

ST 540 Covenant Theology

Fall 2017

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Course Description

This course surveys classic Reformed threefold covenant theology: the covenants of redemption, works, and grace. It presents a historical, exegetical, and theological examination of the subject. This course assists students in understanding Reformed theology and the systematic interconnections of biblical doctrines.

Course Objectives

- Have a better understanding of classic threefold Reformed covenant theology
- Understand the historical development of covenant theology
- Understand the exegetical rationale for covenant theology
- Be able to address criticisms against classic covenant theology

Meeting Times, Dates, and Location

- Saturday, September 23 and 30
- 8.00am – 3.30pm (1.5 hour lunch break)
- New Life PCA – Fullerton (<http://newlifefullerton.org>)

1430 E. Orangethorpe Ave.
Fullerton, CA 92831

Academic Policies

Those outlined in the most recent edition of the seminary's course catalogue and the Student Handbook.

Recording of Class Lectures

You are not permitted to record class lectures.

Failure to Submit Assignments in a Timely Manner

In the event that you fail to turn in required assignments, you will receive the grade of an "F." For late assignments, you will be docked 25 percentage points for every day that it is late unless there is a legitimate excuse for a late submission. In the event that you need a time extension to complete your coursework within the semester, you must obtain an official approval well before the end of the semester.

Course Requirements

Your course grade will be based upon three things:

- **Participation (10%)** – You will be graded over your participation in class via questions asked and answered, both those drawn from the reading and lecture materials. Note the grading rubric:

| A (100) | B (89) | C (79) | D (69) | F (59 – 0) |
|--|---|--|--|--|
| Provided many good ideas for class consideration; inspired others; clearly communicated desires, ideas, questions, and comments. Was respectful of others. | Participated in discussions; shared questions and comments. Was respectful of others. | Listened mainly; occasionally asked a question or offered a comment. Was respectful of others. | Seemed bored with discussions; rarely spoke up, and questions or comments were off topic. Was disrespectful of others. Or, dominated class time by not permitting others to ask their questions. | Failed to attend class—missed more than three lecture periods total. |

- **Required Reading (30%)** – You will be asked to submit a reading report to indicate the percentage of the readings you have completed. Indicate your reading report percentage on the cover page of your paper or work portfolio. *Failure to report your percentage means you will not receive credit for the assignment.*

| A (100) | A - D (99-60) | F (0) |
|---------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| Completed all assigned readings | Determined by self-reported percentage of accomplished reading | Failure to submit reading report. |

- **Examination (60%)** – I will make your final examination available through Populi, our student information service. You will self-administer your exam by downloading the exam, taking the exam, and then e-mailing your completed exam to me. You will have two hours to take the exam and be allowed to use an unmarked pew Bible.

Textbooks

Holy Bible (any version).

Muller, Richard A. “Toward the *Pactum Salutis*: Locating the Origins of a Concept,” *Mid-America Journal of Theology* 18 (2007): 11-65.

<http://www.midamerica.edu/uploads/files/pdf/journal/muller18.pdf>

Crowe, Brandon. *The Last Adam: A Theology of the Obedient Life of Jesus in the Gospels* (Grand Rapids: Baker, 2017).

Fesko, J. V. *Last Things First: Unlocking Genesis with the Christ of Eschatology* (Fearn: Christian Focus, 2007).

rev. 04/27/17

Boston, Thomas. *A View of the Covenant of Works From the Sacred Records* (Edinburgh: John Gray, 1775).

<https://archive.org/details/viewofcovenantof01bost>

https://smile.amazon.com/Covenant-Sacred-Records-Classic-Reprint/dp/1331046297/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1493321947&sr=8-1&keywords=boston+a+view+of+the+covenant+of+works

Lecture Schedule and Reading Assignments

| Date | Time | Topic | Readings |
|---------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Sept 23 | 8.00-9.00am | Course Overview | |
| | Covenant of Redemption | | |
| | 9.00-10.00am | Historical Overview | Muller, "Toward the Pactum Salutis" |
| | 10.00-11.00am | Exegetical Foundation | |
| | 11.00-12.00pm | Doctrinal Formulation | |
| | Covenant of Works | | |
| | 1.30-2.30pm | Historical Overview | |
| | 2.30-3.30pm | Exegetical Foundation | Fesko, <i>Last Things First</i> , 39-114; Boston, <i>A View of the Covenant of Works</i> |
| Sept 30 | 8.00-9.00am | Exegetical Foundation | |
| | 9.00-10.00am | Doctrinal Formulation | |
| | Covenant of Grace | | |
| | 10.00-11.00am | Historical Overview | |
| | 11.00-12.00pm | Exegetical Foundation | Crowe, <i>The Last Adam</i> ; Fesko, <i>Last Things First</i> , 115-204 |
| | 1.30-2.30pm | Exegetical Foundation | |
| | 2.30-3.30pm | Doctrinal Formulation | |