Course Number: CH621X
Course Title: Survey of Baptist Heritage: Legacy of Preaching
Professor: Dr. Thom South; Office: PB103; Email: tsouth@cbc.edu
Date: Fall Semester, 2007

Course Description:
This course investigates the historical and theological background of our Baptist faith through an examination and analysis of extant sermons preached by Baptist preachers. Preaching has always played an important role in the worship and ministry of Baptist churches. By tracing the doctrines emphasized in preaching in various eras, the development or movement of theology can be traced through the centuries. Social, moral, and religious issues which challenged Baptist churches in various ages can also be tracked. Often sermons were polemical diatribes against what the preacher perceived as dangerous or heretical practices or teachings. Most sermons delivered from Baptist pulpits have not been preserved. However, those which are available should provide a significant insight into the heritage of the Baptist faith. The content of sermons will be emphasize, but the style, structure, and methodology of preaching will also be observed.

This class will be conducted in a seminar format with the students presenting oral and written reports to the class. The number of reports and length of presentations will be determined by the number of students enrolled in the class. Assignments for the reports and class presentations will be made the first week of class.

Required Textbooks:

Course Objectives:
Upon the completion of this course the student should:
1. Be familiar with Baptist preachers from the early seventeenth century to the present;
2. Identify significant preachers from Baptist history according to their contributions to Baptist heritage, their distinctive associations among various groups of Baptists, and their preaching styles.
3. Be able to trace the development of various Baptist associations and identify the leading personalities of each movement;
4. Be able to trace major trends and movements related to social, moral and doctrinal issues of Baptist.
5. Be able to describe various methods and styles of preaching commonly employed by Baptist preachers.
6. Be able to research bibliographies, internet resources and historical records to investigate, disseminate, and present historical information about individuals or events.
Course Requirements:

1. Reading -

*Required Texts* - The student is expected to read both required texts. Students will be responsible for the material from the textbooks that corresponds to the topics covered in class for each class period. See the tentative schedule to determine the proposed content for each class.

*Additional Reading* - In addition to the required texts each student will read a minimum of 1,000 pages from books and scholarly journals. A record of works read should be kept and turned at the end of the semester. If there is a question about the appropriateness of a source it should be presented to the instructor for approval. Sources used for reports may be included in this additional reading report.

2. One exam will be given on the final class meeting. The nature and content for the exam will be explained later.

3. Reports

Each student is required to prepare at least three oral and written reports on Baptist preachers. The total number of reports will be determined by number of students in the class. To prepare for the first class each student should select 5 or 6 individuals from the list of Baptist preachers attached to the syllabus. At least one preacher should be selected from each century. Assignments will be made on the first night of class on a first-come-first-served basis. The report should include biographical information, ministry information, and an analysis of at least one sermon that is considered typical of the preacher being studied. Written, audio, or video presentations of sermons should be included with the report. A detailed outline (2-4 pages) of the presentation should be given to each member of the class. All reports should conform to the 6th edition of Kate L. Turabian’s *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Themes, and Dissertations* (Chicago: Univ. of Chicago Press, 1973 or 1987). Form and structure will be a part of the grade, however, quality of research and presentation of the topic is more important than the form of the paper. The full written report should be 5-7 pages in length. A selected bibliography or reference list should be provided along with the outline and report. The length of the oral presentation will not exceed 30 minutes. The exact time limits will be determined by the number of reports presented.

Grading:

Grades will be determined on the following basis:

- Attendance, participation and attentiveness in class: 10%
- Exam: 20%
- Reading Report: 10%
- Reports: oral and written: 60%

Class Schedule

This is a preliminary and tentative class schedule. When report assignments are made at the first class meeting the schedule will be adjusted to match the student reports.

| AUGUST 28 | Introduction to course |
|           | Assignment of research projects |
|           | Brief overview of Baptist History |
SEPTEMBER 4  The role of preaching in Baptist worship  
Fasol: Introduction (pages1-9); McKibbens: Preface (pagesix-xv), Chapters 11-12 (pages 201-24)

11  McKibbens pages 1-19
18  McKibbens pages 21-66
25  McKibbens pages 67-101

OCTOBER 2
9  McKibbens pages 105-124
16  McKibbens pages 125-156; Fasol pp. 11-44
23  McKibbens pages 157-186; Fasol pages 45-65
30  McKibbens pages 187-197; Fasol pages 67-91

NOVEMBER 6  Fasol pages 93-124
13  Fasol pages 125-187
20
27  McKibbens pages 225-251
Bibliographies due.

DECEMBER 4  Final Exam

Miscellaneous Information
>Due date - All written assignments are due on the date assigned. Any work turned in late will be lowered.
>E-mail - My e-mail address is < tsouth@cbc.edu > in case you have questions or need to contact me before or after the class sessions.
>Cell phones and pagers should be turned off during class. A ringing cell phone is disruptive to the whole class.
>The student should make every effort to attend each class session. According to seminary policy, students who miss more than 1/4 of the classes, will not receive a passing grade for the course.
>Discussion and questions are encouraged. Discussion is a must if everyone is to benefit from the educational experience. All students should be involved in class discussions. Efforts will be made to prevent one or two dominating the class discussion time.
>It is the task of the instructor to be prepared for each class session. He has pledged to do his best to challenge, inform and prepare the student. However, this is not a one-sided proposition. The students must pledge to do their best also. Students should come to class prepared, awake, attentive, and ready to learn. Just being in class does not qualify one to be a student.
In order to cover the material and meet the required classroom instruction hours there must be cooperation by all involved. If an emergency arises the student may leave the classroom. However, constant entering and leaving the classroom while the class is in session is disruptive, should not be warranted, and will not be tolerated.

**BAPTIST PREACHERS**

**Great Britain**

17th Century: John Smyth, Thomas Helwys, Henry Jesse, Hansard Knollys, John Bunyon, Benjamin Keach

18th Century: John Gale, Benjamin Stinton, John Gill, Hugh & Caleb Evans, Robert Robinson, Andrew Fuller, William Carey, John Ryland, Robert Hall

19th Century: John Clifford, Alexander Maclaren, Henry Wheeler Robinson, Charles Haddon Spurgeon, Joseph Parker

**United States**

17th Century: John Clarke, Roger Williams, Henry Dunster, Elisha Callender, John Callender, Jr., Elias Keach, Isaac Eaton, Abel Morgan, John Gano, Samuel Jones, William Screven

