

#331 Theology 5 (Part 1): Apologetics  
Christ the Rock Community Church  
Western Reformed Seminary  
John A. Battle, Th.D.  
Fall 2012

## COURSE INFORMATION

### **Course goals**

This course is designed to enable you to be familiar with the primary schools of thought regarding apologetics, along with the biblical support offered for each scheme, to be especially familiar with the major Christian approaches to apologetics, to have formulated your own approach, and to be able to defend scripturally your approach. These goals will be achieved through lectures, readings, class assignments and discussions.

### **Attendance**

Since class discussion is an important part of this course, attendance is very important. School policy allows one unexcused absence; additional absences or tardiness may lower the final grade.

### **Reading assignment**

- Charles Hodge, *Systematic Theology*, Vol. 1, Part I, Theology, Ch. 1-3
- A. Hodge, *Confession of Faith*, Ch. 19-24
- Kenneth D. Boa and Robert M. Bowman, Jr., *Faith Has Its Reasons* (including Appendix A)
- PLUS, 10 hours elective reading in apologetics (turn in reading log)

### **Grading**

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|---|-----|
| • Reading Assignment                        | 30% |
| • Midterm Examination (Apologetics section) | 50% |
| • Class attendance and participation        | 20% |

## **Course schedule**

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|-------|----|--|
| Sept. | 5  | Introduction to the course; Lecture 1: Apologetics Defined and Defended                                    |
|       | 12 | Lecture 2: Apologetics and Philosophy  |
|       | 19 | (no class)   |
|       | 26 | (no class)   |
| Oct.  | 3  | Lecture 3: Biblical Apologetics—the Old Testament, John the Baptist, and Jesus                             |
|       | 10 | Lecture 4: Biblical Apologetics—Peter  |
|       | 17 | Lecture 5: Biblical Apologetics—Paul in Acts   |
|       | 24 | (no class)   |
|       | 31 | Lecture 6: Biblical Apologetics—Paul in His Epistles   |
| Nov.  | 7  | Lecture 7: Biblical Apologetics—Matthew, Luke, and John  |
|       | 14 | Lecture 8: Christian Apologetics before Constantine  |
|       | 21 | Lecture 9: Christian Apologetics from Constantine to the Reformation                                       |
|       | 28 | Lecture 10: Christian Apologetics since the Reformation  |
| Dec.  | 5  | Lecture 11: The Classic Arguments for God (Reading Assignment due)   |
|       | 12 | Lecture 12: Modern Apologetic Approaches<br>(Midterm Examination for credit students scheduled separately) |