



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

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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 man 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. Louis Berkhof, *Systematic Theology*, complete edition, foreword by Richard A. Muller (Eerdmans, 2018).
2. John Calvin, *Institutes of the Christian Religion*, 2 vols., ed. John T. McNeill, trans. Ford Lewis Battles (Westminster, 1960).
3. Anthony A. Hoekema, *Created in God's Image* (Eerdmans, 1994).
4. Nancy R. Pearcey, *Love Thy Body* (Baker, 2018).
5. R.C. Sproul, *The Hunger for Significance* (P&R, 2020).
6. Carl R. Trueman, *Strange New World* (Crossway, 2022).

Course Requirements

1. Attend and participate in class.
2. Complete all reading assignments and submit a reading report.
3. Write a 5–7 page biblical-theological essay on a chapter in Pearcey's *Love Thy Body*.
4. Complete midterm and final exams.

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