



COURSE PROSPECTUS: ETH0510: Current Issues in Christian Ethics

PROFESSOR: David W. Jones

OVERVIEW

Intensive study and research of one or more moral issues which are of immediate concern to the Church, society, and Christian ethicists.

OBJECTIVES

- A student who completes this course should gain an understanding of the foundations of Christian ethics, including, but not limited to, a grasp of God's moral law as revealed in Scripture.
- A student who completes this course should be able to analyze, construct, and defend a historically orthodox biblical position on the ethical issues covered in class.
- A student who completes this course should gain a foundational understanding of Christian moral thought that will enable the student to formulate an orthodox Christian position on topics not covered over the course of the semester.
- A student who completes this course should be able to evaluate non-Christian views in contemporary culture and be equipped to engage individuals in a contextually appropriate manner, utilizing an informed, cross-cultural, biblical perspective.

CORE COMPETENCIES

Spiritual Formation: Demonstrate the knowledge and skills necessary to pursue an authentically Christian way of life, manifested by trust in God, obedience to Christ's commands, and love of God and neighbor.

Biblical Exposition: Demonstrate the ability to properly and effectively interpret, apply, and communicate the Scriptures.

Theological Integration: Demonstrate the ability to understand and apply the doctrines of Christianity to life and ministry.

Ministry Preparation: Demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and Christian disposition necessary for ministry and leadership in the church and the world.

Critical Thinking and Communication: Demonstrate the ability to think critically, argue persuasively, and communicate clearly.

REQUIREMENTS

Weekly Meetings

Participants will meet with the professor from 5:45-7:00 pm on the following dates:

March 31	April 14	May 5
April 7	April 21	May 12

Meeting Location:

Crenshaw Consulting Engineering
3516 Bush Street
Raleigh, NC 27609

Online Lectures

Participants will watch three online lectures per week. Lectures are roughly 20 minutes in duration each. All lectures must be viewed in their entirety. Students will turn in an honesty statement at the end of the semester stating what percentage of the online lectures they have watched. Lectures to watch are:

March 31st – Introduction to Christian Ethics
The Nature of Moral Law (part 1)
The Nature of Moral Law (part 2)

April 7th – The Relevancy of Moral Law
The Giving of Moral Law (part 1)
The Giving of Moral Law (part 2)

April 14th – The Prologue to the Ten Commandments
The First Commandment
The Second Commandment

April 21st – The Third Commandment
The Fourth Commandment (part 1)
The Fourth Commandment (part 2)

May 5th – The Fifth Commandment
The Sixth Commandment
The Seventh Commandment

May 12th – The Eighth Commandment
The Ninth Commandment
The Tenth Commandment

Reading Assignment

The required textbook for this class is:

David Platt, *Counter Culture* (Carol Spring, IL: Tyndale, 2015).

Writing Assignments

Beginning the second week of class, students will read two chapters of Platt's book *Counter Culture* each week. Students will interact with the reading in a journal-type entry, writing a minimum of 2 pages of typed, double-spaced text. Journal entries should contain the following two elements: (1) The student's general personal reaction to the content of each chapter, including an account of the student's experience during the week in praying the suggested prayers at the end of each chapter; and (2) Ideas on how the student can share and use the material in the chapter within their own ministry context. The reading schedule is as follows:

Class Meeting Date	Chapters to Read Before Class Meeting	Chapter Topics
March 31 st	None	None
April 7 th	Chapters 1 & 2	Culture and Poverty
April 14 th	Chapter 3 & 4	Abortion, Orphans, and Widows
April 21 st	Chapters 5 & 6	Sex Slavery and Marriage
May 7 th	Chapters 7 & 8	Sexual Immorality and Ethnicity
May 14 th	Chapters 9 & 10	Religious Liberty and the Unreached

Students should come to class each week prepared to discuss the reading for the week. Writing assignments, containing the journal entries, will be turned in each week.

Course Grading

Viewing Lectures (honesty statement) – 25%

Writing Assignments – 75%

Contact Information:

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