

REQUIRED POSITION PAPERS

An Ordinand/Consecrant needs to write six position papers that are described below. A comprehensive treatment is expected, including, but not limited to the items listed under each theme. Papers should be approximately 8-10 pages in length, typed and double-spaced, outlining the candidate's understanding of the subject and its application to the candidate's life and ministry. A table of contents, outline, and a bibliography should be included, documenting research and quotations used. The paper is to be a statement of the candidate's personal theological position.

- Paper #1. **Christ Our Savior**
A. The nature of man and his final destiny
B. The plan and purpose of the atonement-propitiation
C. The means and results of justification
D. Regeneration
E. Conversion
F. Baptism
G. My personal experience of Christ as Savior
- Paper #2. **Christ Our Sanctifier**
A. The crisis and progression of sanctification
B. Identification of the believer with Christ's death, resurrection, and ascension
C. The ministry of the Holy Spirit in sanctification
D. My personal experience of Christ as Sanctifier
- Paper #3 **Christ Our Healer**
A. The relationship of divine healing and the atonement
B. The significance of anointing with oil
C. The ministry of healing in the local church
D. My personal experience of Christ as our Healer
- Paper #4 **Christ Our Coming King**
A. Defend the pre-millennial coming of Christ
B. Trace the events surrounding the rapture of the church
C. Relationship between the imminence of Christ's coming and world missions
D. My personal understanding of Christ our coming King
- Paper #5 **Christ's Body: The Church**
A. The nature of the church
B. The purpose of the church
C. The methods of the church
D. The government of the church
- Paper #6. **Completing Christ's Mission**
A. The Lostness of mankind
B. The Great Commission

Helpful guidelines for Papers

Format:

- Use MLA style, if you don't have a style book you may find help at <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/557/01/>
- Typed, double-spaced, size 12 standard font (please choose from Times New Roman, Garamond, or Helvetica) in Microsoft Word for electronic submission.
- One-inch margins flush right header with last name and page number
- Proper heading in the upper left corner (see Example Format below).

Organization and Structure:

- The table of contents should be single spaced in an outline format.
- You must have a solid introduction and thesis developed throughout the paper. Each topic (sub point) you develop from your thesis will have its own heading or paragraph.
- Methods of organization may vary. Some students may follow a theme chronologically throughout, while others may use topical subsections to develop their thesis.
- The content of the body paragraphs should demonstrate how the thesis is true. Examples should be drawn from sources to support the thesis. You should then discuss your own interpretation and an academic response to the critical source material.
- Be sure each sub-point is covered and that there is a natural flow and progression through these sub-points.
- All words not in English must be either underlined or in *Italics*

Quotations:

- All direct quotations include a page number, either at the end of the sentence or in a footnote, quotes from the web will not have a page number. Be sure to include the website on your Bibliography page.
- Any time four words or more come directly from a reading; they must be placed in quotation marks and cited.
- When following an author's ideas closely, include the chapter number in the paragraph or provide pages at the end of the paragraph.
- Use block quotation format when three or more lines are quoted, and footnote at the end of the block quote. Block quotes do not require quotation marks.
- When citing a source the first time, use the full name of the source, such as "According to Millard Erickson." Thereafter, use their last name
- When citing Scripture, use the form "Matthew 8:11"

Bibliography:

- Every work that you quote must be listed on this page at the end of your paper.
- Book titles must be either underlined or in *Italics*
- Chapter titles belong in quotes

Footnotes:

- If you chose to use them be exact with your spacing, punctuation, etc. do not indent footnotes; they must align with the left margin.
- Using Word, the menu is Insert, Reference, Footnote. Word automatically numbers.
- Footnotes can be used to make statements that are tangent to the main body of the paper, but are insightful.

- Footnotes are used when an idea or words of another are used in the paper. Cite all ideas which are derived from research. When using exact words from a source, use quotation marks and footnote them.

Sources:

- Be sure you use the number of required sources. Really USE them not just throw in a quote. A majority of your sources must be books or academic journal articles.
- Tip: Avoid using *Google*, *Yahoo*, or generalized Internet searches; you are likely to find mostly unhelpful blurbs. These searches also get you into trouble by leading you to non-academic sources such as student papers and sites designed for those looking to plagiarize.
- Your sources should integrate and interact with your analysis demonstrating synthesis and evaluation not simple restatement.
- Meticulous parenthetical citation as described in MLA style is required. This means whenever a source is used (even as background information), the source must be cited in parentheses.

Grading:

- Be sure to review the grading rubric while you write. Be sure to read the paper description thoroughly. Using the rubric, grade your work with it as an additional proofread.

Example Format:

Jane Doe
Sanctification Position Paper
10 August 2005

Table of Contents

1.

Outline

1.

Christ our Sanctifier

This is the first sentence of a great paper that is double spaced and written in many drafts so that Jane carefully articulates her position on Sanctification. ...

This is the first main point

[SECOND PAGE]

Doe 2

...the essay continues.....Note that the header is flush right at the top of the page...just like on the first page....

[LAST PAGE]

Doe 30

Bibliography

Lastname, Firstname. Title of Book. Place of Publication: Publisher, Year of Publication.

General Features of Good Writing

Styles, forms, audiences, and purposes of writing obviously differ from subject to subject, however, there are some general features that good writing holds in common (taken from The Elements of Teaching Writing “What is Good Writing?” by Gottschalk and Hjortshoj):

- The organization and flow of the writing sustains continuous reading from a *point of departure*, in a *clear direction*, toward a *destination*. The writing supports this continuous, directed movement and does not let you down with disconnections, unexpected turns, or loops that force you to read back over previous sections.
- The writing is “voiced.” As a reader, you sense the presence of a writer writing, addressing you, taking responsibility for your understanding and, in effect, ushering you through the text. This sense of voice does not rely on first-and second-person address (“I” or “you”), but the writer often uses cues and transitions to maintain and direct attention.
- While this voice is typically a dispassionate voice of reason and explanation (not chatty or personal), the writer is also relaxed and engaged with the subject--not excessively formal or detached. The author is writing with a pleasing combination of authority and composure.
- The author uses this authority and composure to make difficult subjects easier for you (the reader) to understand, not to demonstrate the complexity and difficulty of his/her knowledge (a common mistake among student writers and scholars).

Position Paper Evaluation

(100 points possible)

CATEGORY	10-9	8-7	6-5	4-0
Comprehensive Treatment	The position is thoroughly and thoughtfully developed.	The position is adequately developed.	The position is somewhat developed.	Inadequate treatment of the subject.
Sub-theme Development	Each listed theme is covered with excellence.	Each listed theme is covered adequately.	Most listed themes are covered adequately.	Inadequate sub-theme development.
Theological Clarity	The candidate's theological perspective is very obvious.	The candidate's theological perspective is fairly obvious.	The candidate's theological perspective is unclear.	The candidate's theological perspective is lacking.
Cogency	The paper presents a convincing argument.	The paper presents a well developed argument.	The paper presents a weak argument.	The paper's argument falls apart.
Scripture	Texts are very well utilized to support the thesis and argument.	Texts adequately support the thesis and argument.	Texts inadequately support the thesis and argument.	Texts fail to support the thesis and argument.
Theological Soundness	The position admirably aligns with Alliance theology.	The position adequately aligns with Alliance theology.	The position differs somewhat with Alliance Theology.	The position differs significantly with Alliance theology.
Applicability	The paper applies the subject to life and ministry in a superior way.	The paper adequately applies the subject to life and ministry.	The paper lacks application to life and ministry.	Inadequate application.
Research and Study	The paper was very well researched.	The paper was adequately well researched.	The paper was lacking research.	Research?
Mechanics	MLA format perfect. No grammatical, spelling, or punctuation errors.	MLA format very good. Almost no grammatical, spelling or punctuation errors.	MLA format adequate. A few grammatical, spelling or punctuation errors.	MLA format lacking. Many grammatical, spelling, or punctuation errors.
Organization	Table of contents, Outline and Bibliography are done with excellence. The paper is 8 to 10 pages in length.	Table of contents, Outline and Bibliography are done well. The paper is too short or too long.	Table of contents, Outline and Bibliography are present. The paper is very short or very long.	Table of contents, Outline and Bibliography are lacking. The paper is excessively short or long.
Total Score				

Additional Comments: