



A MINISTRY OF AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES OF INDIANA AND KENTUCKY
IN COOPERATION WITH ABC-GI ALONG WITH SPONSORING
AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES & ASSOCIATIONS

C105 Church and ABC History with ABC Polity

March 19, April 2, April 23 & May 7, 2022

Instructor Contact Information

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Description and Purpose

This class is intended to help students examine the early beginnings of Baptist life and thought and to trace the influence of these early beginnings on American Baptist life today. It is hoped that each student will become more knowledgeable about the ecclesial, theological, sociological and political understandings of American Baptist Churches, USA and ABC IN/KY. It is anticipated that the student will make an effort to translate this increased knowledge of American Baptists into effective participation in their local church, Association, Region and national denomination.

Focus of This Experience

1. Students will grow in their knowledge and understanding of the historical origins and the theological, cultural, political and sociological context which produced what we know today as the American Baptist Churches, ABC IN/KY & ABC-USA.
2. Students will learn and be able to discuss the issues, concerns, relationships and patterns of functioning as American Baptists. The student will be encouraged to further her/his work within the local church. Students will also gain insight to use in producing their own personal Statement of Faith to aid in their work in the local church.
3. Students will explore the riches of congregationalism and its particular expression in American Baptist Churches, ABC IN/KY & ABC-USA. Issues of governance, power, authority and relationships will be examined.
4. Important Baptist principles and practices will also be examined to help each student better develop their own personal beliefs and congregational practices.

Required Texts

Texts to purchase:

- Leonard, Bill J. *Baptist Ways: A History*. Valley Forge: Judson Press, 2003.
- Maring, Norman H. and Hudson, Winthrop S. A Baptist Manual of Polity and Practice. "Second Revised Edition" (2012) edited by David Gregg ISBN 9780817017132., Valley Forge: Judson Press
Note: The time difference between the 1st revised edition & the 2nd revised edition is 21 years and the updates are essential because of the changed denominational structure.
- Tooze, George H. *Baptist Principles with Practical Applications and Questions for Discussion*, Macon, GA: Mercer Press, 2013

Text will be provided by email with registration confirmation:

- Galli, Mark. "Adventures in Time Travel," *Discipleship Journal* (July-August 1998), pp. 57-60. (provided by the Instructor via email)

Text will be provided free of charge at the 1st class session or mailed at your request:

- Blake, I. George. *Finding A Way Through the Wilderness: Tracing Baptist History in Indiana*, Indianapolis: Central Publishing Company, 1983.
- Brackney, William, ed., "Pilgrimage of Faith: An American Baptist Timeline of People, Places and Events." American Baptist Historical Society, 1985. Revised Edition 2001 edited by Deborah B. Van Broekhoven

Student Expectations

1. Attend all live class sessions whenever possible.
2. If you will be absent, contact the instructor in advance via call, text or email.
3. Be prepared for and participate in each live class session.
4. Support and encourage classmates.
5. Communicate with the instructor, especially if you have any questions or concerns.
6. Please have the following available during each live class session:
 - Textbooks
 - Good English translation of the Bible; additionally, a Spanish translation of the Bible may be brought, if desired.
 - Notebook (for handouts, assignments and taking notes)
 - 2 pens/pencils (electronic device to take notes, if preferred)
 - Syllabus, handouts & assignments

Requirements to Earn Credit

1. Meet expectations for students listed above.
2. Complete all assignments before live class sessions.
3. Participate in class discussions and exercises.
4. Read additional articles or blogs as may be assigned.
5. Attend at least 15 of the 20 hours of the live class sessions.
6. If absent more than 30 minutes of any live class session, earn an excused absence by doing the following:
 - a. contact the instructor about your absence (preferably before the absence, but at least within 72 hours of the absence);
 - b. watch the recording of the live class session you missed;
 - c. complete a special assignment given by your instructor in addition to regular assignments; this is usually an enriching experience that will pertain to the class time the student missed in some way.

Class Sessions

Class Outline and Schedule of Assignments

- Assignments listed under each class session date need to be completed *before* that class session.
- Students are strongly encouraged to schedule blocks of time each week into their personal calendar for completing preparation for each live class session.
- Complete assigned reading in the texts and handouts with capability to discuss the material and join in the discussion.
- There will be an assignment to prepare a presentation on one of the Baptist Principles (details will be discussed in class).

Session 1—March 19, 2022

Preparation Assignments:

- Read Galli Article
- Read Leonard, chapters 1-6, 8-9, 16, pp. 422-425
- Read Tooze, chapter 1

Focus:

- Introductions
- Syllabus Review
- History of the Church
- History of Baptists in Great Britain
- History of Baptists in the United States

Session 2—April 2, 2022

Preparation Assignments:

- Read Maring & Hudson, chapters 1-9, pp. 313-342
- Read Tooze, chapters 2-5

Focus:

- History of American Baptist Churches USA
- Baptist Principles
- Baptist Polity

Session 3—April 23, 2022

Preparation Assignments:

- Read Blake
- Read Tooze, chapters 6-9

Focus:

- Indiana Baptist History
- African-American Baptists
- Minority Baptist Beliefs
- Shared and Unique Baptist Beliefs
- Principle Presentations

Session 4—May 7, 2022

Preparation Assignments:

- Read Maring & Hudson, chapters 10-12

Focus:

- American Baptist Church Life
- Are American Baptists Evangelicals?
- Principle Presentations

<u>Tentative Daily Class Schedule</u>	<u>Class Location/Participation Info</u>
Sign-on or Arrive By 8:45AM	
9:00 - 10:15	Segment 1
10:15 - 10:30	BREAK
10:30 - 11:45	Segment 2
11:45 - 12:45	LUNCH
12:30 - 1:45	Segment 3
1:45 - 2:00	BREAK
2:00 - 3:30	Segment 4
	American Baptist Churches of Indiana and Kentucky office 65 Airport Parkway, Suite 120 Greenwood, Indiana 46143 (In-Person Option depends on ABC-IN/KY Covid-19 Policy when class is scheduled to start)
	OR
	Via Zoom Live Streaming (Link to be sent a few days before each live class session)

Suggested Texts

(To help you build a personal library)

“Indiana Baptists: Crossroads of American Baptist Life.” *American Baptist Quarterly*, Volume XXV, Number 2 (Summer 2006)

Brackney, William H. *Baptist Life and Thought: 1600-1980*. Valley Forge: Judson Press, 1983.

Freeman, Curtis, et al, *Baptist Roots: A Reader in the Theology of a Christian People*. Valley Forge: Judson Press, 1999.

Hunt, Rosalie Hall. *Bless God and Take Courage: The Judson History and Legacy*. Valley Forge, Judson Press, 2005.

Jones, Timothy Paul. *Christian History Made Easy*, 2nd edition. Torrance, CA: Rose Publishing Inc. 2005.

Jones, Jeffrey D. *Keepers of the Faith: Illustrated Biographies from Baptist History*. Valley Forge, Judson Press, 1999

Shelley, Bruce. *Church History in Plain Language, updated 4th edition*. Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson Publishers. 2013

Shurden, Walter B., ed. *Proclaiming the Baptist Vision: The Bible*. Macon, GA: Smyth and Helwys Publishing, 1994.

Shurden, Walter B., ed. *Proclaiming the Baptist Vision: The Church*. Macon, GA: Smyth and Helwys Publishing, 1996.

Shurden, Walter B., ed. *Proclaiming the Baptist Vision: The Priesthood of All Believers*. Macon, GA: Smyth and Helwys Publishing, 1993.

Shurden, Walter B., ed. *Proclaiming the Baptist Vision: Baptism and the Lord's Supper*. Macon, GA: Smyth and Helwys Publishing, 1999.

Shurden, Walter B. *The Baptist Identity: Four Fragile Freedoms*. Macon, GA: Smyth and Helwys Publishing, 1993, 2013.