



LEAVELL COLLEGE

NEW ORLEANS BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

CMCM 3373: Christian Apologetics Institute

January 8-12, 2018

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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 *Mission Focus*. “*We are not here merely to get an education or to give one. We are here to change the world by fulfilling the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.*”

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.

Student Learning Outcomes

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.
- Brooks, Christopher. *Urban Apologetics: Why the Gospel is Good News for the City*. Grand Rapids: Kregel Publications, 2014.

Course Requirements and Grading

1. **Lecture Attendance.** Student must attend all sessions of the Defend the Faith Christian Apologetics Conference. Student must affirm that he/she has completed this by submitting a statement affirming attendance or detailing which sessions were missed.
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 9, 2018).**
3. **Book Review** (4-5 double-spaced pages in Times New Roman 12-point font). Student will read and review *Grand Central Question: Answering the Critical Concerns of the Major Worldviews*, by Abdu H. Murray. 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. **Book reviews are due 6 weeks after the conclusion of the Defend the Faith Apologetics Conference (February 23, 2018).**
4. **Research Paper** (8-12 double-spaced pages plus bibliography). 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. **Research papers are due 10 weeks after the conclusion of the Defend the Faith Apologetics Conference (March 23, 2018).**

Course Evaluation

Lecture Attendance	5%
Session Summaries	25%
Book Review	30%
Research Paper	40%
Total	100%

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.
- Bloch, 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.