

## Guidelines for Online Discussion

### Online Discussion

The goal of our online discussion will be to foster learning through academic discourse. This means that students will be expected to use the resources at their disposal in order to further discussion over Christian doctrine. Students are also expected to interact with the Leading Post for that week. While you are required to make one graded post a week, feel free to make more posts to the discussion board.

Online Discussion will be a significant portion of the student's grade. Each week every student will be responsible to make one post on the assigned topic. These post(s) should be 500 word in length, which is about a page and a half. They are to be academic in nature. The student is expected to correctly reference the required reading texts in each post and to critically engage the topic at hand. Please use parenthetical references in citation of primary and secondary sources.

For example, in making a post on the Anglican understanding of baptism, in addition to your required reading, it will be wise to read and reference the article on baptism that appears in the *Oxford Dictionary of the Christian Church*, the baptismal service in the Book of Common Prayer, and the BCP Catechism, cite the Bible, and see what Hooker says about baptism in his *Laws*.

Each week one student will be required to make a leading post by Wednesday. All the other posts should reference that post. (We will go in alphabetical order of the last names of those in the class.)

### The Specifics

- Students will be required to make one graded post per week totaling of 500 words (about a page and a half—a MS Word document double spaced 12 point Times New Roman font with 1” top and bottom margins and 1” left and right margins). This post is due by Sunday at 12:00 p.m.
- Each week a different student will make the leading post by Wednesday at 10:00 p.m.
- It works best to copy the post into the discussion box from MS Word.
- Citation for posts will use parenthetical references (i.e., (McGrath, 325) or (ODCC, 256). For more on in-text citation see Kate L. Turabian et al., *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, 8th ed., (Chicago: Chicago University Press, 2013)—especially note the differences between footnotes, parenthetical references.
- Online discussion will account for 20% of your total grade. Each week the posts will be graded.
- There will be no graded posts during the residential week or the final week.
- Please make sure that your graded post is the final edited version.