



15800 Calvary Rd.
Kansas City, MO 64147

Syllabus

BI499 Doctrinal Beliefs Statement

Course: BI499 O Doctrinal Beliefs Statement
Credits: 0 Semester Hours (Required for Graduation in May)
Semester: Fall 2026, Sessions 1-2 (August 17- December 11)
Time: Scheduled Meetings with Department Director
Professor: Ian Bacon, B.S., M.Div, PhD
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DESCRIPTION

The course includes an assessment of the student's cumulative biblical and theological studies through a doctrinal beliefs statement and oral defense that will prepare the student for future ministry opportunities or entrance into seminary upon graduation.

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.

OBJECTIVES

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

1. Demonstrate Biblical and theological preparedness for local church ministry and seminary studies
(PLO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5) (A 1)

B. Specific competencies to be achieved. The student will (will be able to):

1. Write a personal doctrinal beliefs statement and position statements on significant Biblical and theological issues.
(PLO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5) (A 1)
2. Defend a personal doctrinal beliefs statement and position statements on significant Biblical and theological issues.
(PLO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5) (A 1)

Our Mission: To prepare Christians to live and serve in the church and in the world according to the Biblical worldview.

TEXTBOOKS

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.

Charles Ryrie. *Basic Theology*. Victor Books. ISBN: 0-89693-814-X
Cost: \$29.04 on Amazon (hardcover)

REQUIREMENTS

- A. Review past coursework in Systematic theology I, II, III to prepare for the project.
- B. Write a doctrinal beliefs statement (a paper of 10 single spaced typed pages).
- C. This first draft will be submitted to the Program Director at least one cycle prior to their graduation (by the end of cycle 2 if the student anticipates graduation at the end of cycle 3 and by the end of cycle 4 if the student anticipates graduation by the end of cycle 5).
- D. The first draft will be submitted through Canvas.
- E. The student will then meet with the Program Director to defend his/her doctrinal belief statement (in cycle 3 if the student anticipates graduation in December and in cycle 5 if the student anticipates graduation in May). Failure to complete this assignment will lead to a delay in graduation from Calvary University.
- F. The final draft of the Doctrinal statement will be submitted through Canvas.

METHODS OF ASSIGNMENT

- A. Independent work and study
- B. Consultation with instructor (if needed)
- C. The student will submit the complete first draft to the Department Director. This draft should be well proofed and in excellent form. This draft will be read prior to the oral defense. This will allow the student time to receive feedback and corrections, make needed corrections, and to prepare for the oral defense of the statement of doctrinal beliefs.
- D. Defend doctrinal belief statement to Department Director. The student will be questioned on all areas of doctrine covered in their statement. Areas of possible weakness and areas that need clarification will be probed.

- E. Submission of the final, polished product. The Program Director has the right and responsibility to return the final draft to the student for additional corrections until it is of acceptable proofed quality. Graduation may be postponed if the final draft is not returned in a timely manner. The completed final draft must include the Title page, Table of Contents, and Statement of Faith.

Policies

Paper must follow the Turabian style according to *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, 8th edition and the Calvary Style Guide, 2019 update.

Late Assignment: Will not graduate

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.

Disabilities: *Students with disabilities have the responsibility of informing the Accommodations Support Coordinator (aso@calvary.edu) of any disabling condition that may require support.* The Clark Academic Center (learning@calvary.edu) is dedicated to providing free academic assistance for all Calvary University 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

Attendance:

Residential Students: Students will meet with Department Director in his office at a scheduled time.

Distance students: Students will meet with Department Director via Teams at a scheduled time.

Guidelines

The Doctrinal Beliefs Statement is a critical document for a student and future ministry. The requirements and guidelines necessary for adequate preparation and presentation are contained in this section. The student is expected to follow all of these and submit the written materials no later than the above stated deadlines.

- I. Doctrinal Beliefs Statement Form

1. Turabian title page
2. Table of Contents
3. Testimony of conversion and call to ministry
4. Statement of agreement with Calvary University's Statement of Faith
5. Ten areas of Systematic Theology indicated under content section below.

II. Doctrinal Beliefs Statement Quality and Length

This requirement is for graduation and ministry. It should reflect careful study and clear understanding of the doctrines, and should be in the student's own wording and reflect his/her position on these areas of theology.

- A. The quality is reflected by accuracy of explanation and Scripture citation. Each area of belief and commitment selected will indicate importance and relevance.
- B. The length is a minimum of 10 pages single spaced typed pages. The number of areas for examination plus one's ability to express accurately and precisely will affect the length. It is important to remember two aspects: 1) it is not necessary to be wordy, and 2) you will be able to explain details in the oral defense.
- C. The Doctrinal Beliefs Statement must be submitted no later than the due date.

III. Doctrinal Beliefs Statement Oral Defense

- A. The Program Director will schedule a date for the defense.
- B. The student is responsible to explain and defend any written materials, and responsible for all questions relative to the theologies and issues in the official guidelines for the Doctrinal Beliefs Statement.

IV. Doctrinal Beliefs Statement Contents

A. Bibliology

1. Revelation
2. Inspiration
3. Inerrancy
4. Authority
5. Illumination
6. Hermeneutic

B. Theology Proper

1. Existence of God
2. Person of God (Personality/Attributes)
3. Trinity of God
4. God the Father

C. Christology

1. Person (Preexistence, Eternality, Deity)
2. His Incarnation (Virgin Birth, Hypostatic Union)
3. His relationship to Temptation and Sin
4. His Death, Resurrection, Ascension

D. Anthropology

1. Origin of Man
2. Destiny of Man
3. Creationism

E. Pneumatology

1. His Existence, Eternality
2. His Person
3. His Works
4. Spiritual Gifts

F. Hamartiology

1. Origin of Sin
2. Categories of Sin
3. Effects of Sin
4. Penalties of Sin

G. Soteriology

1. Meaning of Salvation
2. Means of Salvation
3. Results of Salvation
4. Evidences of Salvation
5. Security and Assurance

6. Death of Christ
7. Lordship Salvation/Free Grace

H. Ecclesiology

1. Origin
2. Definition
3. Leadership
4. Ordinances
5. Polity
6. Calling
7. Destiny

I. Angelology, Demonology, Satanology

1. Origin, Person
2. Categories
3. Responsibilities
4. Destinies
5. Demons
6. Satan

J. Eschatology

1. View of Second Coming (In reference to the Millennium)
2. View of the Rapture
3. Critical Passages
4. State/Places of Final Judgement
5. Heaven

K. Issues

1. Role of Women in the Church
2. Divorce/Remarriage
3. Speaking in Tongues
4. Dispensationalism

Bibliography

Benware, Paul N. *Understanding End Times Prophecy*. Revised and Expanded. Chicago: Moody Publishers, 1995, 2006.

Dickason, C. Fred. *Angels Elect and Evil*. Revised and Expanded. Chicago: Moody, 1975, 1995.

Durst, Rodrick. *Reordering the Trinity*. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2015.

Geisler, Norman and Nix. *From God to Us: How We Got our Bible*. Chicago: Moody Press, 2012.

Gromacki, Robert. *The Holy Spirit*. Word Publishing.

Mortenson, Terry, editor. *Searching for Adam: Genesis and the Truth about Man's Origin*. Master Books.

Ryrie, Charles C. *So Great Salvation*. Moody Publishers, 1997.

Saucy, Robert L. *The Church in God's Program*. Chicago: Moody, 1972.

Walvoord, John F. *Jesus Christ our Lord*. Moody Publishers, 1969.