

Note:

Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.

COURSE SYLLABUS

THEO 679

THEOLOGY CAPSTONE

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This theology capstone course is for the Master of Theology student who has completed at least 24 hours toward the degree. This course is to demonstrate scholarship and contribute to the general knowledge in a specified field of theology. The approved topic must be related to the student's chosen area of study in the Master of Theology program.

RATIONALE

The student should be able to demonstrate an ability to reflect, integrate and apply theological knowledge to his preaching and teaching ministry. Theological reflection should be transformational that influences, motivates, and empowers the student to live for Christ and further His kingdom.

I. PREREQUISITE

For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the [Academic Course Catalog](#).

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASE

Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: <http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm>

III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING

- A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
- B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
- C. Blackboard [recommended browsers](#)
- D. Microsoft Office

IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Formulate a research topic that is suitable for a capstone research paper.
- B. Locate traditional and digital information sources relevant to your research topic.

- C. List your sources in a style appropriate to the discipline.
- D. Evaluate your sources critically.
- E. Design a thesis proposal that identifies your topic clearly, demonstrates your understanding of the topic, forecasts the structure of your argument, makes effective use of language, and cites an appropriate number of scholarly sources
- F. Utilize the basic tools of the theological disciplines to research and resolve problems relevant to the selected topic.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS (NUMBER OF ASSIGNMENTS MAY VARY)

A. Book Critiques (MLOs A, B, D, C)

The student will complete 4 book critiques on the select texts approved by the professor. Each critique should be between 5 – 7 pages in length.

B. Discussion Board (MLO A)

The student will participate in 1 Discussion Board designed to help them refine their topic and thesis statement. The student will post a minimum 300-word paragraph explaining their research project and also post their thesis statement. Each student will then reply to at least 2 classmates with feedback and constructive critique of the project.

C. Research Paper on a Select Topic in the (MLOs A, C, D, E, F)

There are multiple parts to this assignment:

i. Research Paper: Topic

The student will submit a topic that is related to the student's chosen area of study in the Master of Theology program.

ii. Research Paper: Bibliography

The student will complete a bibliography of initially at least 15 of the 30 minimum required resources for the project. The student will then select 4 of these sources to complete for the book critique assignments.

iii. Research Paper: Outline & Revised Thesis

After reviewing the feedback from the instructor on the research topic assignment, the student will complete an initial outline and revised thesis statement for the paper. The outline should consist of an Introduction, at least 3 major sections, and a Conclusion. Headings should follow the style prescribed in the Seminary Writing Guide.

iv. Research Paper: Draft & Revision

The student will complete drafts of the major sections of the research paper throughout the course as well as revised drafts. The draft should incorporate the student's best possible work, and the revisions should incorporate all of the suggestions and criticisms offered by the instructor.

v. Research Paper: Final Submission

As a final step in the process, the student will compile the previously revised documents and drafts and submit a completed 30 to 40 page Research Paper. The paper must include 7 sections: Title page, Table of Contents, Introduction (with thesis statement), Body (minimum of 3 sections with the total number of sections varying), Conclusion, and Bibliography. This paper should contain at least 30 scholarly sources (not counting the Bible).

VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

Course Requirement Checklist	10 pts.
Book Critiques (4 @ 100 pts. each)	400 pts.
Research Topic	25 pts.
Bibliography	25 pts.
Outline & Revised Thesis	25 pts.
Discussion Board Forum (x1)	50 pts.
Draft of First Major Section	25 pts.
Revised Draft of First Major Section	25 pts.
Draft of Second Major Section	25 pts.
Revised Draft of Second Major Section	25 pts.
Draft of Final Section(s)	25 pts.
Revised Draft of Final Section(s)	25 pts.
Reading Report	25 pts.
Research Paper	300 pts.

Total Points 1010 pts

B. Scale

940-1000	A
920-939	A-
900-929	B+
860-899	B
840-859	B-
820-839	C+
780-819	C
760-779	C-

740–759	D+
700–739	D
680–699	D-
BELOW 679	F

C. Style Guidelines

All assignments for this course are to be formatted in accordance with the [LBTS Writing Guide](#) and the latest edition of the Turabian style manual (A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations). Discussion assignments and essay examinations may use the parenthetical citation style. All other written assignments should use the footnote citation style. Supplemental writing aids are available via the [Online Writing Center](#).

D. Extra Credit

No additional “for credit” assignments will be permitted beyond those given in the course requirements stated above.

E. Course Changes

Course requirements are subject to change by the administration of the University at any time with appropriate notice.

F. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online’s Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at LUOODAS@liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport.

COURSE SCHEDULE

THEO 679

Textbooks: Texts are determined by the student's area of study in consultation with the instructor.

MODULE/ WEEK	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
1	Texts & sources approved by instructor.	Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions Research Topic	10 0 25
2	Texts & sources approved by instructor.	Bibliography	25
3	Texts & sources approved by instructor.	Outline & Revised Thesis	25
4	Texts & sources approved by instructor.	DB Forum 1	50
5	Texts & sources approved by instructor.	Book Critique 1	100
6	Texts & sources approved by instructor.	Draft of First Major Section	25
7	Texts & sources approved by instructor.	Book Critique 2	100
8	Texts & sources approved by instructor.	Revised Draft of First Major Section	25
9	Texts & sources approved by instructor.	Book Critique 3	100
10	Texts & sources approved by instructor.	Draft of Second Major Section	25
11	Texts & sources approved by instructor.	Book Critique 4	100

12	Texts & sources approved by instructor.	Revised Draft of Second Major Section	25
13	Texts & sources approved by instructor.	Draft of Final Section(s)	25
14	Texts & sources approved by instructor.	Revised Draft of Final Section(s)	25
15	Texts & sources approved by instructor.	Reading Report	25
16	Texts & sources approved by instructor.	Final Submission of Major Research Paper	300
TOTAL			1010

DB = Discussion Board

NOTE: Each course module/week begins on Monday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Sunday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final module/week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on **Friday**.