

# STH203 The Doctrine of Humanity Syllabus Highlights

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them

—Genesis 1:27

Fall 2025

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#### **Course Description**

A study of mankind in the state of innocence, sin and grace, including his creation, the material and immaterial aspects of his being, and his fall.

## **Learning Outcomes**

The primary outcome is to understand the doctrine of humanity in its exegetical, confessional, historical, and cultural contexts. At the end of this course, successful students will be able to:

- 1. Interpret relevant biblical texts for developing a biblical doctrine of humanity.
- 2. Relate the doctrine of humanity to other topics in systematic theology.
- 3. Articulate the development of human nature in its fourfold state.
- 4. Appreciate the significance of covenant theology for a biblical anthropology.
- 5. Defend biblical definitions of gender, marriage, family, and sexuality.

#### **Textbooks**

- 1. Beeke, Joel R. and Paul M. Smalley. *Reformed Systematic Theology*, Vol. 2, *Man and Christ*. Wheaton: Crossway, 2020. ISBN: 978-1-4335-5987-7.
- 2. Calvin, John. *Institutes of the Christian Religion*, trans. Henry Beveridge. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 2008. ISBN: 978-159856-168-5.
- 3. Helm, Paul. *Human Nature From Calvin to Edwards*. Grand Rapids: Reformation Heritage Books, 2018. ISBN: 978-1-60178-610-4.
- 4. Muller, Richard A., *Dictionary of Latin and Greek Theological Terms*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2017. ISBN: 978-0-8010-9886-4.
- 5. Pearcey, Nancy R. *Love Thy Body*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2018. ISBN: 978-0-8010-7572-8.
- 6. Trueman, Carl R. *Strange New World*. Wheaton: Crossway, 2022. ISBN: 978-1-4335-7930-1.

### **Course Requirements**

- 1. Attend and participate in class.
- 2. Complete all weekly reading assignments and worksheets.
- 3. Complete written project on a theme in Pearcey's *Love Thy Body* or Trueman's *Strange New World*.
- 4. Complete final exam.

*This abbreviated syllabus is subject to revision. A complete syllabus will be provided on the
first day of class.

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