

Pastoral Theology 1

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Course Description:

This course provides an introduction to the doctrines of the Christian Church, focusing on the nature of revelation in the Bible and the nature of God and Jesus Christ. The course approaches theology from an inductive study of the Bible, helping the student learn to think theologically from the Scriptures, orthodox ecumenical tradition, experience, and reason.

Required Texts:

Johnson, A. and R. Webber. What Christians Believe. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1993.
Barth, Karl. Dogmatics in Outline. New York: Harper and Row, 1959.

Required Text (One of the following texts is to be reviewed by the student):

Beisner, E. Calvin. God in Three Persons. Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House, 1978.

ISBN: 0-8423-1073-8

Bowman, Robert M., Jr. Why You Should Believe in the Trinity. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 1994. ISBN: 0-8010-0981-2

Erickson, Millard J. Making Sense of the Trinity. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 2000.

Kruger, C. Baxter. The Great Dance: The Christian Vision Revisited. Vancouver, B.C., Regent College Publishing, 2000. ISBN: 1-57383-345-2

Student Learning Outcomes: Students will:

1. Develop and express an understanding of Christ's worldview through inductive study of his teaching as it informs our theology.
2. Develop and express an understanding of the Christian worldview of the early church in matters of theology on the nature of God.
3. Express theological understanding about God, Jesus, self, and Christian responsibility.

Course Objectives

- 1) To understand the importance of theology and its place in the Christian life.
- 2) To develop the ability to reflect intelligently about one's faith in order to better apply Christian teaching to personal life and to enable one to give a more coherent account of one's convictions (learning to think theologically).
- 3) To grasp the fundamental questions of God's existence which faith addresses and which Christian theology seeks to answer.
- 4) To introduce students to the Biblical foundation, historical development, and essential nature of basic Christian doctrines on the nature of the biblical revelation and the nature of God and Jesus Christ.
- 5) To learn to read, analyze, and evaluate a particular theological position.

Course Requirements

Review of text on the Trinity.....	100
Paper 1: What is the Bible?	100
Paper 2: Who is God?	100
Paper 3: Who is Jesus?	100
Karl Barth Book Review	100
Total.....	<hr/> 500

Pastoral Theology 1 Course Topics

1. Nature of Theology and Revelation
2. Nature of Biblical Revelation
3. Biblical Development and Canonization
4. Nature of God: Names of God
5. Nature of God: Belief Statements of Worldwide Church of God
6. Nature of God: Biblical Record
7. Nature of the Trinity: Early Church Fathers and Apologists
8. Nature of Christ: Early Church Development
9. Nature of Christ:
10. Nature of the Holy Spirit