates to PSLO #3, and CSLOs #1, #2 and #3.

2. Session Summaries

Student will write a one page summary of 12 different Plenary/breakout sessions from the Defend the Faith Christian Apologetics Conference. Summaries are due 8 weeks after the conclusion of the Defend the Faith Apologetics Conference (March 8, 2019). This assignment relates to GEC #3, PSLO #3, and CSLOs #1, #2 and #3.

3. Book Review

Student will read and review *Putting Jesus in His Place: The Case for the Deity of Christ*, by Robert Bowman and Ed Komoszewski. Reviews should contain the following sections: author information, overview of content, an assessment of author's purpose and the degree of fulfillment, and a critical evaluation of the book (4-5 double-spaced pages in Times New Roman 12-point font). Book reviews are due 6 weeks after the conclusion of the Defend the Faith Apologetics Conference (February 21, 2020). This assignment relates to GEC #3, BACM PSLO #3, BAM PSLO #3, and CSLO #1, #2 and #3.

4. Research Paper

The student is required to submit a research paper on a topic related to Christian Apologetics (e.g., science and faith, a non-Christian religion, atheism, arguments for the existence of God, the problem of evil, the reliability of Scripture, and/or miracles, the resurrection of Jesus, etc.). Research paper must follow Turabian format (8-12 double-spaced pages plus bibliography). Research papers are due 10 weeks after the conclusion of the Defend the Faith Apologetics Conference (March 21, 2020). This assignment relates to GEC #3, PSLO #3, and CSLOs #1, #2 and #3.

COURSE EVALUATION

Lecture Attendance	5%
Session Summaries	25%
Book Review	30%
<u>Research Paper</u>	<u>40%</u>
Total	100%

ADDITIONAL COURSE INFORMATION

1. Academic Honesty Policy: All students, whether on-campus, Internet, or extension center students, are expected to adhere to the highest Christian standard of honesty and integrity when completing academic assignments for all courses in every delivery system format. The Bible provides our standard for academic integrity and honesty. This standard applies whether a student is taking tests or quizzes, writing papers, answering Discussion Board prompts, or completing any other course requirement.
2. Attendance Policy: Leavell College follows the attendance policy as stated in the Leavell College catalog.
3. Electronic Devices: Electronic devices should be used only for classroom purposes as indicated by the professor.
4. Emergency Plan: In the event the NOBTS schedule is impacted due to a natural event, go to the seminary's website for pertinent information. Class will continue as scheduled through the Blackboard site. Please note announcements and assignments on the course's Blackboard site.
5. Policy for Late Submissions: ***No late work will be accepted.***
6. Classroom and Online Decorum: Each student is expected to demonstrate appropriate Christian behavior. The student is expected to interact with other students in a fashion that will promote learning and respect for the opinions of the others in the course. A spirit of Christian charity is expected at all times.
7. Plagiarism Policy: A high standard of personal integrity is expected of all Leavell College students. Copying another person's work, submitting downloaded material without proper references, submitting material without properly citing the source, submitting the same material for credit in more than one course, and committing other such forms of dishonesty are strictly forbidden. *Although anything cited in three sources is considered public domain, we require that all sources be cited.* Any infraction may result in failing the assignment and the course. Any infraction will be reported to the Dean of Leavell College for further action.
8. Special Needs: If you need accommodations for a disability, please set up a meeting with the professor for consideration of any modifications you may need.
9. Technical Assistance: For general NOBTS technical help, go to www.NOBTS.edu/itc/.

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Akin, Daniel, ed. *A Theology for the Church*. Nashville: B&H, 2007.
- Allen, David L., Eric Hankins and Adam Harwood, ed. *Anyone Can Be Saved: A Defense of "Traditional" Southern Baptist Soteriology*. Alexandria, LA: Message Books, Forthcoming.
- Allen, David L. and Steve W. Lemke, ed. *Whosever Will: A Biblical-Theological Critique of Five-Point Calvinism*. Nashville: B&H Academic, 2010.
- Bass, Christopher D. *That You May Know: Assurance of Salvation in 1 John*. Nashville: B&H Academic, 2008.
- Clendenen, E. Ray and Brad J. Waggoner, ed. *Calvinism: A Southern Baptist Dialogue*. Nashville: B&H Academic, 2008.
- Blocher, Henri. *Original Sin: Illuminating the Riddle*. New Studies in Biblical Theology 5. Edited by D. A. Carson. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1997.
- Bock, Darrell. *Studying the Historical Jesus*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2002.
- Clark, David K. *To Know and Love God: Method for Theology*. In *Foundations of Evangelical Theology*, ed. John S. Feinberg. Wheaton: Crossway, 2003.
- Dagg, J. L. *A Manual of Theology*. First published 1857. Harrisonburg, VA: Gano, 1990.
- Dockery, David. *Christian Scripture: An Evangelical Perspective on Inspiration, Authority and Interpretation*. Eugene, OR: Wipf & Stock, 2004.
- Driscoll, Mark and Gerry Breshears. *Vintage Jesus*. Wheaton: Crossway, 2011.
- Erickson, Millard J. *What Does God Know and When Does He Know It?: The Current Controversy over Divine Foreknowledge*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2006.
- Fee, Gordon and Douglas Stuart. *How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2003.
- Grillmeier, Aloys. *Christ in Christian Tradition*. 2 Vol. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 1988.
- Hanson, R. P. C. *The Search for the Christian Doctrine of God*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2006.
- Henry, Carl F. H. *God, Revelation and Authority*. 6 Vols. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 1999.
- Hoekema, Anthony. *Created in God's Image*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1986.
- Kärkkäinen, Veli-Matti. *Doctrine of God: A Global Introduction*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2004.

- Keathley, Kenneth. *Salvation and Sovereignty: A Molinist Approach*. Nashville: B&H Academic, 2010.
- _____. "The Work of God: Salvation." In *A Theology for the Church*, edited by Daniel L. Akin, 686–764. Nashville: B&H Academic, 2007.
- McDonald, Lee Martin. *Formation of the Bible: The Story of the Church's Canon*. Peabody, MA: Hendricksen, 2012.
- Murray, Abdu H. *Grand Central Question: Answering the Critical Concerns Of the Major Worldviews*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2014.
- Need, Stephen W. *Truly Divine and Truly Human: The Story of Christ and the Seven Ecumenical Councils*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2008.
- Plantinga, Cornelius. *Not the Way It's Supposed to Be: A Breviary of Sin*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1995.
- Prothero, Stephen. *God is Not One: The Eight Rival Religions that Run the World*. New York: Harper Collins, 2010.
- Smith, David L. *With Willful Intent: A Theology of Sin*. Eugene, OR: Wipf & Stock, 2003.
- Stott, John. *The Incomparable Christ*. Downers Grove: IVP, 2001.
- Strobel, Lee. *The Case for Christ*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2000.
- Tiessen, Terrance. *Providence & Prayer: How Does God Work in the World?* Downers Grove: IVP Academic, 2000.
- Wise, Kurt. *Faith, Form, and Time: What the Bible Teaches and Science Confirms about Creation and the Age of the Universe*. Nashville: B&H, 2002.
- Wright, N. T. *Scripture and the Authority of God: How to Read the Bible Today*. San Francisco: HarperOne, 2011.