

TH 512: Humanity, Sin, History of Salvation, Person and Work of Christ
Fall 2022

Professor: Dr. Steven J. Duby
Contact Information: sduby@ps.edu
Office Hours: By appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course introduces students to major topics in systematic theology, including the doctrine of humanity, the doctrine of sin, the history of salvation, the person of Christ, and the work of Christ. Students will consider the biblical bases for these doctrines, the development and elaboration of these doctrines in church history, and the practical implications of these doctrines for Christian life and ministry.

COURSE OUTCOMES

At the end of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Articulate and defend the major doctrinal commitments of the Christian faith within the topics of humanity, sin, the history of salvation, and the person and work of Christ.
3. Explain how such doctrinal commitments emerge principally from the teaching of Scripture and have been developed and refined in the context of the church's theological tradition.
4. Articulate his/her own convictions on sub-topics in Christian doctrine that allow for diverse conclusions within the bounds of Christian orthodoxy.
5. Apply Christian doctrine to Christian life and ministry.

REQUIRED COURSE TEXTS

- Bavinck, Herman. *Reformed Dogmatics – Volume 2: God and Creation*. Ed. John Bolt. Trans. John Vriend. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2004.
- Bavinck, Herman. *Reformed Dogmatics – Volume 3: Sin and Salvation in Christ*. Ed. John Bolt. Trans. John Vriend. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2006.
- Cyril of Alexandria. *On the Unity of Christ*. Trans. John Anthony McGuckin. Popular Patristics Series. Crestwood: St. Vladimir's Seminary Press, 1995.
- Parker, Brent E., and Richard J. Lucas, eds. *Covenantal and Dispensational Theologies: Four Views on the Continuity of Scripture*. Downers Grove: IVP, 2022.
- Trueman, Carl R. *The Rise and Triumph of the Modern Self*. Wheaton: Crossway, 2020.
- Van Dixhoorn, Chad. *Creeds, Confessions, and Catechisms: A Reader's Edition*. Wheaton: Crossway, 2022.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

<p>1. Reading <i>Outcome(s) 1-4</i></p>	<p>1. Readings for each week must be completed before the beginning of the class period. Students must come prepared to discuss the reading material and to build upon it through taking notes on lectures and interacting with professor and classmates.</p> <p>2. The readings and lectures will serve as the basis for exam questions.</p>
<p>2. Anthropology Seminar (25% of grade) <i>Outcome(s) 1-4</i></p>	<p>1. Students will read Carl Trueman's <i>The Rise and Triumph of the Modern Self</i> in preparation for this class period. Upon entering class, students will be required to state on paper whether they have read the book in its entirety.</p>

	<p>2. Students will then be called upon to explain aspects of the book and to work out their understanding of Christian anthropology in discussion (and, if needed, debate) with the instructor and their peers.</p> <p>3. Students will receive a grade based on whether they completed the reading prior to class and on their level of constructive involvement in the seminar. Each student must exercise good judgment in showing willingness to be involved without attempting to dominate the discussion.</p>
<p>3. Paper (25% of grade) <i>Outcome(s) 1-4</i></p>	<p>1. The goal of this assignment is to help the student develop his/her understanding of the person of Christ.</p> <p>2. The student will write a paper on the hypostatic union (the union of the two natures of Christ in the one person of Christ), discussing the scriptural foundations of the doctrine, the theological formulation of the doctrine in the Christian tradition, and the pastoral implications of the doctrine.</p> <p>3. The student will write a paper consisting of five parts. The parts must be broken up into clearly labelled sections using the following headings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. Introduction II. The Scriptural Basis for the Hypostatic Union III. Theological Development of the Doctrine IV. Application of the Doctrine V. Conclusion <p>4. In section I, tell me exactly what you're going to do in the paper. I am expecting a clear preview letting me know how your paper is going to unfold.</p> <p>In section II, explain how Scripture bears witness to the union of the two natures of Christ in the one person of Christ. Cite specific texts along the way.</p> <p>In section III, you will discuss how the doctrine of the hypostatic union has been explained and developed in the Christian theological tradition. This is a key place to cite extrabiblical sources. Here you must clearly distinguish the orthodox position from Arianism, Apollinarianism, Nestorianism, and Eutychianism (a.k.a. Monophysitism).</p> <p>In section IV, you will discuss the significance of this doctrine for Christian ministry. For example, you might stress that by virtue of the hypostatic union, the highest revelation of God is the person of Christ, or that by virtue of the hypostatic union God the Son himself has had firsthand experience of human suffering.</p>

	<p>In section V, tell me exactly what you've just done in the paper.</p> <p>5. The length of the paper should be 8-10 pages (double-spaced with standard 12-point font). This means roughly half a page for section I, 2-3 pages for section II, 2-3 pages for section III, 2-3 pages for section IV, and half a page for section V.</p> <p>6. Beyond Bavinck and Cyril of Alexandria, you are required to cite a minimum of five academic sources and include them in a bibliography page at the end of the paper. See the end of this syllabus for some suggested resources.</p> <p>7. Students must submit a hard copy of the paper at the beginning of the class period on 3/30. Students must also retain an electronic file of the paper in case – heaven forbid – the hard copy is lost.</p>
<p>4. Exam (50% of grade) <i>Outcome(s) 1-4</i></p>	<p>1. The final exam will be cumulative, requiring students to study and review the entire body of material they have covered over the semester.</p> <p>2. Exam will be based upon the readings and lectures. Anything that has appeared in the readings or lectures (including Q&A moments that take place in class) may appear on an exam.</p> <p>3. The exam will consist of short-answer and essay questions.</p>

GRADING INFORMATION

Letter Grade	Percentage	Grade Points	Description
A+	100–97	4.0	
A	96–93	4.0	Excellent; superior achievement.
A-	92–90	3.7	
B+	89–87	3.3	
B	86–83	3.0	Good; commendable achievement.
B-	82–80	2.7	
C+	79–77	2.3	
C	76–73	2.0	Satisfactory; acceptable achievement.
C-	72–70	1.7	
D+	69–67	1.3	

D	66–63	1.0	Poor; marginal achievement.
D-	62–60	0.7	
F	59–0	0.0	Failure to advance in the course. No credit earned. Computed in GPA.

SEMINARY ACADEMIC POLICIES

All Seminary policies affecting student work, appeals, and grievances, as outlined in the Academic Catalog or Student Handbook will apply, unless otherwise indicated in this syllabus.

Assignment Policies

Assignments must be formatted and submitted according to the instructions provided in the syllabus and according to any supplemental instructions provided in class. Late assignments are subject to a grade reduction. If the student has a true emergency (e.g., severe health issue or death in the family) that will affect the student’s ability to submit an assignment on time, the student should email the professor as soon as possible.

Courteous Use of Technology in the Classroom (phone, tablet, laptop)

Students are expected to silence phones in class (airplane mode or turned off). If a student has an emergency situation (e.g., health issue in the family or imminent birth of a child), the student should step out of class to handle the situation. Students will be expected not to have laptops and similar devices out during the lectures and interaction in class. This is due to the fact that even the godly among us can succumb to the distractions that such devices provide. The aim here is to foster an environment characterized by attentiveness to God, Holy Scripture, and one another. Furthermore, taking notes by hand improves memory.

COURSE SCHEDULE

(FORMAT OF THE TABLE BELOW IS AT THE PROFESSOR'S DISCRETION)

Course schedule, topics, evaluation, and assignments may be changed at the professor's discretion to responsively meet the needs of this class.

Date	Topic	Reading and Assignments
8/16	Humanity I: Human Nature, Image of God	
8/23	Humanity II: Human Diversity and Freedom	Van Dixhoorn, pp. 191-2; Bavinck, vol. 2, chaps 11-12
8/30	Humanity III: Covenant of Nature, Biological Origins	Van Dixhoorn, p. 342 (q. 20); Bavinck, vol. 2, chap. 13
9/6	Sin I: The Nature of Sin, The Fall	Van Dixhoorn, pp. 342-4 (qq. 21-7); Bavinck, vol. 3, chaps 1-2
9/13	Sin II: Original and Actual Sin, Human Freedom after the Fall	Van Dixhoorn, pp. 118-19 (aa. 9-10), pp. 155-67; Bavinck, vol. 3, chaps 3-4
9/20	Anthropology Seminar	Trueman (whole book)
9/27	History of Salvation I: Covenants, Unity of the Two Testaments	Van Dixhoorn, pp. 195-7; Bavinck, vol. 3, chap. 5
10/4	History of Salvation II: Competing Systems of Thought	Parker and Lucas, eds, chaps 1-4
10/11	Person of Christ I: OT Expectation, Hypostatic Union	Van Dixhoorn, pp. 13-27; Bavinck, vol. 3, chap. 6, pp. 233-74
10/18	Person of Christ II: Communication of Properties, Gifts of the Spirit	Bavinck, vol. 3, chap. 6, pp. 274-319

10/25	Person of Christ III: Knowledge, Faith, Two Wills, Two Operations, Weaknesses	Cyril of Alexandria, <i>On the Divine Unity of Christ</i> (whole book, including Introduction)
11/1	Work of Christ I: Threefold Office, Humiliation Virgin Birth, Obedience	Van Dixhoorn, pp. 416-17 (qq. 23-8); Bavinck, vol. 3, chap. 7, pp. 323-68 PAPER DUE
11/8	Work of Christ II: Atonement	Van Dixhoorn, pp. 148-54; Bavinck, vol. 3, chap. 7, pp. 368-417
	NO CLASS 11/15, 11/22	
11/29	Work of Christ III: Resurrection, Ascension, Intercession	Bavinck, vol. 3, chap. 8
12/6	Exam	

Suggested Resources for Hypostatic Union Paper (* indicates availability through the library)

Primary Sources

- *Ambrose. *On the Christian Faith*. In vol. 10 of NPNF², pp. 201-314.
- *Ames, William. *The Marrow of Theology*. Trans. John Dykstra Eusden. Durham: Labyrinth Press, 1983.
- *Athanasius. *Against the Arians*. In vol. 4 of NPNF², pp. 306-447.
- *Athanasius. *On the Incarnation*. In vol. 4 of NPNF², pp. 36-77.
- *Augustine. *The Trinity*. Fathers of the Church 45. Washington, D. C.: Catholic University of America Press, 1962.
- *Cyril of Alexandria. *Three Christological Treatises*. Fathers of the Church 129. Washington, D.C.: Catholic University of America Press, 2014.
- *Gregory Nazianzen. *Five Theological Orations*. In vol. 7 of NPNF², pp. 284-328.
- *Gregory of Nyssa. *Against Eunomius*. In vol. 5 of NPNF², pp. 35-314.
- *Gregory of Nyssa. *On "Not Three Gods"*. In vol. 5 of NPNF², pp. 331-6.
- *Hilary of Poitiers. *The Trinity*. Fathers of the Church 25. Washington, D. C.: Catholic University of America Press, 1954.
- *John of Damascus. *An Exact Exposition of the Orthodox Faith*, pp. 165-406. In *Writings*. Trans. Frederic H. Chase, Jr. Fathers of the Church 37. Washington, D. C.: Catholic University of America Press, 1958.
- *Maximus the Confessor. *On the Cosmic Mystery of Jesus Christ*. Trans. Paul M. Blowers and Robert Louis Wilken. Popular Patristics Series. Crestwood: St. Vladimir's Seminary Press, 2003.
- *Owen, John. *The Glory of Christ*. Vol. 1 of *The Works of John Owen*. Ed. William H. Goold. Edinburgh: Banner of Truth, 1965.
- **Synopsis Purioris Theologiae/Synopsis of a Purer Theology*. Vol. 2. Ed. Henk van den Belt et al. Leiden: Brill, 2016.
- *Tanner, Norman P, ed. *Decrees of the Ecumenical Councils – Volume One: Nicaea to Lateran V*. Washington, D. C.: Georgetown University Press, 1990.
- *Thomas Aquinas. *Summa theologiae, tertia pars, 1-59*. Trans. Laurence Shapcote. Green Bay: Aquinas Institute, 2012.
- *Turretin, Francis. *Institutes of Elenctic Theology*. Vol. 2. Ed. James T. Dennison. Trans. George Musgrave Giger. Phillipsburg: P & R, 1994.

Secondary Sources

- *Anatolios, Khaled. *Retrieving Nicaea: The Development and Meaning of Trinitarian Doctrine*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2011.
- *Ayres, Lewis. *Nicaea and Its Legacy: An Approach to Fourth-Century Trinitarian Theology*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2004.
- *Bauckham, Richard. *Jesus and the God of Israel: God Crucified and Other Studies on the New Testament's Christology of Divine Identity*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2008.
- Bird, Michael F. *Jesus the Eternal Son: Answering Adoptionist Christology*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2017.
- *Capes, David B. *The Divine Christ: Paul, the Lord Jesus, and the Scriptures of Israel*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2018.
- *Duby, Steven J. *Jesus and the God of Classical Theism: Biblical Christology in Light of the Doctrine of God*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2022.
- *Gathercole, Simon J. *The Pre-existent Son: Recovering the Christologies of Matthew, Mark, and Luke*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2006.
- *Emery, Gilles. *The Trinitarian Theology of St Thomas Aquinas*. Trans. Francesca Aran Murphy. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2007.
- *Emery, Gilles. *The Trinity: An Introduction to the Catholic Doctrine of the Triune God*. Trans. Matthew Levering. Washington, D. C.: Catholic University of America Press, 2011.
- *Hurtado, Larry W. *Lord Jesus Christ: Devotion to Jesus in Earliest Christianity*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2003.
- *Köstenberger, Andreas J., and Scott R. Swain. *Father, Son and Spirit: The Trinity and John's Gospel*. Downers Grove: IVP, 2008.

- Jamieson, R. B. *The Paradox of Sonship: Christology in the Epistle to the Hebrews*. Downers Grove: IVP, 2021.
- *Jamieson, R. B., and Tyler R. Wittman. *Biblical Reasoning: Christological and Trinitarian Rules for Exegesis*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2022.
- *Jones, Mark. *Knowing Christ*. Edinburgh: Banner of Truth, 2015.
- Legge, Dominic. *The Trinitarian Christology of St Thomas Aquinas*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2017.
- *McFarland, Ian A. *The Word Made Flesh: A Theology of the Incarnation*. Louisville: WJKP, 2019.
- *McGuckin, John A. *St. Cyril of Alexandria, the Christological Controversy: Its History, Theology, and Texts*. Crestwood: St Vladimir's Seminary Press, 2004.
- *Muller, Richard A. *Dictionary of Latin and Greek Theological Terms: Drawn Principally from Protestant Scholastic Theology*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2017.
- *Sanders, Fred. *The Triune God*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2016.
- *Sanders, Fred, and Scott R. Swain, eds. *Retrieving Eternal Generation*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2017.
- *Weinandy, Thomas G. *Jesus Becoming Jesus: A Theological Interpretation of the Synoptic Gospels*. Washington, D. C.: Catholic University of America Press, 2018.
- Weinandy, Thomas G. *Jesus: Essays in Christology*. Ave Maria: Sapientia Press, 2014.
- *Wellum, Stephen J. *God the Son Incarnate: The Doctrine of Christ*. Wheaton: Crossway, 2016.
- *White, Thomas Joseph. *Incarnate Lord: A Thomistic Study in Christology*. Washington, D. C.: Catholic University of America Press, 2015.