

## TH440 CONTEMPORARY THEOLOGY

**Course:** TH440-M & NM Contemporary Theology  
**Credits:** 2 Semester Hours  
**Semester:** 2021 Summer Semester Cycle 1  
**Dates:** July 19-22, 2021  
**Time:** 8:00 am- 12:00 pm  
**Place:** Online  
**Professor:** Ian Bacon B.S., M.Div.  
**Contact:** Cell: (720) 767-9333  
ian.bacon@calvary.edu

*\*About This Class: This is a blended class, meaning that both campus and online students take this class together. Campus students attend the classes in person, online students attend the classes via the online classroom. All interaction and assignments for campus and online students are done in the online classroom.*

*\*About Changes to this Syllabus: The instructor reserves the right to make changes to this syllabus at any time during the course, but any changes made will only be done after clearly communicating the need for the change and the specific change to be made via in-class announcement and Canvas announcement.*

### I. DESCRIPTION

A survey and biblical analysis of a broad range of theological issues relevant to local church ministry in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. Classical liberalism, neo-orthodoxy, and neo-evangelicalism are studied as a backdrop to a more detailed evaluation of more recent theological systems, movements, and issues that impact the church in both American and international contexts. (Prerequisite: BI115)

### II. OBJECTIVES

**General competencies to be achieved. The student will:**

1. Identify and define the nature of theology (PLO 1, 5) (A 1, 2, 3)
2. Compare biblical theology with other religious theologies (PLO 1, 2, 5) (A 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6).
3. Identify non-evangelical theologies and systems of thought (PLO 1, 2, 5) (A 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6).

**Specific competencies to be achieved. The student will:**

1. Be able to briefly explain the theological emphasis of key twentieth Century theologians (PLO 1, 2, 5) (A 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6).
2. Restate the specific weaknesses and strengths of the major non-evangelical theologies of twentieth-and twenty-first century Christendom (PLO 1, 2, 5) (A 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6).
3. Grow in appreciation for the role of the Bible in developing theology (PLO 1, 2, 5) (A 1, 2, 3).
4. Gain experience analyzing contemporary theological expressions of early Twenty-first century America (PLO 1, 2, 5) (A 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6).

**III. REQUIRED MATERIAL**

**A. Bible**

The Bible is a required textbook in every course at Calvary University. To facilitate academic level study, students are required to use for assignments and research an English translation or version of the Bible based on formal equivalence (*meaning that the translation is generally word-for-word from the original languages*), including any of the following: New American Standard (NASB), English Standard Version (ESV), New King James (NKJV), or King James (KJV). Other translations and versions based on dynamic equivalence (*paraphrases and thought for thought translations like NLT and NIV*) may be used as supplemental sources. Please ask the professor if you have questions about a particular translation or version

**B. Other Textbooks**

Smith, David L. *A Handbook of Contemporary Theology*. Baker Books, 2001. ISBN: 978-0801022531. \$25.37. Available on kindle version.

**IV. ASSIGNMENTS**

**Assignment #1: Reading Journals (300 points)**

**Assignment #2: Contemporary Theology Reading Reflections (300 points)**

**Assignment #3: Contemporary Theology Discussions (250 points)**

**Assignment #4: Quizzes (50 points)**

**Assignment #5: Contemporary Theology Final Exam (100 points)**

**V. ASSIGNMENTS AND POINTS**

<b>Reading Journal</b>	<b>300 points</b>
<b>Cont. Theo. Reading Reflections</b>	<b>300 points</b>
<b>Cont. Theo. Discussions</b>	<b>250 points</b>
<b>Quizzes</b>	<b>50 points</b>
<b>Cont. Theo. Final Exam</b>	<b>100 points</b>
<b>Total points</b>	<b>1000 points</b>

**POINTS AND FINAL GRADE**

<b>930-1000 points</b>	<b>A</b>
<b>900-929 points</b>	<b>A-</b>
<b>870-899 points</b>	<b>B+</b>
<b>830-869 points</b>	<b>B</b>
<b>800-829 points</b>	<b>B-</b>
<b>770-799 points</b>	<b>C+</b>
<b>730-769 points</b>	<b>C</b>
<b>700-729 points</b>	<b>C-</b>
<b>670-699 points</b>	<b>D+</b>
<b>630-669 points</b>	<b>D</b>
<b>600-629 points</b>	<b>D-</b>
<b>0-559 points</b>	<b>F</b>

**VI. CLASS LECTURES**

Week 1	A Case for the Consistent Literal Grammatical Hermeneutic & Contemporary Theology.
Week 2	Roman Catholicism: A Brief History & Observation
Week 3	World Mission Society: A Brief History & Observation
Week 4	Fundamentalism, Emergent Theology: Brief History & Observation
Week 5	Black Liberation & Feminist Theology: Brief History & Observation
Week 6	Charismatics, Pentecostalism: Brief History & Observation
Week 7	The Mashup: Baha'i & Mormonism
Week 8	Postmortem of the class The New Age Movement: Brief History & Observation

## **VII. OTHER POLICY**

**A. Paper Formatting:** All class papers must follow the Turabian style according to A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations, 8th edition.

**B. Plagiarism:** Plagiarism is defined as copying any part of a book or paper without identifying the author. This also includes taking another person's ideas and presenting them as your own. Any assignment that includes plagiarism will receive a zero (0) grade.

**C. Disabilities:** Students with disabilities have the responsibility of informing the Accommodations Support Coordinator ([aso@calvary.edu](mailto:aso@calvary.edu)) of any disabling condition that may require support.

**D. Learning Aid:** The Clark Academic Center ([learning@calvary.edu](mailto:learning@calvary.edu)) is dedicated to providing free academic assistance for all CU students. Student tutors aid with all facets of the writing process, tutor in various subject areas, prepare students for exams and facilitate tests. Please take advantage of this service.

**E. Late Work Policy:** Late work will be accepted with a reduction of 10%.

## **VIII. Expectations of Online Students**

Watch the video of the lecture in Canvas and post a reply under Announcements after you have watched the video. This must be completed during the week following the posting of the class. Failure to post a response will count as one absence. Any student who misses more than one class will experience a grade reduction of 5 points off the final grade for each class day missed.

Be respectful of the professor and all students in the online classroom.

Take all tests and turn all work in on time. See Late Work Policy in previous section.

## **IX. Expectations of Resident Students**

Attend class. Any student who misses more than one class will experience a grade reduction of 5 points off the final grade for each class day missed.

Be on time for class. Coming in late interrupts the class and is disruptive.

Have access to a Bible during class.

Be courteous and respectful in class to the professor and all students.

Take all tests and turn all work in on time. See Late Work Policy at end of syllabus.