



# NEW ORLEANS

## BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

**Baptist Heritage: HIST 5323**  
**Meeting**

**Summer 2023 – SBC Annual**

**Class meets: June 13-14 at the New Orleans Convention Center**

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*New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Leavell College prepare servants to walk with Christ, proclaim His truth, and fulfill His mission.*

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### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course surveys Baptist history, polity, and theology from seventeenth-century origins to the present, with primary emphasis on developments in England and North America. Attention is given to Anabaptist and English Separatist antecedents, intellectual and social currents that have shaped Baptist life and thought, institutional developments, theological distinctives and crises, the shaping of Baptist polity and contributions of selected Baptist leaders. An additional purpose of this course is to acquaint students with the history of the Southern Baptist Convention and the Cooperative Program. Students will gain an understanding of the significance and relationship of the Cooperative Program to the SBC and NOBTS, and how the Cooperative Program not only assists all NOBTS students, but also assists the churches of the SBC in fulfilling the Great Commission.

### **Student Learning Outcomes**

In order to understand and interpret Christian theological heritage and Baptist polity for the church, the student, by the end of the course, should:

1. Be able to apply their knowledge and understanding of the distinctive characteristics of Baptists from seventeenth-century origins to the present to the process of interpreting Christian theological heritage and Baptist polity for the church.
2. Value the ideas, individuals, movements, and institutions that form Baptist heritage.

3. Be able, with the help of resources, to accomplish the following:
- Practice the historical method and historiography in order to interpret Baptist heritage for the local church.
  - Articulate and defend evangelical and Baptist positions on specific theological issues.
  - Place individuals, movements, and ideas in their proper context in Baptist history.
  - Analyze and evaluate existing Baptist confessions of faith in order to create a personal confession of faith.

### **Embedded Assignment**

The Confession of Faith is an embedded assignment associated with this course. Information on the assignment is under Requirements and the rubric after the Emergency Plan.

### **Course Teaching Methodology**

Web-based courses are, by nature, a different kind of learning experience than courses taught in the traditional classroom. Because of this structure, this web-based course is more reading and writing intensive than traditional classroom courses. Rigorous study of the deep things of God can be a rewarding experience for anyone who participates in it, but it also calls for extra diligence and integrity in completing the work. This reality does not mean that a web-based course cannot be successful in equipping you, the student, for effective, God-honoring ministry. It simply means utilizing a different strategy. Internet courses allow room for independent learners to thrive—to work at a responsible pace, to engage in student-led discussions, and to take ownership of the learning of course content. Note that your instructors are praying for your success.

### **Textbooks**

There are two (2) required books for this class. These books complement one another as tools for understanding Baptist heritage.

**[C]** Chute, Anthony L., Nathan A. Finn, and Michael A. G. Haykin. *The Baptist Story: From English Sect to Global Movement*. Nashville: B & H Publishing, 2015. ISBN: 978-1433673757

**[H]** Harper, Keith, and Amy Whitfield. *SBC FAQs: A Ready Reference*. Nashville: B & H Publishing, 2018. ISBN: 978-1462748433

## Course Requirements

### A. Exams:

There will be six (6) exams, each worth 25 points, given throughout the semester. The lowest exam grade will be dropped. The exam will last 20 minutes and be timed. Exams should be taken without notes in front of you. Please study for the exam, then take it “open memory.” You are on the honor system. Exams are based upon online lectures and readings from your textbook, *The Baptist Story*.

Exams will be available throughout the course and can be taken early, but must be completed **before 11:59 pm (Central Time)** on the date below.

**Unit 1 – June 24**

**Unit 2 – July 1**

**Unit 3 – July 8**

**Unit 4 – July 15**

**Unit 5 – July 22**

**Unit 6 – July 28**

### B. Assigned Reading:

Students are expected to read the assigned pages listed for each day. The percentage of each unit’s assigned reading that was completed will be reported (in 20% increments) on that unit’s exam. Each report will be worth 5 points. An additional 5-point bonus will be awarded at the time of the final exam to students who have completed all the assigned reading for the course by the time of the final.

### C. Participation in the SBC Annual Meeting:

- This portion of the course is “pass/fail.” Students who fail to participate in the required activities listed below, may receive a grade of “F” for the course. You are responsible for your own travel, lodging, and meals while in New Orleans for the Annual Meeting.
- You are **required** to attend the SBC Annual Meeting in New Orleans on June 13-14<sup>th</sup>. The Convention will begin Tuesday morning at 8:00 AM and will last until around 9:00 PM on Tuesday night. On Wednesday, the Convention will begin at 8:00 AM and last until around 5:00 PM. You are **required** to be present for the entirety of the Convention. Please arrange your travel so that you do not depart until after the Convention is over.
- Our class will have a designated meeting room at the Convention Center in New Orleans. We will meet up and attend some portions of the Annual Meeting together, as a class. In addition, students will be given an all-access “behind-the-scenes” glimpse of the convention via special guests and guided tours. A more

detailed schedule and location details will be delivered via Canvas prior to the meeting.

- On Tuesday and Wednesday, you are **required** to be present in the Convention Hall for the following portions of the program:
  - Executive Committee reports (both of them)
  - NOBTS Seminary report
  - NAMB report and presentation
  - IMB report and presentation
  - ERLC report and presentation
  - Lifeway report and presentation
  - President's address
  - Convention sermon
  - All business sessions
  - All Resolution's Committee reports
- You are **encouraged**, but not required, to be in the Convention Hall for all of the parts of the program not indicated above. If you are not in the Convention Hall during part of the program, it is assumed you are in the Exhibit Hall or at a meal during a break. You should plan to spend a total of approximately twenty hours participating in SBC-related activities on June 13-14.
- You are **required** to attend the NOBTS Alumni and Friends Luncheon on Wednesday June 14. Students are responsible for the cost of the luncheon. You can register for the luncheon on the NOBTS alumni website.
- You are **encouraged** to attend at least one additional auxiliary meeting on June 13-14. Suggested possibilities include the Baptist 21 Luncheon, the Send North American Luncheon, the 9 Marks at 9 meetings, an ERLC event, or a "friends and alumni" meeting of a Baptist college or university. A full list of auxiliary meetings, times, and locations will be made available on the SBC Annual Meeting website.
- You are **encouraged**, but not required, to attend the Pastor's Conference on June 11-12.

#### **D. SBC Annual Meeting Reflection Essay:**

Students will write a reflection essay on the 2023 SBC Annual Meeting. The reflection essay should be 6–8 pages. The essay must be double-spaced and use Times New Roman 12-point font. Please include a cover page. In the essay, please summarize your experience at the SBC, including what sessions and other activities you attended, your impressions, and how your participation has influenced your own sense of Southern Baptist identity (either positively or negatively). Feel free to share any other insight you learned from participating in this year's SBC Annual Meeting. Please note that you do not need to interact

with any sources in this essay; just share your reflections. **This assignment is worth 100 points and must be uploaded to Canvas by 11:59 PM on Saturday July 8, 2023.**

#### **E. Confession of Faith:**

Each student will write their own personal Confession of Faith. Include Scripture references as support for your views. While you may choose to model your confession after one of the existing confessions, it is not necessary to do so. If you make extensive use of one or more existing confessions, or if you are not a Baptist, please note this in an introductory paragraph. However, this is your personal confession. Do not simply copy entire sections of a confession. Put it into your own words. Include the elements which you believe are necessary to be a Christian and to practice as a Baptist (or your denominational background if not Baptist). Use headings to indicate major necessary topics. Doctrines that must be covered are:

- God
- Bible
- Humanity
- Salvation
- Church
  - Definition – who makes up the church
  - Who has authority over the congregation (make budget, call pastor, select leaders)
  - Who are the leaders (pastor, deacon, elder, bishop, priest, pope)
  - How are decisions made (consensus of people, leadership informs, pastor dictates)
  - How many ordinances, what are they
  - Last things

You may include additional topics as you see fit. Your confession **must** have a title page and a table of contents. There are no page limits and it may be single spaced. The Confession is **worth 100 points. Due July 28 by 11:59pm.**

## Evaluation of Grade

The student's grade will be computed as follows:

<u>Possible Points</u>		Confession:	100
Reading:	30		
		p	
		t	
		s	TOTAL: 355
Unit Exams (5 x 25):	125	pts	
			<u>Grading Scale</u>
			A = 330 - <del>355</del> pts
			B = 302 - <del>329</del> pts
SBC Reflection Essay:	100		C = 273 - 301 pts
			D = 248 - <del>272</del> pts
			F = 247 - <del>0</del> pts

## Attendance Policy – Online Class

- Students are expected to engage regularly with course content through the learning management system and other course delivery methods. Students who fail to participate consistently in course activities may receive a grade of “F” for the course.
- Attendance for the SBC Annual Meeting is required. You are **required** to attend the SBC Annual Meeting in New Orleans on Tuesday June 13 and Wednesday June 14. See above requirements for more information. Students who miss any portion of the class may receive a grade of “F” for the course.

## Penalties

- Papers:* A late paper or final exam will be assessed an initial **10 point penalty**. Each calendar day after the due date an **additional 10 point penalty** will be assessed.
- Plagiarism:* A high standard of personal integrity is expected of all students at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. Copying another person's work, submitting downloaded material without proper references, submitting material without properly citing the source, and committing other such forms of dishonesty are strictly forbidden. Although anything cited in three sources is considered public domain, we require that all sources be cited. Any infraction may result in failing the assignment and the course. Any infraction will be reported to the Dean of Students for further action. **See the Graduate Catalog for more information on the Definition of Plagiarism and Consequences for Violations of Plagiarism.**

## Plagiarism on Written Assignments

NOBTS has a no tolerance policy for plagiarism. Plagiarism in certain cases may result in expulsion from the seminary. See the NOBTS Student Handbook for definition, penalties, and policies associated with plagiarism.

## Technical Assistance

For assistance regarding technology, consult ITC (504-816-8180) or the following websites:

1. [www.NOBTS.edu/itc/](http://www.NOBTS.edu/itc/)- Email for general technical questions/support requests.
2. [Selfserve@nobts.edu](mailto:Selfserve@nobts.edu)- Email technical questions/support requests with the [Selfserve.nobts.edu](http://Selfserve.nobts.edu) or [My.nobts.edu](http://My.nobts.edu) site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, Faculty portal, etc.)
3. [Canvas@nobts.edu](mailto:Canvas@nobts.edu) Click on the “Help” button for technical questions/support requests regarding the NOBTS Canvas System. You can also email questions to [Canvas.nobts.edu](http://Canvas.nobts.edu) / [nobts.instructure.com](http://nobts.instructure.com).
4. [Bluejeanshelpdesk@nobts.edu](mailto:Bluejeanshelpdesk@nobts.edu) - Email technical questions/support requests with Bluejeans and NOBTS Bluejeans classrooms (On and Off-Campus).
5. [TelephoneHelpDesk@nobts.edu](mailto:TelephoneHelpDesk@nobts.edu)- Email technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Nextiva Phone system.
6. [504.816.8180](tel:504.816.8180) - Call for any technical questions/support requests. (Currently available Mon-Thurs 7:00am-9:00pm & Fri 7:00-7:00pm Central Time).

## Help for Writing Papers at “The Write Stuff”

NOBTS maintains a Writing Center designed to improve English writing at the graduate level. Students can receive writing guides, tips, and valuable information to help in becoming a better writer. A copy of the approved NOBTS Style Guide can be found in the course Canvas shell, or can be located online at the Writing Center’s page on the seminary website at: <https://www.nobts.edu/resources/pdf/writing/StyleGuide.pdf>

## Emergency Plan

In case of hurricane or any other emergency, go to the seminary web site for information: [www.nobts.edu](http://www.nobts.edu). The administration will communicate information that relates to the seminary: the nature of the emergency, instructions for responses, evacuation, contingency plans, duration of the emergency, and plans to return to campus and/or resume the schedule.

In addition, check Canvas for instructions related to this class. Because this class is available on Canvas, there should be minimal disruption unless the emergency affects electrical power and connection to the Internet.

In any emergency, communication is important, and our best means of staying connected is through the seminary’s web site and Canvas.

## Class Calendar

[C] Chute: *The Baptist Story*

[H] Harper: *SBC FAQs*

**\*\*All assignments are due by 11:59pm on the day of the week that they are listed below\*\***

Week	Dates	Assignment
Week 1	May 29-June 3	Reading: H: 1-27
Week 2	June 4-10	Reading: H: 27-52
Week 3	June 11-17	Reading: C: 11-21, 325-345 <b>Class Meets in New Orleans – June 13-14</b>
Week 4	June 18-24	Reading: C: 20-27, 39-45 <b>Due: Exam and Reading Report #1</b>
Week 5	June 25-July 1	Reading: C: 45-54, 61-74 C: 99-110, 202-209, 213-215, 234-236, 263-265 <b>Due: Exam and Reading Report #2</b>
Week 6	July 2-8	Reading: C: 27-35, 54-58, 74-83, 87-94 <b>Due: Exam &amp; Reading Report #3</b> <b>Annual Meeting Reflection Essay</b>
Week 7	July 9-15	Reading: C: 115-136 C: 94-99, 137-138, 152-161, 230-232 C: 163-169, 187-201, 215-225, 232-234 <b>Due: Exam and Reading Report #4</b>
Week 8	July 16-22	Reading: C: 169-171, 175-184, 225-230 C: 239-250, 259-263 <b>Due: Exam and Reading Report #5</b>
Week 9	July 23-28	Reading: C: 250-259, 267-291, 295-319 <b>Due: Exam &amp; Reading Report #6</b> <b>Confession of Faith</b>



**Embedded Assignment Assessment Rubric for  
HIST5323 Baptist Heritage**

Semester \_\_\_\_\_

Section \_\_\_\_\_

DOMAIN	LEVEL	INADEQUATE (0 PTS)	BASIC (1 PT)	COMPETENT (2 PTS)	GOOD (3 PTS)	EXCELLENT (4 PTS)
UNDERSTANDING	Able to <b>Understand</b> Baptist distinctives, polity, and significant theological concepts related to Baptists					
APPLICATION	Able to <b>apply</b> principles learned from the study of Baptist history to church and ministry today					
COMMUNICATION	Able to <b>communicate</b> understanding and application of principles learned from the study of Baptist history					

## SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Bount, Douglas K. and Joseph D. Wooddell, eds. *Baptist Faith and Message 2000: Critical Issues in America's Largest Protestant Denomination*. Lanham, MD: Roman & Littlefield Publishing, 2007.
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- Grenz, Stanley J. *The Baptist Congregation*. Valley Forge, PA: Judson Press, 1985; reprint, Vancouver, BC: Regent College Publishing, 1998.
- Leonard, Bill J. *Baptist Ways: A History*. Valley Forge, PA: Judson Press, 2003.
- Lumpkin, W. L., ed. *Baptist Confessions of Faith*. Valley Forge: Judson, 1969.
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- Renfree, Harry A. *Heritage and Horizon: The Baptist Story in Canada*. The Canadian Baptist Federation, 1988.
- Sanford, Don A. *A Choosing People: The History of Seventh Day Baptist*. Nashville, TN: Broadman Press, 1992.
- Shelley, Bruce. *A History of Conservative Baptists*. Wheaton, IL: Conservative Baptist Press, 1981.
- Sullivan, James L. *Baptist Polity--As I See It*. Nashville: Broadman & Holman, rev. ed. 1998.
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- Weaver, Aaron D. *CBF at 25 Stories of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship*. Macon, GA: Nurturing Faith Inc, 2016.