



Nipawin Bible College
TH1013 Theology I: God and the Bible
Winter 2024
3 Credit Hours
Mr. Richard Friedt
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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides the foundation for further theological thinking by introducing and delighting in God and his revelation to humanity, especially through the Bible.

COURSE TEXTBOOKS

Grudem, Wayne. *Bible Doctrine: The Essential Teachings of the Christian Faith Second Edition*. Ed. Alexander Grudem. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2022.

Reeves, Michael. *Delighting in the Trinity: An Introduction to the Christian Faith*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2012.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of the course students will be able to...

1. Enter into a deeper love and worship of the one true God.
2. Cherish the Bible as God's special revelation to them.
3. Identify some of the key elements of an orthodox understanding of God and the Bible and explain their significance.
4. Defend the significance of the Trinity to their life and the life of the Church.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

Grudem Quizzes - 7 quizzes (20% total)

- As per the course schedule, quizzes covering material from the textbook will be given at the beginning of the class. (7 quizzes total).
- *Quizzes measure how well the student meets Course Objective 3.*

Due: See Course Schedule

Reeves Report - 20%

- Students will read *Delighting in the Trinity* and write a 4-page, double spaced review. The review should contain three elements: 1) A one-page summary of the book; 2) A two-page analysis of the book consisting of a thesis statement on a selected topic related to Reeve's Trinitarianism and a defense of that thesis

statement; 3) One-page containing application(s) to your life or the life of your church that connect to the reading.

- *Reeves Report will help assess how well the student meets Course Objectives 1, 3-4.*

Due: March 5, 2024

Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed - 10%

- All students will be required to memorize the Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed and reproduce it word for word. *The Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed will measure how well the student meets Course Objective 3.*

Due: March 26, 2024

Statement of Faith - 25%

- The student will develop a Statement of Faith paper on Trinitarianism. There are two distinct parts to the paper: 1) a Statement and 2) a Practical Implications Reflection.
 1. **The Statement** (3 full pages)
 - The student will develop a 3-page (not including endnotes) doctrinal synthesis paper on Trinitarianism. The student will summarize their doctrine of God using non-technical, but accurate, language that can be understood by non-Christians and new Christians. This Statement will cite a minimum of 25 biblical texts (Bible verses should not be quoted) and incorporate at least 10 other sources appropriate for a research paper such as journal articles, commentaries, or published theological works. Multiple sources from the same author will count as one source of the required ten sources.
 - Students will need to justify their interpretation of ambiguous passages and must give reasons for the position they take on controversial topics. (Citing a biblical passage or another source is NOT enough in these cases.)
 2. **The Practical Implications Reflection** (1 full page)
 - Students will integrate insights from the course material into their current or planned future life by giving personal, concrete applications.
 - *These reports measure how well the students meet Course Objectives 3 & 4.*

Due: March 28, 2024

Exam - 25%

- The exam will cover in-class material. The student may use a non-study Bible during the exam but have no other help.
- *The exam measures how well the student meets Course Objective 3.*

Due: Exam Week

NOTE: All written assignments are to be typed in accordance to the guidelines in Kate L. Turabian's *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, 9th ed. (Chicago, IL: The University of Chicago Press, 2018) for papers. **(See NBC Sample Paper.)** Assignments will be graded on the basis of content, clarity, grammar, and spelling.

Assignments will be due **at the beginning of class** on the day that they are assigned.

ATTENDANCE POLICY: Refer to the NBC Handbook 2023-2024

LATE ASSIGNMENT POLICY: Refer to the NBC Handbook 2023-2024

Reading: 297 pages

Writing: 8 pages

COURSE LECTURES AND ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE:

Date	Session Topic	Assignment Due
January 16	Introduction to Theology	
January 18	Bible and Revelation	
January 23	Bible and Revelation	
January 25	God	
February 1	The Character of God (1)	Grudem Quiz #1 - Chapter 3
February 6	The Character of God (2)	
February 8	The Trinity (1)	Grudem Quiz #2 - Chapters 4-5
February 13	The Trinity (2)	
February 15	Creation (1)	Grudem Quiz #3 - Chapter 6
February 27	Creation (2)	
February 29	God's Providence (1)	Grudem Quiz #4 - Chapter 7
March 5	God's Providence (2)	Reeves Report
March 12	Prayer (1)	Grudem Quiz #5 - Chapter 8
March 14	Prayer (2)	
March 19	The Person of Christ	
March 21	The Atonement	Grudem Quiz #6 - Chapter 9
March 26	Resurrection & Ascension (1)	Creed Quiz
March 28	Resurrection & Ascension (2)	Statement of Faith Assignment
April 2	Summary & Exam Prep	
April 4	Summary & Exam Prep	Grudem Quiz #7 - Chapter 14-15
Exam Week	Exam	

SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY

Gregory of Nazianzus. *On God and Christ: The Five Theological Orations and Two Letters to Cledonius*. Yonkers, NY: St. Vladimirs Seminary Press, 2002.

Grenz, Stanley and Roger Olson. *Who Needs Theology? An Invitation to the Study of God*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2009.

Packer, J.I. *Knowing God*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1973.

Torrance, James. *Worship, Community and the Triune God of Grace*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1997.

Tozer, A.W. *The Knowledge of the Holy*. New York: HarperCollins, 1978.

APPENDIX 1

Since there are multiple English translations of the Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed, for the sake of the class all memorizing the same version, we will use the following translation:

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.