

RELIGION 335
BAPTIST HISTORY
Fall, 2007
DR. GLENN JONAS

I. Course Description

This course is designed to provide the student with a survey of Baptist History. Included in this course will be a presentation of the origins, history, principles and practices of Baptists.

This course will be taught in harmony with the Campbell University Statement of Purpose found on pages 6-7 of the *Campbell University Bulletin* and linked to the Campbell University web site at:

http://web.campbell.edu/catalog/_pdf/2007-2009catalog.pdf

Students with documented disabilities who desire modifications or accommodations should contact the office of Student Support Services located in the University's Hight House.

All students are subject to the academic integrity and behavioral expectations of the University.

II. Course Objectives

- (1) The student will develop an awareness of the different theories of Baptist origins.
- (2) The student will develop an awareness of the history of the Baptist denomination.
- (3) The student will acquire a knowledge and understanding of distinctive Baptist principles.
- (4) The student will develop an appreciation of the diversity, which characterizes the Baptist denomination.
- (5) The student will develop an understanding of contemporary issues confronting Baptists.

III. Textbooks

There are two texts for this class:

Steven R. Harmon, *Towards Baptist Catholicity: Essays on Tradition and the Baptist Vision*, Waynesboro, GA: Paternoster Press, 2006.

W. Glenn Jonas, Jr., *The Baptist River: Essays on Many Tributaries of a Diverse Tradition*, Macon: Mercer University Press, 2006.

IV. Course Requirements

(1) **Attendance**: The student is required to attend class regularly and to take good notes on lectures and discussions. It is your job to acquaint yourself with the attendance policies of the University found in the Campbell University Bulletin. All absences must come within the limits of cuts allowed. There are no "excused absences." It is your job to maintain a careful record of absences in order to avoid over cutting. For the purposes of this class, no more than four (6) absences will be allowed. The professor will call the roll in each class period. A seventh absence will result in one letter grade penalty. An eighth absence results in two letter grade penalty. A ninth absence will result in a "WF" grade.

(**Tardiness**) Attendance will be checked at the beginning of each class. Students are expected to be seated and ready for class when attendance is checked. Tardiness is frustrating to the professor and the students in the class. Therefore, in order to discourage tardiness, **one** absence will be assessed for each **three** tardies.

(2) **Tests**: There will be two tests and a final exam. Each test will consist of objective questions as well as short essays. If you need to miss a test, every effort should be made to notify the professor before the giving of the test. Make-up tests for legitimate absences will be given at the end of the semester. It is your responsibility to remind the professor that you need to make up a test.

(3) **Book Review**: Each student will be required to write a book review over the Harmon book. The due date for the review is listed below. Please familiarize yourself with the enclosed guidelines for writing a good book review. The reviews will be graded on that basis. (Note: Grammar and style will be graded as well!).

(4) **Research Paper**: Each student will write a 10-page research paper on a particular Baptist tradition. The *Baptist River* book presents some possibilities but a student may choose another Baptist tradition if so desired. The purpose of the paper is to familiarize yourself with the cultural and theological tradition of a different Baptist tradition.

(5) **Primary Source Fridays:** Each Friday during the semester will be designated “Primary Source Friday.” Students will be assigned a particular primary source document from the Baptist tradition which must be read before class. Students will be expected to carry on a discussion about the particular document. At the beginning of class, each student will be required to submit to the professor 5 potential discussion questions from which will be drawn the discussion topics about the particular document. The discussion questions will be scored like a quiz grade each week. (The professor will provide a list of readings)

(6) **Reading:** Each student will sign a statement at the end of the semester indicating that they have read all of the reading assigned in the course or and indication of what percentage of the reading they have completed.

VI. Laptop/Cell Phone/Listening Device Policy

Laptops, cell phones, iPods, and other electronic listening devices may not be used in class. They must be turned off and stored out of sight.

Permission for use of a laptop computer for *note-taking purposes* only may be granted upon written request by the student to Student Support Services who will then contact the professor with the request.

VII. Assignment Dates

Book Reviews

Book Review **November 16**

Research Paper **October 17**

VIII. Course Evaluation

The course grade will be evaluated on the following basis:

| | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| Test 1 | 17% (September 21) |
| Test 2 | 17% (October 22) |
| Final Exam | 17% (December 4) |
| Book Review | 17% |
| Research Paper | 17% |
| Primary Source Friday Questions | 10% |
| Reading | 5% (Last Day of Class) |

Grades will be assigned on the following basis:

A = 100-93

B = 92-85

C = 84-70

D = 69-60

F = Below 60

IX. Schedule

A. The 17th and 18th Centuries

The Rise of Baptists

“Defining the Faith”

“Defending the Faith”

Baptist Beginnings in the American Colonies

General Baptists in England

Particular Baptists in England

Test 1

B. The 19th Century

Baptists in Colonial America: First Great Awakening

Baptists in Colonial America: The Struggle for Religious Liberty

Baptists in Great Britain

American Baptists to 1845

Baptists in America Divided (1845-1900)

Southern Baptists 1845-1900

American Baptists 1845-1900

Test 2

C. The 20th Century

20th Century American Baptists

20th Century Southern Baptists

X. Personal Conferences

The Professor is available for consultation if needed. Please feel free to contact me. Visits can be scheduled either through the professor or through the Religion Department Administrative Assistant.

Telephone: 893-1678

E-mail: jonas@campbell.edu

Blog: <http://drjonasblog.blogspot.com/>

Office: Taylor 303

GUIDELINES FOR WRITING BOOK REVIEWS*

A. Purpose

A book review is written for the purpose of acquainting a reader with a book. Therefore a discussion of the contents of the book as well as the reviewer's reaction to the book are important.

B. Preparation

1. Go the Reference area of the Carrie Rich Memorial Library.
2. Ask one of the reference librarians to assist you in finding the *New York Times Book Review* or the *Times Literary Supplement*. Find five sample reviews in these resources and read them as good examples of a book review.
3. Major scholarly journals are another resource that you may consult for examples of good book reviews. The reference librarian will be able to help you with this as well.

C. Mechanics

1. The book review is a formal report, which should be written in essay form.
2. It should be typed in double-spaced format.
3. Grammar, spelling, and form are integral to a good book review. Therefore, your grade will reflect your attention to the form and style of your review.
4. The book review should be approximately five (5) pages in length.
5. The book review should be stapled neatly in the left-hand corner. **NO COVERS PLEASE!!!**

D. Content

Describe your reaction to this book. Don't summarize the book, but react to it! The ideas that Professor Borg presents are probably new to you. What reaction do you have to them? Is there anything valuable about this book for your faith? Does this book challenge you in any way? If so, what?

* Much of this material was gleaned from a publication by Dr. Bill Pitts titled, "Writing Book Reviews."

Primary Source Fridays

- August 24 No reading assignment
- August 31 *Short Confession of Faith in XX Articles by John Smyth; A Short Confession of Faith (1610)*ⁱ
- September 7 (No Class)
- September 14 *1st London Confession of Faith (1644)*ⁱⁱ
- September 21 *Second London Confession of Faith (1677)*ⁱⁱⁱ and *Philadelphia Confession of Faith (1742)*^{iv}
- September 28 *The Orthodox Creed (1678)*^v
- October 5
- October 12 (No class—Fall Break)
- October 19 John Leland--*The Rights of Conscience Inalienable* (I will provide you a copy of this)
- October 26 Rev. E. W. Warren, “The Scriptural Vindication of Slavery” (I will provide you a copy of this)
- November 2 SBC Founding Documents and Address (I will provide you a copy of this)
- November 9 Rev. Peter Randolph, *From Slave Cabin to the Pulpit*^{vi}
- November 16 Frances E. Townsley, *A Pilgrim Maid: The Self-Told Story of Frances E. Townsley* (I will provide you a copy of this); George W. Truett, *Speech on Religious Liberty*; ^{vii} *An Address to the Public*

ⁱ William L. Lumpkin, *Baptist Confessions of Faith*, (Valley Forge: Judson Press, 1969): pp. 97-113.

ⁱⁱ *Ibid.*, pp. 144-171.

ⁱⁱⁱ *Ibid.*, pp. 235-295.

^{iv} *Ibid.*, pp. 348-353.

^v *Ibid.*, pp. 295-334.

^{vi} Located online at: <http://docsouth.unc.edu/neh/randolph/menu.html>

^{vii} Walter B. Shurden, *Proclaiming the Baptist Vision: Religious Liberty*, (Macon: Smyth and Helwys Publishers, 1997): pp. 61-84.

*from the
Fellowship,*^{viii}

Interim Steering Committee of the Cooperative Baptist

November 23 (No class—Thanksgiving)

November 30 Dr. Harmon

^{viii} Walter B. Shurden, *The Baptist Identity: Four Fragile Freedoms* (Macon: Smyth and Helwys, 1993): pp.