

WESTERN SEMINARY - SACRAMENTO

Living as the Community of the Spirit (Theo III)

THS 503M: 2 Credit Hours

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Syllabus - Summer 2009

Session B: Jun 29 – Aug 15

COURSE SCHEDULE

Aug 6 – 8 (Thurs. – Sat., 8 a.m. – 6 p.m.)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

THS 503 – Living as the Community of the Spirit: Theology III. You will culminate the process of learning to think theologically by exploring the Spirit's life-giving work. Then you will investigate the church as God's covenant community and instrument of His present working, ending with the consummation of His kingdom program in end time events. Throughout the course the Spirit will transform us as we see our part in His grand work. Prerequisite: THS 501. 2 hours.

COURSE CONTRIBUTION TO STATED DEGREE OUTCOMES

The objectives of this course are tied directly to the desired outcomes constructed specifically for the degree for which this course is a requirement. Below are the formal degree outcomes which this class supports:

BE A PERSON whose Christ-like character is worthy of being emulated, and whose integrity imparts credibility to his/her ministry.

- reflects biblical balance and skill in life management, appropriately fulfilling the roles and responsibilities mandated by God; (MFM 500; SFS 501, SFS 502; overarching)

KNOW the historical tenets and contemporary significance of evangelical theology and practice.

- able to articulate and defend biblically a personal understanding of key doctrines; (THS 501, THS 502, THS 503, THS 508)
- understands the primary implications of these doctrines for life and ministry; (THS 501, THS 502, THS 503, THS 508)

- understands how to analyze theologically contemporary issues confronting the church and society, and how to communicate effectively the fruit of that analysis. (THS 501, THS 502, THS 503, THS 508, PTS 510)

BE ABLE TO think biblically and critically so that various truth claims can be effectively evaluated.

- has embraced a biblical world view; (THS 501, THS 502, THS 503, THS 508; overarching)
- able to apply the basic elements of critical analysis and sound reasoning; (MFM 500; overarching)
- sensitive to cultural variations in styles of thinking; (overarching)
- reflects an appropriately humble and charitable spirit in applying biblical criteria for truth. (overarching)

KNOW the leading figures, movements, and events of church history world wide.

- understands how various philosophies have impacted the church through the ages; (CHS 505 or CHS 506; THS 501, THS 502, THS 503)

BE A true life-long learner, building upon his/her seminary training.

- committed to pursuing growth and learning in key areas of need; (MFM 500, overarching)
- able to access and manage information (including that available via computer/online resources) so that it is readily available when needed. (overarching)

TEXTBOOKS

Please support your seminary by using the following link for all your Amazon purchases – a minimum of 4% comes to Western Seminary. Click [here](#) to order texts and other products.

Required

- [*Integrative Theology*](#). Gordon R. Lewis & Bruce A. Demarest. ISBN: 0310209153
- [*The Church in Gods Program \(Handbook of Bible Doctrine\)*](#). Robert L. Saucy. ISBN: 080241544X
- [*Are Miraculous Gifts for Today?*](#) Wayne A. Grudem (editor). ISBN: 0310201551
- [*Three Views on the Millennium and Beyond*](#). Darrell L. Bock (editor). ISBN: 0310201438
- There will be a number of handouts distributed in class, for which there will be a \$10 copying fee.

Extra Credit

- [*Four Views on the Book of Revelation*](#). C. Marvin Pate (editor). ISBN: 0310210801

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Reading

Complete all required reading before each class session so that you will be able to participate in and benefit from the class discussions. Reading should be done a familiarity level (about 45 pages per hour), which “assumes highlighting and general acquaintance with the ideas in the text but not specific points or details.”

Assignments

1. Reading/Reports

Six 3-4 page reading reports (typed, double-spaced) are assigned on the topics itemized below. Conciseness and clarity will be valued. In the reading reports:

- Devote the first 1-2 pages to a summary of the major points the author(s) is seeking to make, as he/she has organized them. *Do not only repeat the content, but describe the points or arguments the author is attempting to make from Scripture.*
- On the final 1-2 pages, give your evaluation as to how effective the author is.

A seventh reading report is available as extra credit.

Report 1	Saucy on ecclesiology (all)
Report 2	Lewis & Demarest on pneumatology (vol. 1, ch. 7; vol. 3, ch 4)
Report 3	Grudem, "Cessationist" and "Open but Cautious" views + the responses
Report 4	Grudem, "Third Wave" and "Pentecostal/Charismatic" views + the responses
Report 5	Lewis & Demarest on eschatology (vol. 3, ch. 7 & 8)
Report 6	Bock (all)
Report 7	Pate (all) *** Extra Credit ***

Reports may be turned in either in physical form or as email attachments. **Reports #1-4 are due to the prof (or prof email server) by the beginning of the Thursday class. Reports #5 & #6 (and optional, extra-credit #7) are due in the Western Sac office (or on the prof's email server) by 5 p.m., Saturday, August 15.**

Please identify each written report clearly with a title page that indicates:

- the report # that is assigned to the reading selection by this syllabus
- the reading selection book, chapters and page numbers
- the reading selection titles
- your mailbox # in the upper right corner

Use staples, not paper clips.

Time the professor spends trying to figure out which assignment you have turned in because of incomplete labeling, or trying to reassemble loose pages, will impact your grade.

For emailed reading reports, please follow the comments regarding email formatting that are given with the instructions for emailing the final papers below.

Extra credit reading allows the student to do additional work to improve his or her grade, if desired. Turn in or email a 7th reading summary based on a selection from the extra credit book. Every 100 (continuous, please) pages read and outlined/evaluated from the extra credit book, and clearly labeled on the title page, will increase the total grade by two percent.

Extra credit reading reports are due in the professor's box in the Western Sacramento office or with his email server by 5pm, Saturday, August 15.

Time allotted (excluding extra credit reading): 35 hours outside of class.

2. Class participation

Class time will involve both lecture and discussion. The priorities for class time will be:

- A review of the most significant elements of each doctrine, and their practical relevance for contemporary church and counseling ministry.
- A discussion of the questions believers are asking today relating to each doctrine
- A discussion with proposed conclusions for controversies within the evangelical tradition regarding each doctrine.

Class participation will be measured in three ways:

a. Quizzes

Quizzes will be given every few hours during the class, over the class content since the prior quiz. They will be corrected immediately and in class in order to maximize their teaching effectiveness.

b. General participation

A portion of the class participation grade will be the result of a subjective, overall measurement by the professor of the student's level of involvement in class discussion and in the group study projects. Class attendance is crucial since any absence will proportionately decrease this grade.

c. Group study projects

During the class sessions, the class will break into study groups a number of times to prepare and present to the class brief study topics.

3. Other Written Assignments

Following the class sessions the student will be writing one, five-page research paper. The two topic choices for the paper are as follows:

1. “The Presence and Nature of the Gift of Prophecy Properly Employed, Since the End of the Apostolic Age”

Some of the questions the student should address, using Scripture, are:

- Is the gift of prophecy active today?
- Is the office of prophet active today?
- What is now, and what was prior to the completion of the NT, the role of the prophet within the Body of Christ?
- Is there a place for non-canonical, inspired revelation from God to any or all believers today? If so, what is its nature and what are its limitations if any? Should this be considered “prophecy?”
- How should a pastor or a counselor direct those who have or claim to have (depending on the view of your paper) the gift of prophecy?

2. “The Existence, Nature and Chronological Placement of the Rapture and the Millennium in the 'End Times'.”

Some of the questions the student should address, using Scripture, are:

- What position regarding the millennium do you hold, and why?
- What position regarding the rapture do you hold, and why?
- How strongly do you hold to your positions? How clearly do you feel Scripture teaches the positions to which you hold?
- What practical difference will it make if a counselor or pastor is premill vs. amill, and/or pretrib vs. posttrib?
- What significance, if any, will a grasp on biblical teaching on the end times have for the ministry of a pastor or counselor?

The research paper must cite a minimum of four sources, at least one of which must be one of the required texts, and at least two of which must be from a physical library or from Western library’s online journal collection (see the library information below). *Note the physical location of each book or other resource as an addendum to each bibliographical entry.*

The title page must include your mailbox # in the upper right corner. Papers may be turned in physically to the seminary office or via email.

If you choose to email written work, please include your last name and a good identification of the paper as a part of the filename of the email attachment. Do not put the paper itself into the body of the email. There should be exactly one paper per email attachment (more than one attachment/paper per email ok) - do not send title pages as separate attachments, paper bodies as separate attachments, combine multiple papers as a single attachment, etc., or all will be returned for reorganization.

Do not send emails without an email subject or with cryptic subjects – the prof deletes mysterious emails.

The mailbox # should appear in the upper right corner of page 1 of every attachment, just as with any physical paper turned in.

It is to your benefit to make your emails and attached papers easy to identify and track within the sea of emails and attachments the prof will be handling. It would be difficult to make your identifying info in your emails, attachments, and title pages too specific! Emails that are mysteriously titled, attachments that are other than one attachment per paper, missing mailbox #'s on attached papers, and any other approaches that complicate the professor's life will affect the student's grade.

Papers turned in as hard copies will generally be corrected and returned as hard copies. Papers sent electronically will generally be graded and returned electronically.

Time allotted: 25 hours outside of class.

STANDARDS FOR WRITTEN WORK (MLA)

Papers must be written to a near-thesis standard. That is, minimum format standards must be met, as defined below. English grammar, idiom, and spelling must be up to graduate level. Always include a strong introduction paragraph (declare what you intend to show the reader) and conclusion paragraph. Qualities valued include clarity, succinctness, and precision. This course employs the MLA (Modern Language Association) style guide. The basic elements are:

- Double-spacing, except for block quotes
- Single space block quotes
- Page numbers appear at the upper right on every text page
- Use footnotes rather than paragraph citations
- Footnotes follow a standard format.

Helpful web sites on MLA style include:

- <http://wwold.ccc.commnet.edu/mla>
- <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/research/index.html>
- http://www.english.uiuc.edu/cws/wworkshop/writer_resources/citation_styles/mla/mla.htm

[These websites are expanded and pasted into Western Seminary's "How to Write a Research Paper"]

A good website with footnote/bibliography entries is

<http://www.wisc.edu/writing/Handbook/>

For assignments that require the use of non-course texts and include a bibliography, of the resources mentioned in the bibliography for your project/paper, two must be from a

physical library. Note the physical location of each book as an addendum to each bibliographical entry.

All work must reflect master's level use of the English language. Plagiarism will result in failure of assignment.

GRADING

A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-
99-100%	95-98%	93-94%	91-92%	88-90%	86-87%	84-85%	81-83%	79-80%	77-78%	74-76%	70-73%

Activity	Percent of Final Grade	Estimated Time to Complete Outside of Class
Reading (excluding extra credit)	35%	35 hours
Quizzes	25%	
Research Papers	25%	25 hours
General Class Participation	15%	
Total	100 %	60 hours

CLASS POLICIES

Cover page: To safeguard confidentiality, provide a title page as a cover for all assignments. Include your student mailbox number in the upper right corner of the cover page.

Attendance and Late Assignments: Students are expected to attend all class meetings. Students who miss class are responsible for missed work, and are encouraged to ask another student to audiotape the class or take notes. Unexcused absences and tardiness will impact a student’s grade. Students who anticipate an absence should discuss it in advance with the instructor. Students who report an absence in advance will be able to turn in work originally due the missed session, as late as the following session with no loss in grade, after which there will be the loss of one letter grade for that work. Students who do not report an absence in advance can turn in work later than the missed session with a loss of one letter grade for that work.

Students who miss two or more classes will not pass the course, unless they arrange with the teacher to complete additional assignments.

Incompletes: Faculty members determine their own procedures and due dates for the completion of course assignments. The final deadline for submitting all course work is the last day of the semester as noted in the Academic Calendar and in the Sacramento class schedule. In the case of serious illness, family emergency, or similar extenuating circumstances, the instructor may, **if it is initiated by the student**, grant an extension. A

1-3 week extension is typical in all except the most extreme cases, and in all cases the standard decrease of a full letter grade for late work applies. Extensions desired by student beyond 3 weeks, with prof support, must be approved by the Sacramento Academic Coordinator with 5 weeks after the end of the course being the longest possible extension for work being due to the prof (this allows a 6th week for the grading of work and a grade change request to be filed). A temporary notation of “I” (incomplete) is assigned until a final grade can be determined. Under no circumstances may this six-week period be extended except by petition and approval of the Administrative Committee in Portland.

The Availability of Disability Services at Western Seminary: Western Seminary is committed to responding to the needs of students with disabilities as outlined in both the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Western students are assisted individually as their needs dictate. It is the responsibility of students with disabilities to identify themselves and the nature of the disability. Any student who has a disability should contact the seminary’s Disability (Section 504) Coordinator, Ken Epp, at 503-517-1815/1-877-517-1800, ext. 1815. His office is at the Portland campus. Students at the northern California campuses may contact Carrie Priest (Student Services Coordinator – San José) or PJ Oswald (Director of Student Development – Sacramento), or they may contact Dr. Epp directly. Appropriate forms will be provided and must be submitted to the Disability Coordinator’s office.

Enrichment Students: Enrichment students are encouraged, but not obligated, to participate in assignments and class discussions. Professors are not obligated to grade participation for these students, but may opt to do so depending on class size.

LIBRARY AND INTERNET RESEARCH

All class assignments with a research element require library research annotated as such in the bibliography. A minimum of two resources must be from a physical library. Note the physical location of each resource as an addendum to each bibliographical entry.

For complete library information including: hours of operation, interlibrary loan, local library resources, etc., please:

- Visit www.westernseminary.edu .
- Click the link “Sacramento Campus” in the left navigation pane.
- Click the link “Library Resources” in the left navigation pane.

Reserve Collection

The library carries all required readings for this course.

Print Resources

Use the Western-Arcade Library catalog to find books and other materials. To search the library collection:

- Visit <http://www.westernseminary.edu/Library/SAC> .
- Click the link “Search the Library Collection Online”.

Periodical & Research Databases

As you complete your assignments for this course, don’t forget about the resources in the Western research databases. Remember to evaluate and cite your information too. To access the Western research databases:

- Visit <http://www.westernseminary.edu/Library/SAC> .
- Click the link “Research Databases” from the bottom menu.
- Click the link “Ebsco Host Research Databases”.
- Log in. [**User ID:** westsem / **Password:** seminary]
- Click the link “EBSCOhost Web”.
- Click the database(s) you wish to use. Start with *ATLA Religion Database with ATLASerials*.

To cite your information, consider the following MLA composers:

<http://www.noodletools.com> and <http://www.citationmachine.net>

Western-Arcade Library offers a variety of ministry related software for student use including BibleWorks, Logos Bible Software, and SeminaryLibrary.

Course Packs (if applicable)

To access the course pack(s) for this course:

1. Go to the library homepage: <http://www.westernseminary.edu/Library/SAC>
2. Click the link ‘Course Packs’.

Reference and Research Contact Information

David Holifield, M.A., M.L.S. / (916) 488-3720, ext. 7 /

dholfield@westernseminary.edu

COURSE OUTLINE AND SCHEDULE

Date	Topic
Thursday 8/6/09	Reading reports 1-4 due @ start of class Class discussion - Pneumatology Class discussion - Ecclesiology
Friday 8/7/09	Class discussion - Ecclesiology Class discussion - Eschatology
Saturday 8/8/09	Class discussion - Eschatology
Saturday 8/15/09	Reading reports 5,6 due by 5pm Research paper due by 5pm