



## Polemic Theology Syllabus

The information in this course syllabus provides all the details need to complete this course. Questions beyond what is provided here should be addressed to your academic adviser.

### **I. Goal**

Polemic Theology is designed to familiarize students with the teachings of common cults and to equip students to respond to the false doctrines in a compelling, gracious, and powerful manner.

### **II. Required Reading**

The following texts may be purchased at most online booksellers. Read these texts in their entirety:

Michael S. Horton, “[How To Be Polemical Without Being a Downright Nasty Person!](#),” *Monergism*.

Michael R. Burgos, *Counterfeit Religion: A Biblical Analysis of Cults, Sects, and False Religious Movements*, (Torrington: Church Militant, 2019).

Todd Ehrenborg, *Zondervan Guide to Cults and Religious Movements: Mind Sciences*, (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1995).

Alan W. Gomes, *Zondervan Guide to Cults and Religious Movements: Unmasking the Cults*, (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1995).

Kurt Van Gorden, *Zondervan Guide to Cults and Religious Movements: Mormonism*, (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1995).

Ron Rhodes, *Zondervan Guide to Cults and Religious Movements: New Age Movement*, (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1995).

### **III. Lectures**

Listen to the six [Kingdom of the Cults](#) lectures by Walter Martin.

### **IV. Assignment**

Assignments are to be submitted together in .doc format to your academic adviser. Using an essay writing style, cite all sources properly. Using essay style writing, please respond thoroughly to each of the questions below. Compose your answers clearly and precisely, defining all terms. Do not introduce your answer; just answer the question. If the questions consist of several parts, write a paragraph or two on each part and identify each part. Answer each question in two to three double-spaced pages.

- A. Define the term cult and provide your own description of the marks of a cult. Provide examples.
- B. Describe and critique the Christology of the Jehovah's Witnesses.
- C. Defend the sufficiency of Scripture over and against the living prophet of the LDS Church (i.e., the Mormons).
- D. Describe and evaluate the teaching of the modern prosperity movement.