

Course Syllabus



CHURCH AND SOCIETY

TTPT 703 / CSAP 680

Summer 2014

PROFESSOR/CLASS INFORMATION

SCOTT RAE, Ph.D.

Course Title: Church and Society	Course Code/#: TTPT 703
Term: Summer 2014	Class Days/Time: Online
Location: Online with 2 meetings on campus, Myers Hall 103, Saturdays, June 28 & July 26 from 9:00am to 1:00pm	Credit Hours/Units: 3
Office Phone: x5531	Office Location: Talbot East 312
Office Hours: By appointment	Meetings with Professor: Make Appointment (scott.rae@biola.edu)
E-Mail: scott.rae@biola.edu	Admin Assistant: Julie Pelser, x 4764
School Website: www.biola.edu	Dept. Website: http://www.talbot.edu/ (Link to site.)

DISABILITY SERVICES

Disability Services exist to assist any student who thinks he or she may need such assistance. Students desiring accommodations for this class on the basis of physical learning, psychological and/or emotional disabilities are to contact The Learning Center which houses both learning assistance and disability services. The Learning Center is located in the Biola Library, Upper Level, Room U-137, and this department can be reached by calling 562.906.4542 or by dialing extension #4542 if calling from "on campus."

NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

The University deplores the unfair treatment of individuals based on race, gender, socio-economic status, age, physical disability, or cultural differences, regardless whether such treatment is intentional or simply

resultant from careless or insensitive behavior. Rather, employees and members of the student body should embrace the expectation of Scripture to love God with all their being and their neighbors as themselves.

BIOLA UNIVERSITY MISSION STATEMENT

The vision of Biola University is to be identified *among the world's foremost Christ-centered universities – a community abiding in truth, abounding with grace, and compelled by Christ's love to be a relevant and redemptive voice in a changing world.*

TALBOT MISSION/VISION STATEMENT

Talbot School of Theology is committed to the development of disciples of Jesus Christ whose thought processes, character and lifestyles reflect those of our Lord, and who are dedicated to disciple-making throughout the world.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

TTPT 703 - Church & Society: This course focuses on A study of biblical ethics and the role the local church plays in the community. Special attention will be given to major social problems such as sanctity of life, chemical abuse, domestic violence, social ills, and the political process. **Note(s):** Required of M.A.C.M.L. (Pastoral Care and Counseling), M.A. Diversified, and M.Div. (except Missions and Intercultural Studies) students.

COURSE ALIGNMENT WITH PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES

TTPT 703 - Church & Society: This masters course is a core course required of all M.A.C.M.L. (Pastoral Care and Counseling), M.A. Diversified, and M.Div. majors designed to be taken at any time during the program. Successful completion of this course (see next section) will prepare students to demonstrate a developing proficiency toward the accomplishment of the following Program Learning Outcomes: Demonstrate a commitment to and ability to develop redemptive church ministries to their communities in society and culture, being relevant to current sociopolitical issues and ethical problems (MACML #5), Counsel pastorally. Students will learn basic relationship skills, counseling skills, ethical guidelines in pastoral counseling, and develop a plan or referring some counselees (MDiv #7), Be able to dialog with those who are outside of a biblically centered faith confidently and effectively, applying the knowledge of biblical doctrine to refute errors and to utilize practical techniques of dialog with the intent to reach those who "seek to know the reason for the hope that lies within you." (MADiversified #2)

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the completion of this course including class participation, class assignments (referred to as "Assignments"), class readings and group interaction, the following objectives and learning outcomes will be assessed and demonstrated:

IDEA OBJECTIVE #3: Learning to apply course material to improve thinking, problem solving, and decisions with regard to ethical dilemmas faced in pastoral ministry. (Essential emphasis).

Student Learning Outcomes (The learner will demonstrate that he or she has satisfactorily fulfilled IDEA Objective #3 by being able to):

- > **Articulate** the biblical parameters for the primary moral issues faced in pastoral ministry. Fulfilled by Assignment #1 and 2.
- > **Identify** the specific pastoral dimension of the primary moral issues faced in pastoral ministry. Fulfilled by Assignments #1 and 2.
- > **Defend** a biblically consistent position on each of the primary moral issues faced in pastoral ministry. Fulfilled by Assignments #1 and 2.

IDEA OBJECTIVE #10: Developing a clearer understanding of and commitment to, biblical ethics. (Essential emphasis).

Student Learning Outcomes (The learner will demonstrate that he or she has satisfactorily fulfilled IDEA Objective #10 by being able to):

- > **Describe** the principal components of Christian ethics. Fulfilled by Assignment #1.
- > **Give examples** of the variety of ways in which people in the culture think about right and wrong. Fulfilled by Assignment #1.
- > **Demonstrate** an understanding of vocation that affirms the ministry of the workplace. Fulfilled by Assignment #1 and 2.

IDEA OBJECTIVE #11: Learning to analyze and critically evaluate ideas, arguments, and points of view with regard to primary moral issues faced in the pastoral ministry. (Essential emphasis).

Student Learning Outcomes (The learner will demonstrate that he or she has satisfactorily fulfilled IDEA Objective #11 by being able to):

- > **Distinguish** between moral positions that are consistent with biblical parameters and those that are not. Fulfilled by Assignment # 1 and 2.
- > **Critique** positions on moral issues that are at variance with above biblical parameters. Fulfilled by Assignment #1 and 2.
- > **Recognize** points of vulnerability in the rationale being defended on moral issues. Fulfilled by Assignment #1 and 2

COURSE OUTLINE

Course Format:

Conducted online over 8 weeks in June and July, 2014. Students will interact with the instructor and each other through daily interactive on-campus and online discussions and other assignments. The class will meet in the classroom on two Saturdays from 9 am-1pm (6/28, 7/26). The remainder of the class will be conducted online. Since this is a summer course, it moves very quickly.

Each week will consist of reading, video lectures, and discussion questions for interaction on Canvas learning management system.

DAY	TOPIC
Week 1--5/27-6/1	Introduction to Course, Current Context for the Church's Relationship to Society, Social Ethics and Ethical Systems (1-3)
Week 2--6/2-8	Christian Ethics (Rae, ch. 2), The Bible and Social Change
Week 3--6/9-15	Abortion and Stem Cell Research (Rae, ch. 5, Case 5.1, Doing the Right Thing, ch. 4)
Week 4--6/16-22	Death, Dying and Physician Assisted Suicide (Rae, ch. 8, Kilner, Part Three, 185-257, Case 8.1)
Week 5--6/23-29	Infertility and Reproductive Technologies (Rae, ch. 6, Kilner, Part One, 21-97, Case 6.1)
Week 6--6/30-7/6	Genetic Technologies: Therapy, Testing and Information (Rae, ch. 7, Kilner Part Two, 101-182, Case 7.1),
Week 7--7/7-13	Capital Punishment (Rae, ch. 9, case 9.1), Morality of War (Rae, ch. 11, case 11.1)
Week 8--7/14-20	Sexual Ethics and AIDS (Rae, ch. 10, case 10.1)
Week 9--7/21-27	Christianity and Capitalism (TVOC, chs. 2, 4), Issues in Business Ethics (Rae, ch. 12, Doing the Right Thing, ch. 12)

Assignments:

1. Reading of all texts, viewing of all video segments and in class/on line class discussion (counts 25% of your grade). All reading except for Kilner is due on the day it is assigned. The Kilner reading is not due until July 27. All discussion posts are due on the Sunday of the week that they are assigned.
2. 3 case papers addressing a case study on a specific issue in social ethics. These should be 5-6 pages in length, and each paper counts 25% of your grade. You may do any three case papers you wish. All cases, except as specifically noted, are in Rae, *Moral Choices*. Each case has a handful of questions to be addressed in your paper. Integrate the answers to these questions into a well constructed essay that includes an introduction and conclusion. You may include any other material that you think helps address the case. Outside resources are not required, but if used, must be documented (format for documentation is either APA or Chicago style, your choice). Each case is placed in the module in which it occurs. Case papers are due on the week of that topic's discussion.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

Required Textbooks (Each of the following books are required and will be used in this course)

Rae, *Moral Choices*, Zondervan, 3rd edition (referred to as "Rae")

Hill, Rae, *The Virtues of Capitalism*, Northfield (referred to as "TVOC")

Kilner, *Why the Church Needs Bioethics*, Zondervan (referred to as "Kilner")

Rae, *Doing the Right Thing*, Zondervan.

Grading Standards for Written Work:

Whereas Biola University desires to maintain the highest standards with respect to the composition of all written work, any student paper exhibiting poor grammar, spelling errors, typographical errors, or other substandard academic expression shall have the overall grade for that paper reduced accordingly. Generally, a paper will be deemed substandard and ineligible to receive an "A" grade when

it averages three or more compositional errors per page. Moreover, at the discretion of the professor, the substandard paper may be returned to the student for correction and resubmission with appropriate grade penalties. Students deficient in writing skills may seek assistance at the Biola Writing Center.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

Biola University is committed to ethical practice in teaching, scholarship, and service. As such, plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Please see the undergraduate/graduate student handbook and/or the departmental/program/school policy on academic honesty. It is imperative that you present all written, oral, and/or performed work with a clear indication of the source of that work. If it is completely your own, you are encouraged to present it as such, taking pleasure in ownership of your own created work. However, it is also imperative that you give full credit to any and all others whose work you have included in your presentation via paraphrase, direct quotation, and/or performance, citing the name(s) or the author(s)/creator(s) and the source of the work with appropriate bibliographic information. To do otherwise is to put oneself in jeopardy of being sanctioned for an act or acts of plagiarism that can carry serious consequences up to and including expulsion from the university.

<http://studentlife.biola.edu/handbook/policies-procedure/academic-integrity/>

<http://plagiarism.org/plagiarism-101/overview/> (Links to an external site.)

Date	Details
Sun Jun 1, 2014	<u>Week 1 Discussion: Types of Moral Reasoning</u>
Sun Jun 8, 2014	<u>Week 2 Discussion: Christian Ethics</u> <u>Week 2 Discussion: The Bible and Social Change</u>
Sun Jun 15, 2014	<u>Week 3 Discussion: Abortion and Stem Cell Research</u>
Sun Jun 22, 2014	<u>Week 4 Discussion: Death, Dying and Physician Assisted Suicide</u>
Sun Jun 29, 2014	<u>Week 5 Discussion: Infertility & Reproductive Technology</u>
Sun Jul 6, 2014	<u>Week 6 Discussion: Genetics & Biotechnology</u>
Sun Jul 13, 2014	<u>Week 7 Discussion: Capital Punishment</u> <u>Week 7 Discussion: The Morality of War</u>
Sun Jul 20, 2014	<u>Week 8 Discussion: Sexual Ethics</u>
Sun Jul 27, 2014	<u>Week 9 Discussion: Business Ethics</u> <u>Week 9 Discussion: Economics/Greed</u>
	<u>Case Paper #1</u>
	<u>Case Paper #2</u>
	<u>Case Paper #3</u>