



River City School of Leadership

Syllabus for **Basic Doctrine 1**

Professor

Professor Name

Professor Email

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This is an introductory Christian theology course that will examine the doctrines of Scripture, Revelation, God, Holy Spirit, Angels and Demons, Man, and Sin. The purpose of this study is to carefully explore various doctrines to establish a firm foundation for Christian belief. In addition, it will pursue the practical application of these doctrines for Christian life and the mission of the church in the earth.

II. COURSE GOALS & OUTCOMES

- A. To acquaint the student with some of the primary teachings of Scripture
 - 1. Examine the traditional vocabulary of doctrine & categories of systematic theology
 - 2. Learn the hazards of saying too much or too little, as we explain doctrine to others
- B. To gain experience in the practice of correct interpretation of the Bible
 - 1. Learn many of the primary Scripture passages that reveal doctrinal truth
 - 2. Examine how the systematic study of the Bible leads to doctrinal conclusions
 - 3. Learn how to properly use theology in the local church
- C. To examine doctrines of the Bible as truths for redemptive living, rather than as dry teachings.
 - 1. Seek to learn & proclaim doctrine with our whole heart, soul, mind and strength.
 - 2. Reflect on one's personal journey and growth in regards to interpretation and application of Scripture.

III. TEXTBOOK(S)

Holy Bible, several reliable modern versions, (instructor will most often refer to NIV, as well as Hebrew and Greek).

Conner, Kevin. *The Foundations of Christian Doctrine: A Practical Guide to Christian Belief*. Portland: City Christian Publishing, 1980.

IV. ASSIGNMENT & DUE DATES

A. Online Discussion (25%), Every other Monday

On every other Tuesday, a class discussion question will be posted by the professor under the “Discussions” portion of the online class portal. Provide a six to eight sentence response to that question by the following Monday. Additionally, read and review the comments of your classmates. This regular assignment is designed to facilitate an online dialogue that enables students to glean from one another.

B. Bible Study outline and detail notes (15%)

Prepare a practical and instructive Bible study, suitable for application in the local church. On two pages, examine one Biblical doctrine (from the list we examine in this course). For each statement you make, provide appropriate Biblical quotations/ references and explanations. On a separate page provide an outline of your notes, suitable as a class handout. Treat the first two pages as your teacher notes and the outline as your group handout.

C. Exegetical & Systematic analysis paper (20%)

Select one primary passage of Scripture to exegete (a cohesive portion or pericope). A detailed exegesis guide will be provided and explained in class. Show what doctrinal truth your chosen passage teaches, supported by parallel passages. Conclude with a practical application: in view of what this passage teaches, how then should we live? This should be a minimum of three pages, maximum of four pages long.

D. Personal Statement of Faith (20%)

Summarize your position of belief on all eight of the doctrines surveyed during this course, with Biblical reference support. This should be a minimum of three pages, maximum of four pages long.

E. Exam (20%)

The exam will be available online for a set amount of days. You may complete the exam at your convenience during that time period. The exam is found under the “Quiz” section of the online portal. All questions will be objective: multiple choice,

matching, true/false (no essays to write). Questions will cover the doctrines, concepts and terms from your reading assignments, class lessons and discussions.

The **exam is closed book**. This means that, while taking the exam, you may not refer to any notes or study guides.

V. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

A. Grades and Assessments

1. Grading Scale

- A 90 - 100%
- B 80 - 89%
- C 70 - 79%
- D 60 - 69%
- F 59% and below

2. Percentage of Final Grade per Assessment & Due Date

- a) Online Discussion (25%), Every other Monday
- b) Bible Study outline and detail notes (15%)
- c) Exegetical & Systematic analysis paper (20%)
- d) Personal Statement of Faith (20%)
- e) Exam (20%)

B. Correspondence

All correspondence with professors should be done through the email address provided in this syllabus.

Professor Name

Professor Email

C. Academic Honesty

1. Plagiarism is copying someone else's ideas, words, or sentence structures and submitting them as one's own. which is claiming the work of others as your own without specific acknowledgment. It is always required that a student site resources used in any paper that is written. Both students and faculty at River City School of

Leadership are expected to deal ethically with other's materials, whether it is in the form of print, electronic, video, multimedia, or computer software.

2. Collaboration (e.g. writing a paper with someone else so that the resulting paper is not the product of the person turning it in) is not permitted unless specifically allowed by the instructor. Unless noted on the course syllabus a student should assume that the required work is meant to represent their own efforts. It is permissible to have a proofreader review one's paper and comment on the grammar and general paper structure; however, the thought and content of the paper must be the student's.

D. Late Assignment Policy

For each week that an assignment is late, it will receive a 10% grade deduction. An assignment will be considered late unless the student has prior permission from the instructor for a later due date. No homework will be accepted after the end of the term. Additional points can be docked by the teacher for not meeting assignment requirements or standards.

Example:

- 1-7 Days Late – Maximum Grade 90
- 8-14 Days Late – Maximum Grade 80
- 15-21 Days Late – Maximum Grade 70
- 22-28 Days Late – Maximum Grade 60
- 29+ Days Late – Maximum Grade 59

E. Absenteeism

An absentee is defined as not being present in-person or online when a class is being taught. Students are allowed two absences in each semester. If a student is absent more than twice, they will be given an I (Incomplete) for the semester. An **absentee can be erased if a student watches/listens the full video/audio content** of a class that they missed, writes a 250-word response to the class video that was watched/listened to, and **send the notification and the response to River City by email (info@rivercityschool.com)** that they have made up the absence, noting the date of the absence. The latest a student can submit an email to this effect is the day following the last class of that semester.

F. Tardiness

When attending an online class via Zoom, if a student joins 10 minutes or later after the start of the class, a Tardy will be noted for that week's attendance.

G. Zoom Protocol

When attending a River City class that is held via Zoom, students are expected to adhere to the following protocol. The camera must be on the whole class and audio muted unless a question is being asked or answered. It is expected that students will be interactive in the class, answering or following the instructions given by the professor.

VII. COURSE CONTENT / SCHEDULE

Topic	Assignment: to be read by date	Date
How do you know what you know? Why do you believe what you believe?		
Credo = I Believe	Kevin Conner, Christian Doctrine	
Apocalupsis = disclosure	Doctrine of Revelation	
Theopneustos = God-breathed	Doctrine of the Scriptures; Bible Study teaching notes due	
Yahweh / Theos = I AM / God	Doctrine of God	
ruach qadosh / pneuma hagios = spirit holy	Doctrine of Holy Spirit	
malak / angelos = messenger	Doctrine of Angels	
Satana / daimonion = adversary	Doctrine of Satan & Demonology; Exegetical & Systematic analysis paper due	
adam / anthropos = human	Doctrine of Man	
Chat-ta-ah / amartia = fail / miss the mark	Doctrine of Sin	
Doctrine for the head and the heart	Personal Statement of Faith due	
batach / pistis = trust / faith		

VIII. CHANGES

This syllabus is subject to change. It is the responsibility of the student to note any revisions when released.