



Course Syllabus

CH 621 Survey of Baptist Heritage

Spring 2017

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 is through personal interaction during regular class meetings or visits during office hours.
- 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.

Course Texts

[Chute, Anthony, Nathan Finn, and Michael Haykin. *The Baptist Story: From English Sect to Global Movement*. Nashville, TN: B&H Academic, 2015. ISBN 1433673754](#)

[Early, Joe. *Readings in Baptist History: Four Centuries of Selected Documents*. Nashville, TN: B&H Academic, 2008. ISBN 0805446745](#)

[Estep, William R. *The Anabaptist Story: An Introduction to Sixteenth Century Anabaptism*. 3rd ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1996. ISBN 0802808867](#)

[Garrett, James Leo. *Baptist Theology: A Four Century Survey*. Macon, GA: Mercer University Press, 2009. ISBN 0881461296](#)

[Shurden, Walter. *The Baptist Identity: Four Fragile Freedoms*. Macon, GA: Smyth & Helwys, 1993. ISBN 188083720X](#)

Course Description

A survey of the historical and theological basis of Baptist thought and practice. The course studies the background of Baptists in so-called heretical and radical movements, the emergence of Baptists in the seventeenth century, and significant Baptist figures and movements in Britain, America, and across the world.

Course Objectives

By the end of the course the student should be able to:

- 1) Identify and summarize key concepts, individuals, and institutions from Baptist history.
- 2) Organize and implement research in historical resources that will enable continued growth in the professional and academic study of historical theology.
- 3) Create a historical work that examines and explains a specific historical issue within its context.
- 4) Evaluate other Baptist theologians on a biblical, theological, and philosophical basis.
- 5) Organize and implement research within the field of church history for the purpose of spiritual growth and personal devotions.
- 6) Organize and implement research into the original sources of church history.

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.

Faculty Advisor: Every student at BMA Seminary has a faculty adviser. While all academic advising is done with the Dean or Associate Dean, your faculty adviser is a resource for you in many other areas. He is available to help you with spiritual issues, ministry challenges, personal difficulties, and other issues that may arise during your studies. To help foster a relationship with your adviser, you are expected to contact him at least once during the first six weeks of the semester. Although regular email contact is encouraged, you should speak with your advisor at least once during the semester, whether in-person or via video conference or phone call.

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 through 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.

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.

Drop or Withdrawal from Course: Due to various unseen circumstances, students may feel the need to drop or withdraw from a course. The seminary has strict policies as to when a student may drop without penalty or withdraw from a course. In this Spring semester, the last day to drop a course without penalty is Friday, February 24th. The last day to withdraw from a course is Friday, April 7th.

Plagiarism: 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. In any paper, the student is asserting that the thoughts are the student's own original work unless credit is explicitly given to sources via footnote citation. The student is asserting that the words written are the student's own composition unless the words are enclosed in quotation marks or set off in a block quotation. Failure to cite in proper form the works on which a paper is based or to quote in proper form the words of others constitutes plagiarism. Students found engaging in plagiarism are subject to disciplinary measures. The copying of the work of another, whether derived from

the Internet or other sources, when falsely presented as a student's own work, is considered grounds for suspension from the seminary. (For more details on plagiarism, consult the Student Handbook)

Course Assignments

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

1. 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.

2. 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.

3. Biographies

There are two five (5) page double spaced biographical papers due during the semester. Biography 1 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.

Biography 2 must cover the life of an elderly or recently deceased Baptist individual who is significant to the student or a personal acquaintance of the student. The sources of the biography could include: interviews with the subject, spouse, children, fellow church members, ministers, and other relevant people; records from churches and associations; and newspaper articles collected in the biographical files maintained by Keller Library. These sources must be cited in footnotes that conform as much as possible to the standards in Turabian's *Manual*.

Possible Subjects for Biography 1

John Smyth	John Clarke
Thomas Helwys	William Screven
Praisegod Barebone	Dan Taylor
William Kiffin	John Gill
Thomas Collier	Abraham Booth
Benjamin Keach	Andrew Fuller

Isaac Backus
Shubal Stearns
Richard Furman
Francis Wayland
John Mason Peck
Daniel Parker

James M. Pendleton
Amos C. Dayton
Sallie R. Ford
Johann Gerhard Oncken
Frederick O. Nilsson

4. Research Paper

The student must submit a paper of fifteen to twenty (15-20) pages on a subject chosen by the student. This project should reflect maturing historical scholarship and thorough knowledge of the subject. The goal of the paper is to examine the subject within its historical context and make contemporary application of the concepts discovered. The paper is not to be a mere recital of facts that have been unearthed. Instead it should have a **clearly articulated research question and thesis statement** that is then supported by the body of the paper. At a minimum the paper should reference (via footnote) at least fifteen different sources, including at least two monographs, two articles from journals, and two original sources. Footnotes are expected for virtually every paragraph. Papers will be graded according to rubrics available on Moodle.

Course Grades:

There are seven parts to student grades in this course:

Graded Assignments	Percentage Each	Total Percent
Reading Quizzes (13 opportunities)	2%	26%
Exams (2 opportunities)	8%	16%
Biographies (2 opportunities)	12%	24%
Research Paper	24%	24%
Class Participation		10%

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%

CH 621 Schedule Spring 2017

Due Date	Assignment	Points Value	Required Reading	Date Available on Moodle
A HERITAGE OF DISSENT				
January 24	Reading Quiz 1		S. H. Ford, <i>The Origin of the Baptists</i>	Now
January 31	Reading Quiz 2		Estep 1-106	January 25
February 7	Reading Quiz 3		Estep 107-200	February 1
February 14	Reading Quiz 4		Estep 201-306	February 8
EMERGING BAPTISTS				
February 21	Reading Quiz 5		Chute 1-58 Garrett 23-34, 62-71, 80-89 Early 1-35	February 15
February 28	Reading Quiz 6		Chute 61-110 Garrett 46-49, 89-106, 153-197 Early 36-73	February 22
March 7	Reading Quiz 7		Chute 115-161 Garrett 126-151, 204-212, 249-257 Early 74-115	March 1
March 14	Spring Break			
March 21	Mid-Term Exam			March 8

DEVELOPING BAPTISTS				
March 28	Reading Quiz 8 Biography 1		Chute 163-184 Garrett 213-248 Erickson, "The Landmark Movement"	March 22
April 4	Reading Quiz 9		Chute 187-236 Garrett 258-283, 294-310 Early 124-152	March 29
April 11	Reading Quiz 10		Chute 239-264 Garrett 314-338, 549-570 Early 153-171	April 5
April 18	Reading Quiz 11		Chute 267-319 Garrett 515-531, 602-620, 661-669, 683-686 Early 172-197	April 12
THE BAPTIST IDEA				
April 25	Reading Quiz 12 Biography 2		Chute 325-345 Excerpt from <i>Studies in Baptist Doctrines and History</i>	April 19
May 2	Spring Break			
May 9	Reading Quiz 13		Shurden 1-59	April 26
May 16	Final Exam Research Paper			May 10

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.