

GST 613 Systematic Theology 3

Fall 2021 Online A Session

Instructor name: **Dr. Daniel Stevens**

Instructor contact info: daniel.stevens@mbu.edu

Requirements

I. Course Texts

Millard J. Erickson. Christian Theology. Grand Rapids: Baker Publishing Group, 2013.

II. Course Description

A systematic study of the doctrines of Anthropology, Hamartiology and Soteriology in the Old and New Testaments. (3 credit hours)

III. MBU Institutional Outcomes supported by this course:

- A. Written Communication. Students will write correctly and cohesively with compelling argumentation.
- B. Critical Analysis. Students will evaluate concepts from a biblical worldview with logical reasoning and intellectual honesty.
- C. Cultural Awareness. Students will respond to the dynamics of culture with discernment while showing respect to all people as image-bearers of God.
- D. Biblical Interpretation. Students will interpret Scripture using the historical-grammatical method with careful attention to the immediate and broad biblical context.
- E. Doctrinal Defense. Students will defend the historic fundamentals of the faith

IV. Course Goals

*Upon successful completion of the course, the student should be able to:

- A. Understand the biblical teaching concerning man, his origin, nature, sin, and resultant fall
- B. Understand the biblical teaching concerning sin, its nature, the depravity it brings on the human race, its effects on mankind, and its penalty
- C. Study the biblical teaching on God's plan of salvation
- D. Establish an order in the salvation event, and to seek to comprehend as much as the finite mind is capable of the purposes and grace of God in salvation
- E. Study and understand some of the important theological issues related to man, sin, and salvation
- F. Deal with those issues as they relate to pastoral ministry, preaching, teaching, and discipleship
- G. See the centrality of God and His glory in all the component parts of salvation

V. Course Objectives: By the end of this class the student will be able to...

- A. Articulate the biblical teaching on the doctrines of anthropology, hamartiology, and soteriology
- B. Discuss knowledgably the major issues relating to these various doctrines
- C. Recognize and refute aberrations and heresies which have developed in relationship to these three major biblical doctrines

VI. Course Requirements

A. Reading (15%)

1. You will read a total of 1,000 pages of graduate level material relative to the doctrines of Man, Sin, and Salvation. You may include your [1] textbook (about 300 pages), [2] reading for the theologian summary, and [3] research for your paper (course notes do not count toward 1,000 pages).
2. Use the Course Reading Report template on the Course Notes & Handouts page to keep track of your reading. This report should indicate the author, title (if a journal, title of article, name of journal, issue number and date), beginning and ending page numbers, and total number of pages from this source. Give a final total number of pages of all reading.

B. Research Paper (20%)

1. You will write a 15-20 page paper dealing with one aspect of Anthropology, Hamartiology, or Soteriology. Indicate the question you are addressing, the biblical theology of the issue, the response to that question throughout church history, the current issues revolving around that issue, and finally your theology on the issue.
2. Read at least 400 pages of material in preparation for this paper. You must keep a record of your reading and turn it in with the paper.
3. You must have at least 20 sources, at least five of which must be journal articles.
4. You must follow standard seminary format for this paper.
5. Grading will be based on:
 - a) thoroughness of research
 - b) comprehension of the doctrine and problems related to it historically
 - c) accuracy in representing positions and opinions
 - d) ability to express yourself clearly and succinctly

C. Theologian Summary (15%)

1. You will also select a theologian from the Bibliography for Theologian Summaries list in the Course Bibliography page
2. Submit your selection using the Theologian Summary Selection assignment in Week #2.
3. After reading his work on Soteriology, you will submit a summary of his theology particularly indicating his orthodoxy or non-orthodoxy on significant issues and analyzing his soteriology.

D. Personal Theology (20%)

1. You will write a Personal Theology, a statement of your beliefs concerning Man, Sin, and Salvation. Deal with the relevant issues in each particular doctrine. This should be longer than a church doctrinal statement, but shorter than your textbook.

E. Final Exam (20%)

1. The final exam is a two-hour, open-book/open-notes essay exam (five essay questions).
2. The general essay topics will be provided in the Final Exam assignment in Week #8. You will not know the actually essay questions until you start the test.

VII. Course Grading

A. Reading	15%
B. Theologian Summary	15%
C. Personal Theology	20%
D. Research Paper	20%
E. Discussion Forums	10%
F. Exam	20%

VIII. Grading Scale

95-100 A	92-94 A-	90-91 B+
85-89 B	82-84 B-	80-81 C+
75-79 C	72-74 C-	70-71 D+
65-69 D	60-64 D-	0-59 F

IX. Course Policies

- A. Late Work-All work is due at the beginning of the class for which it is assigned. All work is expected to be completed on time. Any work turned in after the due date will have its grade reduced by 4% per calendar day.
- B. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated in this course. Consult the section in the Seminary catalog regarding Academic and Intellectual Expectations for a description of academic dishonesty and appropriate penalties for violation.
- C. Academic Success Center. One source for academic help in any course is the Academic Success Center. If you require specific targeted academic help for any reason contact the Academic Success Center located in the Cedarholm Library. If you would like more

information regarding targeted academic help, please contact the Academic Success Center director at academicsuccess@mbu.edu.

- D. **ADA Policy.** The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, the law requires that all students with disabilities be given a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Academic Success Program Director, in the Library, (ph. 920/206-2340) or email academicsuccess@mbu.edu.
- E. **Library Services.** The *Maranatha Cedarholm Library* is committed to providing services to distance education students that are equivalent to residential students. Read about the library services that are available to you through Cedarholm Library. You can search the library resources by clicking on the Library link found under Quick Links on the sidebar in MyMaranatha.