



Theological Polemics: Cults (TH203) Course Syllabus

I. Learning outcomes for TH203

In TH203, students will be introduced to a variety of Christian cults, sects, and false religious movements. Students will learn to interact critically with cultic claims, addressing them in a dignified and biblical manner.

II. Required Reading

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

Anthony A. Hoekema, *The Four Major Cults* (Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1965), 9-82.

III. Lectures

Walter Martin, [*Kingdom of the Cults*](#)

IV. Assignments

Written assignments should be turned in together at the close of a course.

1. Read *Counterfeit Religion* in its entirety and pp. 9-82 of *The Four Major Cults*.
2. Listen to lectures 1-6.
3. Write a two-page double spaced reflection paper on pp. 92-136 in *Counterfeit Religion*. A reflection paper identifies the subject(s) under consideration and gives a summarization of your reaction to the material with evidence from the material to support your suppositions. Reflection papers answer the questions "Did you agree with the claims of the author?," "What did you learn?," "What misconceptions did you have that the author helped you correct?" Footnote all citations. For further help consult [*How to Write a Reflection Paper*](#).
4. Write a five to eight-page double-spaced research paper which interacts with the claims of the Latter-Day Saints (i.e., the Mormons). This paper should focus upon on particular area (e.g., theology proper, soteriology, bibliology, etc.) in which the Mormon church exhibits cultic doctrine. This paper should include at least five written works aside from the assigned reading. Footnote all citations and provide both a cover page and a works cited page. Consult either the *Chicago Manual of Style* or Turabian for questions of citation and pagination.