

Fall 2022

Course Objectives:

1. To present a succinct outline of the history of the Presbyterian Church, with a particular emphasis on North America.
2. To identify the distinctive doctrines that shape Presbyterian beliefs and practices.
3. To explain and put in proper perspective doctrinal and practical issues that have necessitated various divisions in Presbyterianism.

Course Outcomes:

1. The student will be able to summarize the history of the development of Presbyterianism.
2. The student will be able to identify key Presbyterian leaders and summarize their teachings and influence.
3. The student will be able to explain the major controversies that have caused sinful division and necessary separation among Presbyterian bodies.

Required Readings:

- *Scottish Theology* by John Macleod (Due with paper Oct 10)
- *Seeking a Better Country* by Hart & Muether (Due with paper Nov 7)
- Choose a biography on an American Presbyterian, for example: (Due with paper Dec 12)
 - *Charles Hodge: The Pride of Princeton* by W. Andrew Hoffecker
 - *Robert Lewis Dabney: A Southern Presbyterian Life* by Sean Lucas
 - *An Able and Faithful Ministry: Samuel Miller and the Pastoral Office* by James M. Garretson
 - *J. Gresham Machen* by Stephen J. Nichols
 - *Defending the Faith: J. Gresham Machen and the Crisis of Conservative Protestantism in Modern America* by D. G. Hart

Papers:

- An interactive summary of the required reading for each book. The paper should include the author's intent, the topic's scope, and a statement of importance for your future ministry. No additional sources are needed or allowed.
- Length of papers: All papers are five pages

Grading

Exams: 50%

Papers: 25%

Readings: 20%

Attendance/Participation: 5%

Recommended Works on Presbyterianism Polity and History

- *Essays on the Church of God* by John Mason
- *Notes on Ecclesiology* by Thomas Peck
- *The Ruling Elder* by Samuel Miller

- Douglas Bannerman
- *The Church of Christ* (2 volumes) by James Bannerman
- *Discussions in Church Polity* by Charles Hodge
- *The Apostolic Church; Which Is It?* by Thomas Witherow
- *Colonial Presbyterianism: Old Faith in a New Land* edited by S. Donald Fortson III
- *Fighting the Good Fight: A Brief History of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church* by D. G. Hart and John Muether
- *For a Continuing Church: The Roots of the Presbyterian Church in America* by Sean Lucas
- *Paradigms in Polity* edited by David W. Hall & Joseph Hall
- *Princeton Seminary: Faith & Learning 1812-1868* by David Calhoun
- *The Theology of the French Reformed Churches* edited by Martin Klauber