

Note:

Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.

COURSE SYLLABUS

APOL 810

MIRACLES, THE RESURRECTION, AND CHRISTIAN MINISTRY

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course examines the apologetic value of the miraculous, giving special emphasis to the resurrection of Jesus, as it bears on a Christian theology and the life and mission of the Church. (Available to DMIN students only).

RATIONALE

The resurrection of Jesus Christ stands at the heart and center of the Christian proclamation of the gospel and is thus organically connected to various Christian doctrines and life practices. Given the prominent place of the resurrection in the Christian world-and-life-view, it is all the more imperative that those seeking to carry out the Church's mission engage various contemporary challenges and objections to the miraculous, while also seeking to integrate the resurrection into their daily lives and practice.

I. PREREQUISITE

For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the [Academic Course Catalog](#).

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASE

Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: <http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm>

III. RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

Turabian, Kate L. *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*. Current ed. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press.

IV. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING

- A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
- B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
- C. Blackboard [recommended browsers](#)
- D. Microsoft Word
- E. School of Divinity Writing Guide:
<http://www.liberty.edu/divinity/index.cfm?PID=28160>

V. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Define “miracle,” as received from the biblical witness and Christians tradition, in light of the ongoing analytic and philosophical discussion and debate on the nature of the miraculous.
- B. Critically evaluate naturalistic a priori objections to miraculous claims in general, and a posteriori objections to the resurrection of Jesus in particular.
- C. Defend major components of the “minimal facts” historical argument for Jesus’ resurrection.
- D. Integrate key aspects of the resurrection of Jesus with major theological doctrines of the Christian faith, further developing a Christian world-and-life-view.
- E. Explore and implement the practical ramifications of the resurrection of Jesus as it bears on the life and mission of the Church.

VI. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

- A. Textbook readings and lecture presentations
- B. Course Requirements Checklist
After reading the Course Syllabus and [Student Expectations](#), the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.
- C. Discussion Board Forums (2)
Discussion boards are collaborative learning experiences. Therefore, the student is required to create a thread in response to the provided prompt for each forum. Each thread must be 800–1000 words and demonstrate course-related knowledge. In addition to the thread, the student must reply to 2 other classmates’ threads. Each reply must be 300–400 words.
- D. Critical Reading Journal Analyses (8)
The students will provide a weekly journal entry critically engaging the course reading for the week. Each journal entry will answer specific questions provided by the prompt. Each journal entry will be between 500–800 words.
- E. Sermon Series Overview and Outline
The student will prepare a teaching/sermon series consisting of 4–6 sermons/lessons that covers central issues related to miracles and the resurrection. The assignment must include a 250–500 word introduction summarizing the implementation of the series into a local church, as well as a Scope and Sequence chart to outline the series schedule, provide titles of each lesson/sermon, and offer key passages for each. The student will also provide a 1-page sermon/lesson plan for each sermon/lesson included in the series.

F. Resurrection, Theology, and Practice Paper

The student will write a 3,000–3,750 words research-based paper in Turabian format that places emphasis on the integration of the resurrection with a specific area of Christian theology/doctrine or practice. Students will be provided a list of specific areas of focus. The paper must include at least 10 scholarly references in addition to the course textbooks and the Bible.

G. Presentation Discussion Board Forum

Using Kaltura or another approved video capture software, students will prepare a 5–8 minute presentation that summarizes the finding of their Resurrection, Theology, and Practice Paper from the previous module/week. The presentation can be either a video or screen capture presentation and will be submitted in a discussion board forum. In addition to the presentation, the student is required to reply to 2 other classmates’ threads. Each reply must be 200–300 words.

VII. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

Course Requirements Checklist	10
Critical Reading Journal Analyses (8 at 50 pts ea)	400
Discussion Board Forums (2 at 100 pts ea)	200
Sermon Series Overview and Outline	100
Resurrection, Theology, and Practice Paper	200
Presentation Discussion Forum	100
Total	1010

B. Scale

A = 940–1010 A- = 920–939 B+ = 900–919 B = 860–899 B- = 840–859
 C+ = 820–839 C = 780–819 C- = 760–779 D+ = 740–759 D = 700–739
 D- = 680–699 F = 0–679

C. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online’s Office of Disability Accommodation Support (ODAS) at LUOODAS@liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport.

If you have a complaint related to disability discrimination or an accommodation that was not provided, you may contact ODAS or the Office of Equity and Compliance by phone at (434) 592-4999 or by email at equityandcompliance@liberty.edu. Click to see a full copy of Liberty’s [Discrimination, Harassment, and Sexual Misconduct Policy](#) or the [Student Disability Grievance Policy and Procedures](#).

COURSE SCHEDULE

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Textbooks: Baggett, *Did the Resurrection Happen?* (2009).
 Geivett & Habermas, *In Defense of Miracles* (1997).
 Habermas, *The Risen Jesus and Future Hope* (2003).
 Wright, *Surprised by Hope* (2008).

MODULE/ WEEK	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
1	Geivett & Habermas: chs. 1–2 Habermas: Introduction 2 presentations	Course Requirements Checklist	10
		Class Introductions	0
		Critical Reading Journal Analysis 1	50
2	Geivett & Habermas: chs. 3–6 6 presentations	Critical Reading Journal Analysis 2	50
3	Geivett & Habermas: chs. 7–11 Habermas: chs. 1–2 Baggett: all 6 presentations	Critical Reading Journal Analysis 3	50
		DB Forum 1	100
4	Geivett & Habermas: chs. 12–16 1 presentation	Critical Reading Journal Analysis 4	50
5	Habermas: chs. 3–4 Bible Reading 1 presentation	Critical Reading Journal Analysis 5	50
		Sermon Series Overview & Outline	100
6	Habermas: chs. 5–6 Bible Reading 1 presentation	Critical Reading Journal Analysis 6	50
		Resurrection, Theology, and Practice Paper	200
7	Habermas: chs. 7–8 Bible Reading 1 presentation	Critical Reading Journal Analysis 7	50
		Presentation DB Forum	100
8	Habermas: chs. 9–10 Wright: all Bible Reading 1 presentation	Critical Reading Journal Analysis 8	50
		DB Forum 2	100
TOTAL			1010

DB = Discussion Board

NOTE: Each course module/week begins on Monday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Sunday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final module/week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on **Friday**.