Course Syllabus

CH 211c
Baptist History

Spring 2016 Online
Developed Fall 2013

Professor: David Erickson, Ph.D.

Student Access to Professor
The Professor invites and encourages students to visit with him regarding their academic assignments or other life issues during the course. The professor’s hours are somewhat flexible to meet your scheduling requirements or individual needs.

- Primary contact with the professor will be accomplished via Moodle messages. How to Send a Moodle Message: 1) Click the participants section of the course; 2) Click on the instructor’s name; 3) Scroll to the bottom of the page; 4) Click on the “Send Message” button; 5) This will open a new small window in which you can type your message; 6) Click send message. The instructor will respond to your message via Moodle.

- Secondary contact (as a backup to primary contact) with the professor is through email: david.erickson@bmats.edu

- If you believe you need emergency contact, the professor’s work phone number is 903-586-2501 (Cell: 903-625-0132). The instructor contact time is Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Central Time.

Delivery and Terms
This is NOT a self-paced course. The professor has assigned deadlines for specific assignments as shown in the assignment schedule. The class begins January 25, 2016 and ends on May 13, 2016.

Course Texts


Course Description
This course covers the period from the establishment of Christianity to modern Baptist churches. Special emphasis is given to dissenting groups, sixteenth-century Anabaptists, early English Baptists, and the theology, polity, and praxis of Baptists in America.
Course Objectives
By the end of the course the student should be able to:
1) Demonstrate knowledge of important individuals and movements in Baptist history.
2) Demonstrate knowledge of basic concepts of the Baptist understanding of the church.
3) Engage in research in church history for the purpose of personal and spiritual enrichment.

Course Policies
Civility: Individuals are expected to be cognizant of what a constructive educational experience is and respectful of those participating in a learning environment. Some student interactions will involve opinion which is neither right/wrong nor good/evil. My family values may be more/less socially open/closed than yours; my early life experiences may be different from yours; my denominational traditions may be distinct from yours; my journey in life may have taken a divergent path from yours. Be considerate in all responses to show discretion, regard, and courtesy.

Assignments Due: All assignments will be turned in to the instructor on the due date, before 11:55 p.m. Central Time. You may turn your completed work in earlier than the due date. You are expected to adhere to all deadlines without fail. Late work is automatically worth zero points. You have been informed of the various due dates well in advance and are expected to meet them regardless of personal impediments that may arise immediately before something is due. Deadlines are a fact of life. You can choose to plan ahead so that you meet them, or you can be content with the mediocrity of last-minute work. Either way, you still have to be on time. Contact the professor if there is an extreme, extraordinary emergency in your life. If the student and instructor agree there is an extreme, extraordinary circumstance, the work will be turned in no later than one class week from due date. Moodle has a time sensitive setting that will not allow work to be turned in after the deadline.

Grammar and Style: Major papers and book reviews are expected to employ proper English grammar and must conform to the standards in Kate Turabian, A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations, 7th ed. (on issues that Turabian does not address, consult The Chicago Manual of Style, 15th ed.). Papers that have more than three grammatical errors or more than two style errors may be returned to the student for correction. The student must then resubmit a grammatically sound and stylistically proper paper. The grade of the paper will be reduced 10 percentage points every day after their paper has been returned until an adequate paper is produced. Students are encouraged to consult with the professor before submitting their paper if they are concerned about it being returned.

Academic Honesty: The sanctity of truth is central to those who believe in a God who cannot lie and who forbids false witness. Academic honesty is the application in the academic world of the sanctity of truth. A student who submits work as part of the requirements for a course thereby asserts that the student personally has done that work exclusively for that course. The student is asserting that the thoughts are the student's own original work unless credit is explicitly given to sources via citation. The student is asserting that the words written are the student’s own original work unless words are enclosed in quotation marks. Academic dishonesty is falling short of these standards. It includes, but is not limited to: cheating, submitting work which was prepared by another person, not giving credit on papers to sources, not quoting properly, and submitting
without approval work originally prepared by the student for another course. Students found engaging in academic dishonesty will be subject to various disciplinary measures.

**Lack of Engagement**: Online courses are designed for the student to become engaged quickly, early, and to the maximum for the successful completion of the course. The instructor will follow the current Baptist Missionary Association Theological Seminary Student Handbook (page 3) process of assigning the grade of “F” due to the student’s non-participation/engagement in the course.

**Americans with Disabilities Act**: BMA Seminary supports the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students with physical or learning disabilities desiring additional assistance must consult with the Dean’s office prior to enrollment or as early as possible after the disability is diagnosed. Procedures for assisting students will require a physician’s written verification of the disability and probable benefit(s) of specific assistance for student learning, a student’s specific written request(s) for assistance from the seminary, and the informing of the seminary faculty. Reasonable accommodations will be given in accordance with the federal and state laws though the Dean’s Office. Contact the Dean’s Office in the main administration building in person or:
  by mail: P.O. Box 670, Jacksonville, TX 75766
  by phone: 800-259-5673
  by email: bmats@bmats.edu

Baptist Missionary Association Theological Seminary is dedicated to helping all students we serve to achieve their Christian, educational, and life goals.

**Course Assignments**

Please note for all assignments: *Moodle will not allow you to submit work after the deadline date.*

1. **Forums**
The student will have the opportunity to respond to discussion opportunities and questions each week. Discussion opportunities are to be returned via Moodle.

   To receive full credit, each student must:
   - have her/his name on all discussion threads.
   - post a reply of at least 60 words to the discussion question (worth up to 15 points).
   - post a reply of at least 30 words to another student’s post (worth up to 10 points).
   - post responses that substantially contribute to the discussion of the material learned that week.
   - formulate complete sentences using good English.
   - be civil in responses.
   - one reply to the question and one reply to another student’s answer are the minimal requirements, additional responses will receive additional points up to a maximum of 25 points.

   **NOTE**: When you respond to the professor’s discussion starter, Moodle will not allow you to see other students’ responses for thirty minutes (this is the time period when you can still
edit your post). You are encouraged to begin the assignment more than thirty minutes before it is due to compensate for this.

2. Reading Quizzes
There will be quizzes based on the required readings for most weeks. Questions will come from the textbooks. All quizzes are open book and consist of objective questions. Quizzes are time-limited, in order to take a quiz effectively it is important to be familiar with the information before beginning the exam. You can take a quiz up to two times before it is due. There is a required delay between your first and second attempt. Your highest scoring quiz attempt will be counted for your grade.

4. Exams
The mid-term and final exams will consist of essay questions. These should be answered with essays of at least one page in length that demonstrate the student’s mastery of the material and the ability to think critically and constructively about what has been learned. Both exams are open book. You have unlimited opportunities to take the exams until the time that they are due. The last exam submitted will be counted for your grade.

5. Biography
There is one five (5) page double spaced biographical paper due during the semester. The biography must cover a significant Baptist from the list found below, with particular attention given to his or her theological contributions and historical significance. This biography must reference a minimum of three scholarly sources and should also include original sources if possible. The biography must use footnotes that conform to the standards in Kate Turabian, A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations, 7th ed. The paper will be graded according to the rubric available on Moodle.

   Possible Subjects for Biography
   John Smyth          Isaac Backus
   Thomas Helwys       Shubal Stearns
   Praisegod Barebone  Richard Furman
   William Kiffin      Francis Wayland
   Thomas Coliffin     John Mason Peck
   Benjamin Keach      Daniel Parker
   John Clarke         James M. Pendleton
   William Screven    Amos C. Dayton
   Dan Taylor          Sallie R. Ford
   John Gill           Johann Gerhard Oncken
   Abraham Booth       Frederick O. Nilsson
   Andrew Fuller

6. Personal Essay:
Write an essay of two to three (2-3) double-spaced pages answering from your own personal experience “Why I am a Baptist.” This is an assignment for you to reflect on your personal spiritual journey and its relationship to Baptist churches and beliefs.
Of course, not every student in the course is a Baptist. If you are not, then your essay should answer “Why I Attend a Baptist Seminary.” You should reflect on your personal spiritual journey and convictions and explain the similarities and dissimilarities between them and Baptist beliefs.

7. History of a Baptist Convention or Association:
Write a four to six (4-6) page double-spaced history of a national Baptist convention or association. The history should cover at least the following points:
1. When and why it was founded
2. Distinctive theological beliefs of the association
3. Significant contributions or ministries of the convention
4. Current demographic status and geographic distribution of churches associated with the convention or association.

The history should be based on sound historical research as evidenced through footnotes and a bibliography. You are encouraged to use primary sources such as minutes and proceedings as well as secondary sources such as books describing the history of the convention or association.

A non-exhaustive list of possible conventions or associations for study:
- Baptist Missionary Association of America
- American Baptist Association
- Southern Baptist Convention
- Baptist Bible Fellowship
- American Baptist Churches USA
- General Association of Regular Baptist Churches
- Baptist General Conference
- National Baptist Convention USA Inc.
- Progressive National Baptist Convention

Course Grades:
There are seven parts to student grades in this course:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Graded Assignments</th>
<th>Percentage Each</th>
<th>Total Percent</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Forums (13 opportunities)</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>26%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reading Quizzes (13 opportunities)</td>
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<td>26%</td>
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<td>Exams (2 opportunities)</td>
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<td>Essay</td>
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<td>Biography</td>
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<tr>
<td>Association History</td>
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There are two extra credit opportunities during the course

The seminary’s standardized grading scale will be followed in assigning final grades:
- A  91-100%
- B  81-90%
- C  71-80%
- D  61-70%
- F  0-61%
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points Value</th>
<th>Required Reading</th>
<th>Date Available on Moodle</th>
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<tr>
<td>January 27</td>
<td>Syllabus Quiz (Extra Credit)</td>
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<td>Course Syllabus</td>
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<td>January 29</td>
<td>Forum Reading Quiz 1</td>
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<td>S. H. Ford, <em>The Origin of the Baptists</em></td>
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<td>McBeth 21-48, 123-143</td>
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<td>McBeth 64-98, 113-122</td>
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<td>McBeth 153-199</td>
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<td>McBeth 200-205, 227-235, 239-283</td>
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<td>McBeth 343-361, 370-391</td>
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<td>McBeth 401-410, 412-432, 464-494</td>
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<td>McBeth 776-790 “Beyond One Man”</td>
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<td>“Israel Campbell”</td>
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<td>April 1</td>
<td>Forum Reading Quiz 9</td>
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<td>“The Landmark Movement”</td>
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<td>April 8</td>
<td>Forum Reading Quiz 10</td>
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<td>McBeth 563-578 “J. Frank Norris: Rascal or Reformer?”</td>
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<td>Biography</td>
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CH 211c Schedule  
Spring 2016
## MODERN BAPTISTS

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Texts/Topics</th>
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<td>Forum Reading Quiz 11</td>
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<td>McBeth 675-687 Anatomy of a Reformation</td>
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<td>McBeth 702-776</td>
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<td>April 29</td>
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<td>Studies in Baptist Doctrines and History “Landmarkism”</td>
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<td>May 13</td>
<td>Final Exam Association History</td>
<td>10 10</td>
<td>April 30</td>
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### COURSE CONTRACT:

By continuing with the course, you certify that you:

- have thoroughly read the syllabus and all relevant orientation information.
- understand that this course has a fixed start and end date.
- understand the delivery mode of this course is not self-paced.
- understand that this is not a watered-down course—you can expect to spend more time reading, writing, and studying in this class than if you were taking this course in a classroom.
- agree to submit your assignments electronically or as instructed by your instructor within the accepted timeframe.
- are the student officially enrolled in this course and you are actually performing your own work.
- agree to the course conditions and requirements, especially the provisions of academic honesty and personal integrity in an online course.

Failing to fulfill the course contract will result in failure of the course and other appropriate disciplinary actions, if necessary.