



WSOLC – Western Seminary Online Campus

Course Number: THS 503E – Fall 2014

Course Title: Living as the Community of the Spirit: Theology III

Instructor: Gerry Breshears, Ph.D.

Credit Hours: 2

COURSE SCHEDULE

This course is offered in both an 8 and a 16 week schedule. You can see a “Course Schedule by Week” in this syllabus. After enrollment in the course you can see a course schedule with specific dates in the learning center for your assignments.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

You will culminate the process of learning to think theologically by exploring the Spirit's life-giving work. 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 credit hours.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. You will develop a gospel-centered understanding of Holy Spirit, Church and Last Things and the major historical and evangelical perspectives on these topics.
2. You will be able to articulate clearly and defend biblically your own position on these doctrines.
3. You will be able to assess contrary theological perspectives on these issues fairly and biblically.
4. You will apply these theological truths to contemporary issues in life, ministry, and culture.
5. You will develop a deeper spiritual life as you come to know God, his plans, and his purposes better.

TEXTBOOKS

M. Erickson, [*Christian Theology*](#), 3rd Ed. ISBN: 0-8010-3643-7; Retail Price: \$49.99

{Optional alternative: G. Lewis & B. Demarest, *Integrative Theology*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1996.13: 978-0310209157}. MSRP: \$49.99.

W. Elwell, [Evangelical Dictionary of Theology](#) Grand Rapids: Baker, 2001.
13: 978-0801020759. MSRP: \$59.99.

G. Boyd & P. Eddy. [Across the Spectrum](#) Grand Rapids: Baker, 2009.
13: 978-0801037931. MSRP: \$24.99.

J. Stott, [Baptism and Fullness -The Work of the Holy Spirit](#) Today (IVP Classics) IVP Books, 2007. 13: 978-0830834020 MSRP: \$8.00

Articles contained in the Reading Folder

Important Note: Required and recommended course texts are subject to change at any time. You are encouraged to purchase these titles through the Amazon.com associate program; you may use the links provided above, or the search option found on the Western website under "Students/Online":
<http://www.westernseminary.edu/students/online>

COURSE FORMAT

1. Course Audio/Video Materials.

Shortly after your course registration, you will receive instructions about how to download your course using the Integr@te program (not earlier than three weeks from your start date).

2. Learning Center.

You will also be given access to a web-based learning center which functions as your classroom for the course. There you will find:

- The course syllabus. **Please Note:** The syllabus in your learning center is the governing course syllabus. Syllabi downloaded from the seminary website, or received from any other source, are for informational purposes only.
- A week-by-week schedule to help you successfully complete the course on time with the least amount of stress. To discuss changing the assignment due dates within the schedule, please contact Jon Raibley: jraibley@westernseminary.edu.
- A progress report for each lesson, by which you will indicate whether you completed your lesson requirements. While still allowing great scheduling flexibility, progress reports help us help you should you begin to fall behind.
- Assignment summaries and links for uploading assignments.
- Links to discussion forums, your course instructor and other students, the distance learning support team, as well as links to other helpful communication and instructional resources.

3. Responsibilities.

Before the end of the first week of the session, you need to log onto the online learning center to complete and upload the course affirmation file. By federal law, we now need to ensure that students participate in courses for the full length of the course. So failure to complete the course affirmation on-time will result in a loss of course points and may impact your financial aid eligibility.

Students will receive on-time completion points for finishing their course work according to the schedule. This means students in the 8 week sessions are required to have all their course work into their course instructor by the end of week 7. Students in the 16 week sessions are required to have all their work into their course instructor by the end of week 15. If you have not been granted an extension, graded assignments turned in after 8:00 a.m. on Monday of the final week may be subject to a late penalty of up to 10% per day. No online completion points will be granted after that time.

4. Course Instructor.

You will be assigned a course instructor who will participate as appropriate in classroom activities; review, grade, and provide feedback on course assignments; and interact with you on any questions you have about the course. When you receive your course materials, you will also receive contact information for your course instructor. Please contact your course instructor within two weeks of your course start date and maintain regular contact throughout the course.

ASSIGNMENTS

1. Participation Requirements. For each lesson, complete the items as instructed in your learning center, and submit the progress report verifying that you've done so. These progress reports are our primary means of verifying your attendance, and each is worth up to one point toward your final grade. If the progress report is submitted by the due date on your course schedule, you'll receive 100% of the report grade. If you submit the progress report late, but within two weeks of the due date, you will receive 80%. If you submit the progress report more than two weeks late, you will receive 50%. And, of course, if you fail to submit a progress report at all, you will receive 0%. Certain changes are allowed within the course schedule, to allow for flexibility. You may contact Jon Raibley for details: jraibley@westernseminary.edu.

In addition, you are to complete three activities that will allow us to verify your participation at key points within the course, in compliance with federal regulations. Failure to complete these activities within the designated times may impact the amount or timing of federal financial aid you receive.

- First week participation: Within the first week of the posted course dates, complete and upload the affirmation file.
- On-time verification. By the date listed in the schedule, submit your final assignments and complete the verification assignment, to confirm that you finished the course work on time.
- Course evaluation and reflection. Within the final week of the posted course dates, complete the course evaluation and reflection assignment; a link will be emailed to you at that time.

Points: **33** points possible (21 for progress reports, 2 for affirmation file, 10 for on-time verification)

2. Reading assignments

- a. The assigned reading is listed near the end of this syllabus.
- b. Read the three articles from *EDT* in each lesson's listing which will be most beneficial to you.
- c. Certain reading assignments are required for students who desire an A grade and optional for others. These are marked as such in the reading list.
- d. All assigned readings will be done at the mastery level. Reading at this level will average about 20 pages per hour and assumes careful reflective interaction with the ideas, note taking and will lead to accountability in class, papers and tests at a mastery level. 1000 pages = 50 hours.
- e. Each reading assignment should be completed before the class lesson so that you will be able to benefit from the class discussion. Completion of the reading assignments will be reported on the form provided.
- f. Reading is considered on time if it is done before the test for its section. Assignments completed on time will earn 3 points per lesson. Assignments completed late (i.e., after viewing the lecture) will earn 2 points each per lesson.
- g. Class notes: Each lesson contains two sets of notes: a fill-in-the-blank version and a full outline. Since Gerry often posts updated versions of the full outline to the web, you're welcome to check there for the current edition. To get the latest version of these, as well as other handouts related to this course, point your browser to "www.westernseminary.edu". Click on "Portland Campus" and then "Student and Faculty Papers" on the left side of the page. It will give you a menu to select from. You can find Gerry's notes arranged by class by clicking on "View Option: List by Type." Click on the file you want and it will download into your word processor.

Time: 29 hours estimated time.

Points: 57 points possible (no reading for sessions 3 or 4).

3. **Scripture Meditation.** We will spend time meditating on the passages relevant to the section listed below. We will read thoughtfully, prayerfully and theologically the session's passage for about 15 minutes (to be completed by the beginning of your viewing the session). To preserve the impact of the mediation, I ask you to journal your personal reflections on the passages. Rather than summaries of the passages, focus on how our lives and ministries have been (or should be) impacted by the truths we have mediated on. I would like for you to share these with me as a point of accountability and as a way to let me get to know you better. If that is uncomfortable for you, just give me a written report that you have done the assignment, noting the passage and that you have meditated and journaled. Upload each journal summary to your grader according to the schedule provided on your web site learning center.

Time: 6 hours estimated time.

Points: 18 points possible.

4. Interaction Forum. On your website discussion forum, you'll ask 3 questions during the course, and answer at least 3 other questions. For each section of the course (Holy Spirit, church, last things), post one discussion question and answer another student's question.

1. post one discussion question.

- This might be an implication question: "If _____ is true, how does that impact our understanding of _____?"
- Or it might be an application question: "If _____ is true, how does that impact the way we minister?"
- You might phrase it in the form of a hypothetical case study or situation you've encountered (change the names to protect the innocent -- and the guilty!). Or you can create your own State and Defend situation for "Chris."
- Also, answer at least one other person's question.

2. write about 100 words -- you can write more if you wish.

- you can address other questions as well; if you do, you don't have to maintain the 100 word minimum.
- when someone posts a response to your question, you're encouraged (but not required) to respond as well. Interaction leads to increased understanding!

Time: 6 hours estimated time.

Points: 30 points possible.

5. Doctrinal Statements (Approximately 9 hours). A succinct statement of *your own* personal doctrinal commitment will be required with each examination. Statements covering the Holy Spirit (one page) will be due with the first exam, a statement covering church (two pages) will be due with the second examination, and a statement eschatology (one page) with the third. You should review the handout "Suggestions for Preparation of Doctrinal Statements" in your DVD-Rom Documents folder for issues to be covered. Examples of doctrinal statements can be found in that folder or in the learning center "Course Files" folder. These are not to be copied. but will help you see some formatting and content options.

Time: 9 hours estimated time.

Points: 90 points possible.

6. Examinations (15 hours). Three examinations will be given. The first will cover the doctrine of the Holy Spirit. The second will cover ecclesiology. The second third will cover on eschatology. The first section of the exam will be specific multiple choice or short answer questions covering the factual content of the course (60 points). The second section will be a state and defend question (20 points). Several possible questions will be given on the study sheets. On state and defend questions you will be expected to state your own position on a specific question carefully, to support it with Scripture and relevant arguments, and to answer significant questions which could be raised by those who disagree with your position. Examples and study guides can be found in the course folder.

Time: 15 hours estimated time.
Points: 240 points possible.

GRADING SCALE

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

ASSIGNMENT SUMMARY

Assignment	Apx. Hours	Due by Lesson	Points Possible
1. Participation Requirements	25	Each Lesson	21
Course Lectures			
Policy Affirmation, On Time Verification, Course Evaluation		12	
2. Reading	29	End date	57
3. Scripture meditation (9)	6	Per schedule	18
4. Interaction Forums			
Pneumatology	2	7	10
Ecclesiology	2	15	10
Eschatology	2	21	10
5. Doctrinal statements			
Pneumatology	3	8	30
Ecclesiology	3	16	30
Eschatology	3	22	30
6. Exams			
Pneumatology	5	8	80
Ecclesiology	5	16	80
Eschatology	5	22	80
Total	90		468

COURSE SEQUENCE

Important: See the course schedule in the learning center for the due dates of your assignments.

8-Week	16-Week	Lessons	Assignments & Notes
1	1	1. The Person of the Holy Spirit	(Each lesson has a progress report which asks if you completed the media. Take each progress report as you finish the lesson) Systematic theology text. Read one of the following

			(Note: Everyone is required to read Erickson for this lesson): Lewis & Demarest -No reading required, Erickson pages 771-824, (2nd ed. pages 861-898) Evangelical Dictionary of Theology: Read the following: Holy Spirit Meditation passage: 1 Corinthians 12:1-13
	2	2. Holy Spirit Movements in the 20th Century 3. The Spirit's Work in the Christian, Part 1	Evangelical Dictionary of Theology: Read the following - Charismatic Movement, Pentecostalism , Tongues - Speaking in, Heal, Healing, Spiritual Gifts Reading resources contained in the Reading Packet: Bredesen, "Empowered by the Spirit," Charisma, August, 1994; Burgess, New International Dictionary of Pentecostal and Charismatic Movements, s. v. "Baptism in the Holy Spirit," 354-363 - Read: Stott, Baptism and Fullness: Read pages 19-119 Evangelical Dictionary of Theology: Read the following: Baptism of Spirit Meditation passage: 2 Thess 2:1-17
2	3	4. The Spirit's Work in the Christian, Part 2	Boyd & Eddy, Across the Spectrum: Read chapter 14 (Charismatic Gifts) Reading resources contained in the Reading Packet: Zoba, "Father, Son, and . . ." Christianity Today, June 17, 1996, 18-24 -
		5. The Spirit's Work in the Christian, Part 3	-
	4	6. Pentecostal/Charismatic View of the Holy Spirit 7. What is the Church?	- - Systematic theology text: Read one of the following - Lewis & Demarest, vol. 3: pages 241-304, Erickson pages 949-988, (2nd ed. 1035-1078, 1135-1152) Evangelical Dictionary of Theology: Read the following - The Church, Lord's Day, Worship in the Church, Keys of Kingdom, Worship Meditation passage: Matthew 16:13-19
3	5	8. The Nature of the Church	Evangelical Dictionary of Theology: Read five of the following: Church and State, Primacy of Peter, Sabbath, Denominationalism, Sabbatarianism, Separation -
		9. The Place of the Church in God's Program	Systematic theology text: Read one of the following: Lewis & Demarest, vol. 3: pages 307-363, Erickson - No Reading, Evangelical Dictionary of Theology: Read five of the following: Covenant, Covenant Theology, The New Israel, The New Covenant, Dispensation, Dispensationalism, Israel and Prophecy Reading resources contained in the Reading Packet: Saucy, The Case for Progressive Dispensationalism, 187-218 Meditation passage: Matthew 18:15-20 Meditation passage: Ephesians 3:1-12 Exam # 1: Pneumatology Due Doctrinal Statement 1: Pneumatology Due Interaction 1: Pneumatology Due
	6	10. Principles behind Church Organization	Systematic theology text: Read one of the following: Lewis & Demarest, vol. 3: no reading, Erickson pages 989-1015, (2nd ed. pages 1079-1097)

		11. External Organization	<p>Evangelical Dictionary of Theology: Read the following: Church Officers, Elder, Minister, Ministry, Deacon, Deaconess</p> <p>-</p> <p>Evangelical Dictionary of Theology: Read the following: Church Authority, Church Government, Excommunication, Church Discipline</p> <p>Meditation passage: Ephesians 4:1-16</p>
4	7	12. Internal Organization	<p>Evangelical Dictionary of Theology: Read the following: Ordain - Ordination, Women - Ordination of, Women in the Church</p> <p>Reading resources contained in the Reading Packet: "Women's Leadership," Litfin, "The Nature of the Pastoral Role"</p> <p>-</p> <p>Systematic theology text: Read one of the following: Lewis & Demarest, vol. 3: no reading, Erickson pages 1016-1054, (2nd ed. pages 1098-1134)</p>
	8	13. The Mission of the Church	Meditation passage: Romans 6:1-11
5	9	14. Ordinances of the Church	<p>Boyd & Eddy, Across the Spectrum: Read chapters 13 (Lord's Supper) & 14 (Baptism)</p> <p>Evangelical Dictionary of Theology: Read three of the following: Baptism (112-119); Footwashing - Laying on of Hands, Views of the Lord's Supper - Love Feast, Baptist Tradition, Lord's Supper, Sacrament, Grace - Means of "Ex Opere Operato"</p> <p>Reading resources contained in the Reading Packet: Moran, A Closer Look at Catholicism, 92-96, 113-128</p>
	10	15. Introduction to Eschatology 16. Death	<p>Systematic theology text: Read one of the following: Lewis & Demarest, vol. 3: pages 445-498, Erickson pages 1055-1104, (2nd ed. pages 1155-1210)</p> <p>Evangelical Dictionary of Theology: Read three of the following - Eschatology, Immortality, Last Day – Days</p> <p>-</p> <p>Evangelical Dictionary of Theology: Read five of the following - Annihilationalism, Dead - Abode of Death, Mortality - Prophecy & Prophets, Conditional Immortality, The Second Death, Resurrection of the Dead</p> <p>Reading resources contained in the Reading Packet: Cook, Systematic Theology in Outline Form, Chapters 50-53</p> <p>Meditation passage: Matthew 13:1-50 Exam 2: Ecclesiology Due Doctrinal Statement 2: Ecclesiology Due Interaction 2: Ecclesiology Due</p>
6	11	17. Intermediate State and Rewards 18. Kingdom	<p>Evangelical Dictionary of Theology: Read five of the following - Intermediate State, Reincarnation, Sheol, Purgatory - Realized Eschatology, Second Chance, Soul Sleep</p> <p>-</p> <p>Evangelical Dictionary of Theology: Read the following: Schweitzer</p> <p>Reading resources contained in the Reading Packet: Saucy, "The Presence of the Kingdom and the Life of the Church," Bibliotheca Sacra 145 (1988): 30-46</p>
	12	19. The Coming of Christ	Evangelical Dictionary of Theology: Read three of the following - Abomination of Desolation, Imminence,

		20. Millennium	<p>Second Coming of Christ, Antichrist, Rapture, Tribulation, Day of Christ - God - the Lord</p> <p>-</p> <p>Systematic theology text: Read one of the following: Lewis & Demarest, vol. 3: pages 369-441, Erickson pages 1105-1140 (2nd ed. pages 1211-1248) Boyd & Eddy, Across the Spectrum: Read chapter 17 (Millennium) Evangelical Dictionary of Theology: Read the following - Millennium, Views of New Creation</p> <p>Meditation passage: Revelation 21-22</p>
7	13	21. Eternal State	<p>Boyd & Eddy, Across the Spectrum: Read chapter 18 (Hell)</p> <p>Evangelical Dictionary of Theology: Read three of the following: Eternal Life, Judgment, Spiritual Body This Age - The Age to Come, Final State, Last Judgment, Universalism, Heaven, New Heavens - New Earth, Wrath of God, Hell</p> <p>Reading resources contained in the Reading Packet: Kreeft, "Heaven & Hell under Every Bush" Pastoral Renewal, March, 1986; Edwards & Stott, Evangelical Essentials (IVP, 1989), 312-329</p>
	14		<p>Exam 3: Eschatology Due Doctrinal Statement 3: Eschatology Due Interaction 3: Eschatology Due Reading Report Due On-time Verification (16 week course, ok to submit in week 15).</p>
8	15		
	16		<p>Course Evaluation and Reflection. If you have not been granted an extension, graded assignments turned in after 8:00 a.m. on Monday of the final week may be subject to a late penalty of up to 10% per day.</p>

COURSE POLICIES

Attendance and Late Assignments: Student will receive on-time completion points for finishing their course according to the schedule. Students in the 8 week sessions are required to have all their course work into their course instructor by end of week 7. Students in the 16 week sessions are required to have all their work into their course instructor by end of week 15. If you have not been granted an extension, graded assignments turned in after 8:00 a.m. on Monday of the final week may be subject to a late penalty of up to 10% per day. No online completion points will be granted after that time.

Copyright Violation and Plagiarism: Research in secondary sources for the written project is permitted and welcomed. However, any appropriation of either ideas or wording taken from other sources, whether print or electronic, must be properly footnoted. Failure to do so constitutes plagiarism which can result in substantial grade reduction or failure. Any unauthorized copying or use of copyrighted materials, including downloaded files of various kinds, can result in criminal charges and fines. For a fuller explanation of these issues or WS's copyright policy, see the Copyright Issues and

Cheating" section of the Student Handbook:

<http://www.westernseminary.edu/academic/handbook-copyright>.

Incompletes/Extensions:

In the case of serious illness, family emergency, or other extenuating circumstances beyond the student's control, students may request one course extension of no more than 4 weeks. Registration for a distance education course is conditional upon the successful completion of any current course you are taking. If you have received an extension for your current course, you are expected to finish your current courses before your next Online Campus course start date to stay registered.

If students face a personal emergency that requires requesting an extension going beyond the end of the semester, it may affect their ability to receive financial aid in the next semester, and they may face the possibility that their next semester's course registrations will be cancelled. Please contact the Financial Aid Office for assistance.

Audit/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.

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, Ashley Mitchell, at 503-517-1819/1-877-517-1800, ext. 1819. Her office is at the Portland campus. Students at the northern California campuses may contact Student Services Coordinator – San Jose or Director of Student Services – Sacramento, or they may contact Ms Mitchell directly. Appropriate forms will be provided and must be submitted to the Disability Coordinator's office.

Questions regarding this course or its materials should be directed to:

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