

HC 321 – Baptist Beliefs & History
Course Syllabus
Southwest Virginia Christian Leadership Network
&
John Leland Center for Theological Studies
Spring 2012

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Class Meeting Place, Dates, and Time

Meeting Place: Powell River Baptist Association Building in Jonesville, VA

Dates: Each Thursday Evening from January 26- May 10, 2012.

Time: 6:30 – 9:20 PM

Course Description

This course is designed to provide the student with a survey of the history and heritage of the Baptist people. Included in this course will be a presentation of the doctrinal beliefs that Baptists embrace.

Course Objectives

As a result of enrollment, intense study, and participation, each class member will:

1. Develop an awareness of the historical circumstances surrounding the beginning of the Baptist movement.
2. Gain insight into the overall development of the Baptist movement.
3. Better understand and appreciate the rich heritage of the Baptist movement.
4. Develop an appreciation of the diversity which characterizes the Baptist denomination(s).
5. Identify, understand, and be better equipped to address the contemporary issues confronting Baptists as they engage in ministry and missions outreach.
6. Enhance and improve their ability to help others mature in the areas of bible study, leadership, ministry, and missions outreach.
7. Cultivate and integrate their learning experiences into the formation of a Christian worldview.

Required Texts

1. *Baptist Ways: A History*, Bill J. Leonard, Judson Press, 2003, ISBN 0-8170-1231-1
2. Copies of *The Baptist Faith & Message* from 1963 and 2000. (These are available on the Internet here: www.baptiststart.com/2000_1963_1925.htm).

3. Malcolm Hester. *Baptist Doctrine: An Historical Study* Pineville: Clear Creek Baptist Bible College. 2009 Edition This is available at the Clear Creek Baptist College bookstore and can be ordered by going to this website: <http://www.cbbbc.edu>
4. The Bible (your choice of a reputable translation)

CLASS SCHEDULE

Week 1	Jan. 26	Course Introduction, Syllabus Overview Discussion: What does being a Baptist mean to you?
Week 2	Feb. 2	Chapters 1 & 2: Baptist Ways & Beginnings Defining a People, The Historical Context Leonard, pgs. 1-43 Hester, pgs. 1-26 Discussion: Baptist Perspective
Week 3	Feb. 9	Chapters 3 & 5: English Baptists 17 th & 18 Centuries Leonard, pgs. 44-69, 90-111 Hester, pgs. 28-37 Discussion: Scripture
Week 4	Feb. 16	Chapter 4: Baptists in the United States: Beginnings Leonard, pgs. 70-89 Hester, pgs. 38-53 Discussion: God
Week 5	Feb. 23	Chapter 6: Baptists in the United States The 18 th Century Leonard, pgs. 112-138 Hester, pgs. 54-65 Discussion: Man Research Journal Check
Week 6	Mar. 1	Chapter 7: Baptists in Britain The 19 th Century Leonard, pgs. 139-157 Hester, pgs. 66-88 Discussion: Salvation
Week 7	Mar. 8	Chapter 8: Baptists in the United States 1800-1845 Leonard, 158-196 Hester, pgs. 89-104 Discussion: The Church

Week 8	Mar. 15	READING DAYS – NO CLASS
Week 9	Mar. 22	Chapter 9: Baptists in the United States 1845-1900 Leonard, pgs. 197-226 Hester, pgs. 105-126 Discussion: Last Things
Week 10	Mar. 29	Chapter 10: Baptists in the Americas & the Caribbean Leonard, pgs. 227-262 Hester, pgs. 127-132 Discussion: Family Research Journal Check
Week 11	Ap. 5	Chapters 11& 12: African American Baptists, Baptists in Greater Britain Leonard, pgs. 263-305 Hester, pgs. 133-139 Discussion: Evangelism and Missions
Week 12	Ap. 12	Chapter 13: Baptists in Europe Leonard, pgs. 306-336 Hester, pgs. 140-142 Discussion: Religious Liberty
Week 13	Ap. 19	Chapters 14-15: Baptists in Africa & Asia, the British Isles and Europe Leonard, pgs. 337-389 Discussion: Baptist Life
Week 14	Ap. 26	Chapter 16: Baptists in the United States – the 20 th Century Leonard, pgs. 390-418
Week 15	May 3	Papers to be presented in class: “Why I am a Baptist” Research Journal Check
Week 16	May 10	Review & Wrap-up

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Attendance – 15% of final grade. Students are expected to attend all class sessions. If for any reason it is not possible to attend a class, it is common courtesy to inform the instructor beforehand, or in case of an unavoidable emergency, at the earliest opportunity.

2. Reading – 15% of final grade. There will be regular reading assignments from the text, the Bible, and other sources in preparation for the class. Class participants are expected to do all of the assigned readings prior to each session and come to class prepared to critically discuss the main themes covered in their reading assignments. Students will be asked to affirm their completion of the reading at the end of the course.
3. In Class Participation – 20% of final grade.
4. Research Journal – 25% of final grade. An important on-going assignment for this course is a research journal. It is to be used on a regular basis and should focus on the topics of discussion that will begin with the 2nd week of class and end with the 13th week of class. The facilitator will check the journals periodically. As such, the student’s research journal should become one’s friend and treasury of insight in their journey of faith. In one’s time of journaling the integration of biblical teaching, theory, and practice occurs. As such, your research journal should be filled with golden nuggets of information that you have gathered and will utilize during our periods of discussion in the classroom setting each week. No minimum word count is established but each week’s entry should reflect a sincere reflection on the topic of the week including personal insights that establish that the ideas are being considered in a practical manner. Lesson or sermon ideas in rough form may be helpful to demonstrate that this is happening.
5. One final paper – 25% of final grade. Utilizing your reading, learning experiences from our class discussions, and your life experiences, you will write a paper on the subject: “Why I am a Baptist” that will be presented orally in class. The final paper should be 3 to 5 pages in length, double-spaced, and presented orally in the classroom setting and also is expected to be between 10 to 12 minutes in length. **The student is expected to present their final paper orally in class May 3rd.** The instructor will receive a paper copy of the paper.

*A copy of *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers (6th edition)* by Kate L. Turabian, University of Chicago Press, Chicago, Ill., 1996 is available for use by the students.

*All students are expected to familiarize themselves with *the plagiarism statement* on the following page.

THE SCHOLASTIC GRADING POLICY

A+	98 – 100	(4.3)	The student has demonstrated the mastery of the
A	95 – 97	(4.0)	material and its application.
A-	93 – 94	(3.7)	
B+	90 – 92	(3.3)	The student has demonstrated above average
B	87 – 89	(3.0)	mastery of the material and its application.
B-	85 – 86	(2.7)	
C+	82 – 84	(2.3)	The student has demonstrated the required mastery
C	79 – 81	(1.7)	of the material and its application.
C-	77 – 78	(1.7)	
D+	74 – 76	(1.3)	The student has demonstrated below average
D	71 – 73	(1.0)	mastery of the material and its application.
D-	69 – 70	(0.7)	

F	68 – below	(0.0)	The student has failed to master the material and its application.
P	Passing	WP	Withdrew Passing
I	Incomplete	WF	Withdrew Failing

PLAGIARISM

Academic integrity is an important part of the educational process. As such, honesty and accountability are vital to each student who truly wishes to learn and honor God in the process. With this in mind:

- Students are expected to write their own work. While students are encouraged to study and talk with fellow students and the instructor, each student must write their own assignments.
- If you borrow more than 3 or 4 words in a row from another source, it should be properly referenced using quotation marks and full bibliographic information, including page numbers. When you borrow ideas but not actual words, you may cite the source at your discretion to help your reader follow up on your writing.