

Course Description

A survey of major theological doctrines of Christianity, such as the Trinity, revelation, God, creation, sin, the fall of man, Christology, the Atonement, the Holy Spirit, the church, the Christian life, and eschatology.

General Objectives

The students preparing to serve among the Deaf in cross-cultural settings using a Chronological Bible Storying approach demonstrate their ability to draw from memorized Biblical stories across the metanarrative of Scripture to address doctrinal issues and teach sound, conservative, Christian doctrines.

Course Objectives

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

- Have a deeper appreciation for the role of theological reflection in the life and practice of vocational ministry and church leadership
- Demonstrate an introductory knowledge of different aspects of theological reflection related to the specific doctrines covered in this course
- Distinguish a variety of theological reflections and stances on the doctrines covered to clarify his/her own theological positions, especially as they relate to his/her ministry context
- Be equipped to respond to the cultural and intellectual disconnect between a secular society and the Christian doctrines under consideration
- Identify key doctrinal issues within their own cultural context in a manner translatable to their assigned culture
- Identify the primary biblical texts for addressing identified doctrinal issues
- Formulate personal doctrinal positions based on an intimate knowledge of Scripture
- Incorporate new stories, as needed, into their knowledge of Holy Scripture, to round out a solid theological response to identified doctrinal issues
- Trace a plan for translating their understanding of key doctrines of the faith to new believers in their ministry context

Required Texts

The Bible (in written, video-recorded, or signed versions, as appropriate to the student)

Bible Doctrine, Wayne Grudem

Theology and Doctrine, H. Wayne House

Spurgeon, Charles Haddon. *Spurgeon's Catechism*. Available online free at:
<http://www.iclnet.org/pub/resources/text/history/spurgeon.cat.txt>

Assignments

Daily interaction with the biblical text as assigned. Weekly oral presentation (ASL) which will count as their test grade. Each student will display that they have an understanding of the doctrines studied in this course and be able to apply it to their cross-cultural ministry. In a one hour oral presentation (ASL) in class, the student will describe how a thorough understanding of the doctrine (as assigned) studied in this course will inform their cross-cultural ministry. You are encouraged to refer to your textbooks to aid you in your assignment and test preparation. As for Spurgeon's Catechism, you will be expected to refer to it in your oral presentations.

Method of Instruction

Students will be led to identify major theological issues within their culture and will be able to recall stories from the Biblical narratives learned in Old Testament and New Testament courses that address those issues. They will have the opportunity to group and accurately retell appropriate stories, without benefit of external resources, to frame a thorough biblical and theological response to the identified issues. In addition to rehearsing the Biblical stories already learned in other courses, students will be led by their instructors to learn additional stories to round out knowledge of key doctrines. Instructors and fellow classmates will lead students in daily discussions about the implications of the stories learned and recited. American Sign Language will be the language of instruction, class interaction, and evaluation.

Attendance and Tardiness

Students will be expected to be in class during the regularly scheduled times and, on occasion, during some extended classroom training that may be needed. Missing 1 day of class will result in the reduction of 1 letter grade. Additional missed classes will result in corresponding reductions of letter grades.

Class will begin at 9:00 a.m. and the expectation is that students will be in their seats and ready to begin at that time. Arriving at class late on more than one occasion will cost ½ of a letter grade toward the final grading total. Three late arrivals will result in the reduction of 1 letter grade for the course.

Attitude and Interaction

Within the context of the classroom setting the interaction and exchanges between students, and between students and instructors, should be done in a professional way. Course requirements that are determined to meet the criteria of Union University's standards, and their governing bodies, are not open for negotiation. All dialogue within these settings should have a high level of professionalism, respect, and grace.

Class Schedule and Assignments

Teacher will give this information on the first day of class.

Grading

Teacher will give this information on the first day of class.