SYLLABUS
Baptist Missionary Association Theological Seminary
Extension Campus: Conway, Arkansas
Fall Semester 2010

Course Title: **Survey of Baptist Heritage**
Course Number: **CH 621x**
Professor: Thom South

*Required Texts:*

Bryan, Philip. "A Critique of the English Separatist Descent Theory in Baptist Historiography”
This source is available at Dr. Bryan’s web page: http://www.geocities.com/prbryan.geo.

*Course Description:*
Survey of Baptist Heritage is an overview of the backgrounds, beginnings, and development of the Baptist movement as a particular aspect of Christian history. This course covers the period from the establishment of the Church in the New Testament era to the present, with special concentration on the seventeenth through the twentieth-century Baptist churches. Special emphasis is given to the origin and perpetuity of the church, the tracing out of the Continental Anabaptists and English Baptists, and investigation of Baptist foundations and advance in America. The background material will include a discussion of the successionist view of New Testament church perpetuity and will trace various dissenting groups who held and practiced baptistic beliefs. The course will focus on leading personalities and movements within the Baptist denomination. Four areas of Baptist history will form the divisions of the course: (1) The Identity and distinctives of Baptists; (2) The rise and development of English Baptists; (3) Baptist beginnings in the United States; (4) Divisions and diversities among various Baptist groups. An evaluation of contemporary Baptist churches around the world will conclude the semester’s study.

*Course Objectives: Upon completion of this course the student should be able to:*
1. List and discuss the identifying marks of a New Testament church as understood in Baptist theology.
2. Demonstrate a knowledge of the major groups in Church History which held to basic Baptist beliefs.
3. Discuss the various theories of the development of the Baptist denomination and particularly the arguments for and against the successionist view of Baptist History.
4. Identify the leading personalities of the Baptist denomination from the seventeenth century to the present.
5. Summarize the major events and controversies which led to divisions among the Baptist groups.
6. Demonstrate an understanding of the basic principles of the Landmark movement
from its beginnings to the present.

Course Requirements:

1. Class attendance and participation. Students are expected to attend all lectures and participate in class discussion. Absences will cause a student's grade to be lowered at least 1 percentage point for each absence. The format of this class is designed for every student to participate in class discussion. Failure to keep current in reading assignments and make meaningful contributions to the class discussion may cause the student's grade to be lowered. NOTE: Cell phones should be turned off during class. Answering phones or text messages during class time is NOT acceptable and any student involved in these activities will receive a "0" for the day without further notice. Each class period will include a break when phones and messages can be answered.

2. Reading. The student is to read the required text in accordance with the class schedule. Other reading assignments will be made on a weekly basis to correspond to the topics being discussed.

3. Each student will prepare two short research reports (8-10 pages). Each student will choose one topic and one individual from the two lists below to prepare his/her reports. Topics for these papers will be assigned the second week of class on a first-come-first-choice basis. Every student should come to class the second week prepared to select the paper topics by having their first three choices in topics and individuals selected. Only one student will write on each topic/person and an oral presentation of the topic will be presented in class on the date class discussion relates to that topic.

Reports should conform to the Turabian style of writing; and will be graded for form, grammar, content and clarity. For more information see the document "Research Paper Guidelines" on the syllabus page of the seminary website.

Suggested topics for Baptist Heritage research papers:

Topics:
The Anabaptists and Baptists
Landmarkism
The First Baptist Church in America
The Origin and Growth of BMAA
The Conservative-Moderate Controversy in the SBC (1979-1996)
The Anti-missions Movement among Baptists
The Division between Northern and Southern Baptists
The Whitsett Controversy
Crawford H. Toy and the controversy at SBTS
Baptists and the American Revolution
The First Baptist Associations
Calvinism and Arminianism among Landmark Baptists
The Origin of the Baptist Missionary Society
The Welch Baptists
Distinctives between the General and Particular Baptists and Their Continuing Influence
Conservative Reactions to the Northern Baptist Convention (American Baptists)
The Baptism of John Smyth
Theological Education among Baptists
Independent Baptists
The Down Grade Controversy
Significant Baptist Periodicals and Their Contribution to Various Controversies
The Role and Significance of Missions on the Baptist Advance

**Individuals:**
- Richard Fuller
- Augustus Hopkins Strong
- Alfred H. Newman
- John L. Dagg
- E. Y. Mullins
- Francis Wayland
- S. A. Hayden
- J. M. Pendleton
- J. R. Graves
- T. P. Crawford
- Andrew Fuller
- William Carey
- John Gill
- John Clarke and Roger Williams
- Luther Rice and Adoniram Judson
- A. C. Dixon
- A. C. Dayton
- J. B. Gambrill
- L. R. Scarborough
- J. Frank Norris
- Ben M. Bogard
- Doss Nathan Jackson
- J. P. Boyce
- John A. Broadus
- Basil Manley
- B. H. Carroll
- J. M. Carroll
- G. W. Truett
- W. H. Whitsett
- T. T. Eaton
- John R. Rice
- Hershel Hobbs
- Duke McCall
- W. T. Conner
- Billy Graham
- Jack Hyles
- W. A. Criswell
- Conrad Grebel
- Hezekiah Smith
- Isaac Backus
- Benjamin Keach
- John Leland
- C. H. Spurgeon
- W. B. Riley
- Jerry Falwell
- Adrian Rogers

**Grading:** Grades will be determined on the following scale:
- Class attendance, participation and contribution to class discussion .......... 20%
- Two report papers (30% each including oral presentation) ..................... 60%
- Quizzes, reading, or written assignments ........................................ 20%

**Expectations:**
1. Students are to come to class prepared for each week’s discussion by reading the assigned materials from the textbook and other assigned reading. When student reading is not evidenced a weekly pop quiz and/or written assignments may be given to increase accountability and comprehension.
2. Oral presentations of the research assignments will be made by each student when the topic selected will be discussed in class. Each presentation should be 10 - 15 minutes. See the course schedule to determine when each presentation is due.
3. Any work submitted with a student’s name, whether as a research paper, examination, or other written assignment must be the student’s own work. Any information gained from a source other than the student must be noted. All quotations must be designated and referenced. Work copied or borrowed from a source without proper credit is plagiarism. Plagiarism is a serious offence and will result in an “F” for the assignment and may also result in disciplinary action against the student up to expulsion from the seminary.