



LEAVELL COLLEGE

NEW ORLEANS BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

THUS1154 Apologetics

Spring 2019; Term 193

Pasco Church Leadership Certificate Program

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The mission of Leavell College of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary is to equip leaders to fulfill the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.

Core Value

The seminary has five core values.

1. **Doctrinal Integrity:** Knowing that the Bible is the Word of God, we believe it, teach it, proclaim it, and submit to it. This course addresses Doctrinal Integrity specifically by preparing students to grow in understanding and interpreting of the Bible.
2. **Spiritual Vitality:** We are a worshiping community emphasizing both personal spirituality and gathering together as a Seminary family for the praise and adoration of God and instruction in His Word. Spiritual Vitality is addressed by reminding students that a dynamic relationship with God is vital for effective ministry.
3. **Mission Focus:** We are not here merely to get an education or to give one. We are here to change the world by fulfilling the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries. This course addresses Mission Focus by helping students understand the biblical foundations for fulfilling the Great Commission and the Great Commandments.
4. **Characteristic Excellence:** What we do, we do to the utmost of our abilities and resources as a testimony to the glory of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Characteristic Excellence is addressed by preparing students to excel in their ability to interpret Scripture, which is foundational to effective ministry.
5. **Servant Leadership:** We follow the model of Jesus and exert leadership and influence through the nurture and encouragement of those around us. Servant Leadership is modeled by classroom deportment.

The core value focus for this academic year is **Doctrinal Integrity**.

Course Description

This course is designed to introduce students to the basic principles of Christian Apologetics.

Student Outcomes

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

1. Comprehend some basic defenses of the Christian Faith.
2. Value the study of Christian Apologetics.
3. Articulate arguments for elements of the Christian Faith.

Course Texts

The following textbook is required:

Powell, Doug. *Holman Quicksource Guide to Christian Apologetics*. Nashville: Holman Reference, 2006

Course Requirements and Grading

1. The student is required to read the textbook according to the schedule in the course syllabus. Students should read the portion to be covered before coming to class. Students will submit the reading log on the last day of class to account for this reading.
2. Each student will complete a summary of each of the assigned chapters and submit 3 questions and answers that represent the most salient aspects of the content. These questions should be emailed to each student in the course for discussion.
3. Each student will take a final exam drawn from the questions submitted to the class.
4. The final grade for the course will be determined as follows:

• Reading Log	25%
• Chapter Questions and discussion participation	25%
• <u>Final Exam</u>	<u>50%</u>
• Final Grade	100%

This course will be graded using the standard Leavell College grading.

Grading Scale

A 100-93 B 92-85 C 84-77 D 76-70 F 69 and below

Course Outline

Schedule/exams

Week 1: Registration/Introduction to Course.

Chapter 1: What is Apologetics?
The Existence of God - Opener
Chapter 2: The Cosmological Argument

Week 2: The Existence of God

Chapter 3: The Design Argument
Chapter 4: The Moral Argument
Chapter 5: Which God Exists?

Week 3: The Bible

Chapter 6: Where did the New Testament come from?
Chapter 7: Is the New Testament Reliable?
Chapter 8: Is the Old Testament Reliable?

Week 4: The Supernatural

Chapter 9: Do Miracles Happen?
Chapter 10: What About Prophecy?

Week 5: Jesus Christ

Chapter 11: The Resurrection,
Chapter 12: Did Jesus Claim to be God?

Week 6: The Problem of Evil

Chapter 13: How Could God Allow Evil?
How to do Apologetics
Chapter 14: Methodology

Additional Course Information

Class attendance is required. Any student missing more than 3 hours of class meeting for a one semester hour credit course forfeits credit for that course unless special permission is secured from Leavell College.

Selected Bibliography

- Copan, Paul. *When God Goes to Starbucks: A Guide to Everyday Apologetics*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2008.

- Cowan, Steven ed. *Five Views on Apologetics*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 2000.
- Craig, William Lane. *Reasonable Faith: Christian Truth and Apologetics*, 3d ed. Wheaton, Ill: Crossway Books, 2008.
- Hindson, Ed and Ergun Caner. *The Popular Encyclopedia of Apologetics*. Eugene, OR: Harvest House Publisher, 2008.