

BIBLICAL THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

AMERICAN CHURCH HISTORY (United States)

Syllabus Revision, 1987

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I. Introductory Materials for the Course

- A. This course is an elective in the Biblical curriculum and not given at set frequencies. Therefore the development of a full syllabus is a slow and unlikely process. The course seeks to show the development of the Christian institution in the United States along with offering a modest analysis of its ecclesiological contributions and particular growth factors. The course is not geared to biography and while great leaders are mentioned they are not placed into full historical perspective. It attempts to cover the past and to move into the present with history supplying a fuller understanding to the challenges and duties presently facing the Christian church.
- B. A separate bibliography is prepared in connexion with the official course syllabus materials in the academic office. You will be given a copy of this for your files and perusal..
- C. Assignments:

READ: Askew and Spellman: THE CHURCHES AND THE AMERICAN EXPERIENCE

LaHaye: FAITH OF THE FOUNDING FATHERS

and either: Singer: A THEOLOGICAL INTERPRETATION OF
AMERICAN HISTORY

or: Marshall, Peter and David Manuel: THE LIGHT AND
THE GLORY.

The first two are available in the bookstore as texts, the Singer/Marshall choice is viewed as collateral.

And I will have a few journal articles...just a few...

WRITE A one page review (critical) of the books read...particularly giving an evaluation as to whether or not they serve the course well...it is the only way an instructor can find out.

A paper of not more than ten pages detailing the history of your denominational group in this county...noticing, where possible, changes in polity and theological position. If your grouping is "independent" you must find what the roots of that independency are and, having shown such, proceed from there to the present.

A paper of not more than five pages giving the history of your local, individual, church. There may be a rare case where these two items are identical but it is rare..see me if you are in doubt. These must be typed, double-spaced, properly footnoted with bibliography, etc.