

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

THEO 360

THEOLOGICAL INTERPRETATION OF SCRIPTURE

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is a survey of biblical theology with specific attention given to the primary theological themes of the Old and New Testament. It explores how each testament informs the redemptive storyline of the Bible. Various soteriological themes and theological systems such as dispensationalism and covenant theology are addressed. This is to lay a foundation for understanding the relationship between biblical theology and current theological issues.

RATIONALE

In the preparation to serve the mission of the local church, an absence of biblical knowledge is completely negligent. Even more, the need for accurate and timely theological understanding that finds its roots in the biblical texts stands as a stalwart essential for any leader in the local church. Christian leaders in all contexts must develop the ability to identify, explain, and apply biblical theological principles to current cultural trends both in the church as well as in the local community.

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. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING

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

IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

- A. Explain the primary theological themes of the Bible and key biblical texts that provide a foundation for these themes.
- B. Compose various statements on current cultural issues related to the larger community of the body of Christ that rely on key theological themes covered in this course.
- C. Develop an oral response to current theological issues that connects the redemptive storyline found in the old and New Testaments to a modern practice of faith.
- D. Defend the priority of biblical theological interpretations of the Bible in relation to other disciplines such as systematic theology.
- E. Develop a structure that can be employed by laymen in the local church to address cultural issues as they arise in the context of everyday life.

V. 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. Group Discussion Board Forums (2)

For this collaborative discussion board, the instructor will place the student into a group at the beginning of the course. The student is required to provide a thread in response to the provided prompt for each forum. Each thread must be 200–300 words and demonstrate course-related knowledge. In addition to the thread, the student is required to reply to 3 other classmates' threads. Each reply must be at least 100 words. The thread must include at least 2 references from the course textbook or outside scholarly resources. All replies must include references to support statements in reply to classmates' threads.

D. Research Paper

Bibliography

The student will write a bibliography in current Turabian format to include at least 5 references.

Rough Draft

The student will submit a 1,200–2,000-word rough draft of the final research paper in current Turabian format and include the 5 references from the revised bibliography.

Final

The student will write a 2,400–2,700-word research-based paper in current Turabian format. The paper will focus on the importance of biblical theology and how it strengthens the Christian's ability to articulate key doctrinal beliefs. The student must incorporate content from the Theological Statement assignment. The paper must include at least 10 references including the course textbooks. The paper must rely on biblical texts, but the Bible does not count as one of the 10 references and must not be listed in the bibliography.

E. Theological Statements (3)

The student will produce 3 Theological Statements that specifically address key theological issues in the church. These statements must be 500–600 words each and use current Turabian formatting. Successful completion of this assignment will include 2–3 academic theological sources for each statement that must be footnoted. It must also include 3–5 key biblical texts for each statement.

F. Exams (4)

Each exam will cover the Reading & Study material for the assigned module/week. Each exam will be open-book/open-notes, contain 25 multiple-choice and true/false questions, and have a 30-minute time limit.

VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

Course Requirements Checklist	10
Group Discussion Board Forums (2 at 100 pts ea)	200
Research Paper	
Bibliography	50
Rough Draft	60
Final	200
Theological Statements (3 at 30 pts ea)	90
Exams (4 at 100 pts ea)	400
Total	1010

B. Scale

A = 900–1010 B = 800–899 C = 700–799 D = 600–699 F = 0–599

C. Disability Assistance

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

COURSE SCHEDULE

THEO 360

Textbooks:

Goldsworthy, *According to Plan* (1991).

Hamilton, *What is Biblical Theology?* (2014).

Lawrence, *Biblical Theology in the Life of the Church* (2010).

MODULE/ WEEK	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
1	Goldsworthy: ch. 1 Hamilton: chs. 1–2 2 presentations	Course Requirements Checklist	10
		Class Introductions	0
		Group DB Forum 1: Thread	50
2	Goldsworthy: chs. 2–7 1 presentation	Group DB Forum 1: Replies Exam 1	50 100
3	Goldsworthy: chs. 8–16 Hamilton: chs. 3–5 Lawrence: Introduction, ch. 1 1 presentation	Group DB Forum 2: Thread	50
		Research Paper: Bibliography	50
4	Hamilton: chs. 6–9 Lawrence: chs. 2–5 1 presentation	Group DB Forum 2: Replies Exam 2	50 100
5	Hamilton: chs. 10–12 Lawrence: chs. 6–7 1 presentation	Research Paper: Rough Draft	60
6	Hamilton: ch. 13 Lawrence: chs. 8–10 2 presentations	Theological Statements Exam 3	90 100
7	Goldsworthy: chs. 17–25 1 presentation	Research Paper: Final	200
8	Goldsworthy: chs. 26–27 Lawrence: chs. 11–12 1 presentation	Exam 4	100
TOTAL			1010

DB = Discussion Board

NOTE: Each course module/week (except Module/Week 1) begins on Tuesday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Monday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final module/week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on **Friday**.