

EAST TEXAS BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

SYLLABUS FOR MINISTRY (MINS) 1124

Baptist Distinctives

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION: a study of biblical, historical, and systematic theology from a Baptist perspective. Attention will be given to those doctrines that are distinctive to Baptist life and theology.

II. COURSE TEXTBOOKS:

- Sullivan, James L. Baptist Polity-As I See It. Nashville, Tennessee: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 1998.

III. COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- Students will demonstrate an understanding of the place and role of Baptists in church history.
- Students will demonstrate an understanding of Christian theology and ecclesiastical polity from a Baptist perspective.
- Students will demonstrate an understanding of the manner in which Baptists relate to one another locally and globally.
- Students will investigate one Baptist distinctive with particular attention to application in the student's life and ministry.
- Students will explore the possibility that God may be calling him or her to vocational Christian service.

IV. COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

- The course will utilize a critical thinking approach to learning. Students are expected to be highly interactive with the instructor and with one another. Due to the interactive nature of the course, students are expected to prepare adequately for each class session.
- Reading sections will be assigned for each class session. Students are expected to know the materials and be prepared to discuss them in class. Based on this preparation, the student should be able to offer intelligent questions in class and to

make connections to previous materials that have been discussed and to previous knowledge of the Bible, spiritual leadership and Christian ministry.

- Each student will select (with the instructor's approval) one Baptist distinctive and prepare a 3-5 page research paper (double spaced) in which the student presents the following:
 - An overview of the distinctive.
 - Its importance in the historical development of Baptists.
 - Lessons learned that may be applied to the student's life and ministry.
 - Bibliography of sources consulted.
 - The paper should be written according to the latest version of *Turabian Style Guide* (see handout for guidelines).
- The final examination will cover all that occurs in class, all specified assignments, as well as all reading materials during the testing period.
- Students **must attend a minimum of twelve** of the fifteen class sessions in order to be eligible to receive credit for the course.

V. COURSE GRADING:

• Research Paper	50%
• Final Examination	<u>50%</u>
Total	100%

Students who earn

- 90 points or above earn an A
- 80-89 points earn a B
- 70-79 points earn a C
- 60-69 points earn a D
- 59 points or less earn an F