

**WBUonline**

**SCHOOL OF CHRISTIAN STUDIES**

**Wayland Mission Statement:** Wayland Baptist University exists to educate students in an academically challenging, learning-focused, and distinctively Christian environment for professional success, and service to God and humankind.

**Course Title and Number:** THST 5352 Historical Theology

**Term:** Spring 1 2022 – Directed Study

**Instructor:** Stephen M. Stookey. Ph.D.

**Office Phone Number and WBU Email Address:**

Office Phone: 809-291-1165

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**Office Hours, Building, and Location:**

Office: Flores Bible Building (FBB) 104

Hours: M 2:00 PM – 5:00 PM; W 8:30 AM – 10:30 AM; Th 2:00 PM – 5:00 PM (By Appointment); F 8:30 AM – 10:30 AM (By Appointment)

**Class Meeting Time and Location:** Asynchronous online delivery

NOTE: Each week begins on Monday and ends on Sunday (Saturday in Week 8). Time is per Central Time Zone (Plainview, TX time). Assignments are due by close the day (11:59 PM Central Time) per syllabus and as updated within Blackboard.

**Catalog Description:** Research in the theological developments of the church from the New Testament period to the contemporary era.

Prerequisites: None

**Textbook(s) and/or Resource Material:**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Title | Editor/Author | Publisher | Ed | Year | ISBN |
| *Theology of the Reformers*  Listed as “TG “in Course Schedule | Timothy George | B&H Academic | Rev.  Ed. | 2013 | 978-0805401950 |
| *Historical Theology: An Introduction to the History of Christian Thought*  Listed as “AM “in Course Schedule | Alister McGrath | John Wiley & Sons | 2 | 2013 | Print ISBN: 9780470672860, 0470672862  eText ISBN: 9781118234426, 1118234421 |

Class handouts listed in tentative schedule and posted to Blackboard.

Your course registration includes an eBook - a digital textbook you paid for.  You access it by clicking on the link within the Blackboard course.

If you wish to purchase a print textbook from another source, you may do so.

* Spring 1 - you must opt out of the eBook no later than date set by WBU Bookstore or you will be charged the cost of the eBook.

For the best viewing experience use Chrome or Firefox browser.  Internet Explorer will NOT work. Edge will work fine.

Optional Materials:

* Justo L. Gonzalez, *A History of Christian Thought*, Vols. 1-3, 2nd ed., Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 1987.
* Justo L. Gonzalez, *The Story of Christianity*, Vols. 1 & 2, 2nd ed., San Francisco, HarperOne, 2014.
* Alister E. McGrath, *Historical Theology: An Introduction to the History of Christian Thought*, 2nd ed., Wiley-Blackwell, 2012.
* Alister E. McGrath, *The Christian Theology Reader*, 4th ed., Wiley-Blackwell, 2011.
* Roger E. Olson, *The Story of Christian Theology*, IVP, 1999.
* Stanley Porter and Steven Studebaker, eds, *Evangelical Theological Method: Five Views*, IVP, 2018.
* The Bible, any standard translation
* See Blackboard for recommended bibliography and additional supplemental resources.

Course Outcome Competencies: The student will

1. identify the significant contributions of major theologians and movements to the history of Christian thought.
2. discuss the key issues involved in major theological debates and schools of thought.
3. demonstrate an understanding of the impact of history and culture upon the development of Christian doctrines.
4. demonstrate graduate-level research and writing in the discipline of historical theology.

**Attendance Requirements:**

As stated in the Wayland Catalog, students enrolled at one of the University’s external campuses should make every effort to attend all class meetings. All absences must be explained to the instructor, who will then determine whether the omitted work may be made up. When a student reaches that number of absences considered by the instructor to be excessive, the instructor will so advise the student and file an unsatisfactory progress report with the campus executive director. Any student who misses 25 percent or more of the regularly scheduled class meetings may receive a grade of F in the course. Additional attendance policies for each course, as defined by the instructor in the course syllabus, are considered a part of the University’s attendance policy.

This course will meet via Blackboard to engage in discussions and learning tasks related to the assigned reading material and projects for that week. Students are expected to have read the assigned materials to be involved in the online learning environment. Students will be expected to facilitate and engage in these discussions around papers and projects that are assigned to them. Non-participation is treated like absences in a traditional class.

**Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty:**

[WBU Catalog on plagiarism & academic dishonesty](http://catalog.wbu.edu/content.php?catoid=7&navoid=446)

Wayland Baptist University observes a zero-tolerance policy regarding academic dishonesty. Per university policy as described in the academic catalog, all cases of academic dishonesty will be reported, and second offenses will result in suspension from the university.

**Disability Statement:** “In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), it is the policy of Wayland Baptist University that no otherwise qualified person with a disability be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any educational program or activity in the university. The Coordinator of Counseling Services serves as the coordinator of students with a disability and should be contacted concerning accommodation requests at (806) 291- 3765. Documentation of a disability must accompany any request for accommodations.”

**Course Requirements and Grading Criteria:**

Course Requirements

* Participation/Discussion Boards (10%) – Course Outcomes 1, 2, 3:

Each student is a valuable member of the class, contributing to the overall learning experience through attendance and participation in dialogue. Students are expected to comport themselves in a manner befitting graduate education. The primary means of participation in this online course exists with the assigned Discussion Board topics as noted within Tentative Schedule and course Blackboard content.

*NOTE: Directed Study Format—Weekly dialogue sessions with the course instructor will replace Discussion Board Assignments.*

Students are expected to engage in scholarly, informed dialogue. Graduate students are expected to bring informed positions to classroom discussions. When addressing topics of concern or controversy, students should (1) effort to understand the concepts/ideas in question, (2) glean knowledge/insight from the concepts under consideration, and (3) practice scholarly, reasoned criticism and constructive civil. Students should also make sure all comments or questions pertain to the subject matter under consideration.

* Research Project (25%) – Course Outcomes 2, 3, 4:

Each student will submit a research paper analyzing a significant topic in historical theology (within the date range of 100 CE to 2000 CE). The Research Project is due by the close of Week 7.

*NOTE: Directed Study Format—Student will discuss research project process with instructor during weekly dialogue sessions.*

Research Project: Analysis of a significant topic in historical theology.

Each student will submit a typed, double-spaced research paper analyzing a significant topic within historical theology (12-15 pages plus front matter and bibliography), prepared according to SRP style guidelines (latest edition of Turabian). The paper’s primary subject should fall within the date range of 100 CE to 2000 CE. The paper should utilize appropriate, relevant research material—biblical, theological, historical, sociological, and philosophical. The paper should assess the importance and complexity of the issue. Avoid unscholarly websites, popular magazines, review articles, and survey texts unless approved by the professor. Complete instructions and grading matrix for the research assignment are posted in Blackboard.

Research Proposal

* + Each student will submit a typed, one-page project proposal by the close of Week 2 via Blackboard submission link. This proposal should include the following information:
* Student’s name, Course number
* Working title of research paper.
* Working thesis & brief research proposal (scope and approach)—one or two paragraphs maximum.
* Beginning bibliography (see a style manual if you are unclear) on a minimum of 12 scholarly sources as a starting point for your research.
  + Points will be deducted from your final paper if the research paper proposal is not submitted on time.
* Book Analyses (15%) – Course Outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4:

Graduate students will read and analyze two textbooks as listed in the course syllabus. Analyses will be posted in Blackboard for class discussion.

* + Analysis– *Theology of the Reformers* – A critical analysis of Timothy George’s, *Theology of the Reformers*   
    Students will submit a minimum 1-page, single-spaced position paper analyzing George’s presentation on one of the theologians featured in the text, as assigned by the professor—Luther, Zwingli, Calvin, Simons, or Tyndale. Analysis will be submitted via Discussion Board. (Due: Thursday of Week 6)
* **Examinations (50%)– Course Outcomes 1, 2, 3:**

There will be two exams during the semester as listed in the course schedule—Weeks 4 and 8.

Each exam is final over the material covered, unless otherwise noted in class. These essay exams will compose 50% of the total course grade, demonstrating the student’s ability to synthesize and analyze course material from class lectures and assigned readings. Make-up exams will be given only in case of genuine emergency; make-up exams must be completed within two weeks of the scheduled exam.

*NOTE: Directed Study Format—Exams will be offered in oral exam format via Zoom. If student needs accommodation per medical notification acceptable alternative exam method(s) will be employed. Time to be scheduled with instructor.*

Course Evaluation (Method of Determining Grade):

* University Grading System

A 90-100

B 80-89

C 70-79

D 60-69

F Below 60

I Incomplete

W Withdrawal

WP Withdrawal Passing

WF Withdrawal Failing

* Computation of final grade: A course grade is determined by assigning a percentage to each assignment or group of assignments. Numerical course average is changed to a letter grade according to the grading system in the Academic Catalog.
  + Participation 10%
  + Research paper 25%
  + Book Analyses 15%
  + Examinations (25% per exam) 50%

Students shall have protection through orderly procedures against prejudices or capricious academic evaluation. A student who believes that he or she has not been held to realistic academic standards, just evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course by using the student grade appeal process described in the Academic Catalog. Appeals may not be made for advanced placement examinations or course bypass examinations. Appeals are limited to the final course grade, which may be upheld, raised, or lowered at any stage of the appeal process. Any recommendation to lower a course grade must be submitted through the Executive Vice President/Provost to the Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee for review and approval. The Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee may instruct that the course grade be upheld, raised, or lowered to a more proper evaluation.

**Tentative Schedule:**

Required textbook readings are indicated by author's last name and page or chapter numbers.

Class outlines will be posted in Blackboard.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Date | Topic | Expectations |
| Week 1 | INTRO TO HISTORICAL THEOLOGY  EARLY CHURCH  Primitive Christianity – Apostolic Fathers  Apologetics  Heresy & Orthodoxy | Syllabus  AM: xii-76: Intro-Ch. 1  Discussion Board |
| Week 2 | Christology & Ecumenical Councils  Post-Nicene Christianity | AM: xii-76: Intro-Ch. 1  Discussion Board  Research Proposal Due (Sun.) |
| Week 3 | MEDIEVAL CHURCH  Mission, Monasticism, & Magisterium  Eastern Orthodoxy | AM: 77-123: Ch. 2  TG:  Discussion Board |
| Week 4 | Faith & Understanding: Anselm & Abelard  Aquinas & Scholasticism | AM: 77-123: Ch. 2  TG:  **Exam 1 due (Sun.)** |
| Week 5 | RENAISSANCE & REFORMATION(s)  Renaissance  Martin Luther  Zwingli & Reformed Tradition  Radical Theologies (Anabaptists & the Radical Reformation) | AM: 77-123: Ch. 3  TG:  Discussion Board |
| Week 6 | John Calvin & Reformed Tradition(s)  English Reformation(s)  Catholic Reforms | AM: 77-123: Ch. 3  TG:  **Book Analysis 2 Due (Thur.)** |
| Week 7 | MODERN CHRISTIANITY  Reason & Reactions:  17th & 18th century Christianity  19th Century Theology | AM: 124-270: Ch. 4  **Research Paper Due (Sun.)**  Discussion Board |
| Week 8 | 20th & 21st Century Theology | AM: 124-270: Ch. 4  Exam 2 due by close of Saturday |

**Additional Information:** Please see Blackboard for assignment descriptions, grading rubrics, handouts, additional course resources, and regular course updates.

God has shown you, O mortal, what is good.  
    And what does the Lord require of you?  
To act justly and to love mercy  
    and to walk humbly with your God.

Micah 6:8 (NIV)