

## {Course Descriptions}

The course codes for all courses are to be interpreted as follows: The letters indicate the department, division within the department, or major: Old Testament, New Testament, Church History, Systematic Theology, Apologetics, Practical Theology. (Courses indicated PTC are primarily counseling courses; PTE are primarily evangelism courses; and PTM are primarily Urban Mission courses.)

Except for D.Min. modules, first digit indicates the level of the course:

0, non-credit course

1-6, M.A., M.A.R., or M.Div. courses

7-9, Th.M. and Ph.D. courses

The letter “p” following a course number indicates that the course is graded on a pass-fail basis.

A hyphenated number is appended to the course number for courses that must be taken more than once. The number identifies how many times the individual student has taken the course, i.e., the second time that a student takes PT 021P, he/she will register for PT 021P-2.

The Seminary reserves the right to add, withdraw, or change courses without prior notice.

### Old Testament

*It must be apparent to anyone who reads the Gospels carefully that Jesus Christ, in the days of his flesh, looked upon that body of writings which is known as the Old Testament as constituting an organic whole. To him the Scriptures were a harmonious unit which bore a unique message and witness.*

– E. J. Young

Nothing is more foundational to Christian ministry than a full-orbed knowledge and embrace of the gospel. The Old Testament department is committed to teaching the first thirty-nine books of the Bible, with all the aspects entailed, as the anticipation of the glorious climactic fulfillment of redemption in Jesus Christ.

To this end, the Old Testament curriculum enables students:

- To acquire a reading knowledge of biblical Hebrew
- To acquire a knowledge of the content of the Old Testament
- To grapple with the challenges of biblical interpretation
- To evaluate the ways in which the Old Testament has been interpreted in the past
- To perceive the unity of the Old and New Testaments and the hermeneutical significance of their unity
- To understand and value the historical context in which God gave his redemptive revelation, how it began in the Old Testament period and then culminated in the glorious and extraordinary climax to that history in Christ and his work in Christ as interpreted in the New Testament
- To identify the major biblical-theological themes of the Old Testament and to recognize their importance for understanding the gospel
- To develop skill in understanding and applying each of the books of the Old Testament
- To learn to communicate the gospel through the Old Testament
- To be encouraged to embrace the gospel in continuing and vital ways through the glory of God’s self-disclosure and to fear the Lord and love him with the whole heart

*Old Testament faculty: Professor Green, Coordinator; Professor Gropp; Assistant Professor Kelly; Mr. Fantuzzo, Mrs. Groves, Mr. Lowery and Mr. Putnam.*



2010–2011

## {Course Descriptions}

### OLD TESTAMENT

#### Master's level

#### **OT 011, 012, 013 *Biblical Hebrew 1, 2 and 3*** ***(formerly Elements of Hebrew a)***

Purpose:

- To teach students elements of the Hebrew language
- To expose the student to a significant amount of biblical Hebrew through extensive translation of portions of the Hebrew Bible
- To prepare the student for further exegetical work in Old Testament courses

Topics covered include orthography, phonemics, morphology, and syntax. The third semester is devoted to extensive reading and translation of narrative and poetic materials from the Hebrew Bible.

*These courses are available in three instructional sequences. The Traditional sequence comprises fall semester, winter term, and spring semester, three hours each. The Summer sequence comprises two summer terms and one fall semester, three hours each. The Non-intensive sequence comprises fall semester, spring semester and the following fall semester, three hours each. Summer and winter terms are intensive courses comparable to a full-time academic load. Students must begin with the first course in the sequence they choose. See "Placement in Greek and Hebrew" on page 55. Auditing not permitted. Staff.*

#### **OT 113 *Old Testament Introduction***

Purpose:

- To introduce students to the complex hermeneutical, theological, and doctrinal issues surrounding Old Testament interpretation

Topics covered include the history of the Hebrew text; the use of the Old Testament in the Pseudepigrapha, Apocrypha, and New Testament; the major critical methods and postmodern interpretation; and Biblical Theology. Prerequisite, OT 011, or equivalent, completed or in progress.

*Spring semester, three hours. Mr. Kelly.*

#### **OT 131 *Biblical Theology I***

Purpose:

- To show how responsible interpretation and application of any biblical text does not begin with the question "How do I apply this passage to my life?" but with "How does this passage connect to the great narrative of redemption which climaxes in the gospel, the story of Christ, and his people?"

Topics covered include the nature of the Bible and its coherence; continuities and discontinuities in various major themes, such as the kingdom of God, definitions of the people of God, the Spirit and the New Covenant; the centrality of the gospel in application. Not available to M.Div. or M.A.R. students.

*Fall semester, three hours. Mr. Green.*

#### **OT 141 *Old Testament for Ministry***

Purpose:

- To expose the student to specific interpretive issues in Old Testament historical, prophetic and wisdom books
- To demonstrate how Old Testament historical, prophetic and wisdom books are to be interpreted and applied in light of the gospel
- To engage in close reading and apply to specific books the principles of biblical-theological interpretation learned in *Biblical Theology I* and *Biblical Theology II*

Topics covered include redemptive-historical interpretation and the question of application; critique of various popular methods of application of biblical material; the nature of biblical history-writing; the office, function, and theology of the prophet in the Old Testament; understanding wisdom literature in light of the gospel; the specific theologies and redemptive-historical trajectories of several specific biblical books; and the use of the Old Testament in ministry. Prerequisites, OT 131, and NT 133. Not available to M.Div. or M.A.R. students.

*Fall semester, three hours. Mr. Kelly.*



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## {Course Descriptions}

### OLD TESTAMENT

#### **OT 211 Old Testament History and Theology I**

Purpose:

- To provide an introduction to the theology of the Pentateuch
- To engage in the exegesis of selected passages from the Pentateuch with particular attention to their relationship to ancient Near Eastern literature, the theology of the Pentateuch as a whole, and to the history of redemption as it reaches its climax in the gospel

Topics covered include the narrative structure of the Bible, the Pentateuch and the history of redemption, Genesis 1-3 as an entry point to biblical theology, and the book of Exodus. Prerequisites, OT 013, or equivalent, and NT 123.

*Spring semester, three hours. Mr. Green. Please note: This course will be offered in the spring semester only for the 2010-2011 academic year. Regular scheduling according to the degree program charts will recommence in the 2011-2012 academic year.*

#### **OT 223 Old Testament History and Theology II**

Purpose:

- To explore the relationship among literature, history, and theology in the books of Deuteronomy through Ezra/Nehemiah
- To provide a knowledge of the content of this section of canon
- To give a biblical-theological framework for applying these books in life and ministry

In addition to laying out the theology and content of each of these books, we will cover such topics as the relationship of Deuteronomy to the other books. Additional topics covered include OT historiography; OT theology; the relationship between revelation, history, and theology; and covenant. Prerequisites, OT 013, and NT 123.

*Spring semester, three hours. Staff.*

#### **OT 311 Prophetical Books**

Purpose:

- To provide knowledge of the content of this portion of the canon
- To study the role of the Hebrew prophets in Israelite society and the nature of Israelite prophecy
- To give a biblical-theological framework to understand the prophetic books in life and ministry

Topics covered include the structure, content, and theology of the prophetic books and Daniel; the ancient Near Eastern setting of prophecy; the history of interpretation of the prophetic literature; and the role of the prophets in redemptive history. A portion of the course involves seminar discussions with the professor. Prerequisites, OT 013, and NT 123.

*Fall semester, three hours. Mr. Kelly.*

#### **OT 323 Poetry and Wisdom**

Purpose:

- To gain a strong familiarity with the nature of Hebrew poetry
- To explore the theological context of the wisdom books (Job, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes), Psalms, and Song of Songs
- To discuss the theology of OT wisdom vis-à-vis the gospel

Topics covered include the nature and diversity of OT wisdom books; characteristics of Hebrew poetry; exegetical studies of various psalms, Job, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Songs; and wisdom and the NT. Prerequisites, OT 013, and NT 123.

*Fall semester, two hours. Staff. Please note: This course will be offered in the fall semester only for the 2010-2011 academic year. Regular scheduling according to the degree program charts will recommence in the 2011-2012 academic year.*

#### **OT 431 The Book of Psalms**

See OT 731 below. Prerequisites, OT 013, or equivalent, and NT 123.

*Fall semester, two hours. Mr. Green.*

#### **OT 461 Biblical and Inscriptional Aramaic (formerly Biblical Aramaic)**

See OT 761 below. Prerequisite, OT 013, or equivalent.

*Fall semester, two hours. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Green.*

#### **OT 473 Explorations in Biblical Hebrew Poetry**

See OT 773 below. Prerequisites, OT 013, or equivalent, and NT 123.

*Spring semester, two hours. Mr. Kelly.*



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### OLD TESTAMENT

#### **OT 503 Bible Translation**

See OT 803 below. Prerequisites, OT 012 or equivalent.

*Spring semester, two hours. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Putnam.*

#### **OT 613 The Book of Proverbs**

See OT 913 below. Prerequisites, OT 013, or equivalent, and NT 123.

*Spring semester, two hours. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Putnam.*

#### **OT 644 Metaphor in Scripture**

See OT 944 below. Prerequisites, OT 013, or equivalent, and NT 123.

*Fall semester, two hours. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Putnam.*

#### **OT 671 The Book of Ecclesiastes**

See OT 971 below. Prerequisites, OT 013 or equivalent.

*Spring semester, two hours. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Staff.*

### **Th.M. and Ph.D. level**

#### **OT 703 The Minor Prophets**

Purpose:

- To investigate the unique content, form, and theology of each of the twelve Minor Prophets
- To review recent contributions regarding the unity of the Minor Prophets
- To engage in original research on unifying motifs and themes through the Minor Prophets

Topics covered include the contribution of the Minor Prophets to the canon and to redemptive historical hermeneutics, the history of scholarship on the unity of the Minor Prophets, and evaluation of purported redactional activity in the Minor Prophets.

*Spring semester. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Kelly.*

#### **OT 731 The Book of Psalms**

Purpose:

- To read the Psalms with attention to poetic language, literary forms, and in the context of the thought world of the ancient Near East
- To read the Psalter in the context of Israel's covenantal relationship with God
- To reflect on the Psalter's function as Scripture
- To develop a Christian interpretation of the Psalms

Topics covered include the history of interpretation of the Psalms including recent research on the shape and shaping of the Psalter; theological themes in the Psalms; the Psalms and redemptive history; kingship and the psalms; messianic interpretation.

*Fall semester. Mr. Green.*

#### **OT 743 Hebrew Text-Linguistic Seminar**

Purpose:

- To introduce Hebrew syntax and macro-linguistic structuring of the Hebrew texts of the Bible (that is, structuring beyond the level of the clause)

Topics covered include the study of the relationship between formal and functional linguistic approaches. While extensive use of computerized databases and electronic tools will be part of the course, only general familiarity with the computer is needed. Prior experience with the databases and programs is not required. The necessary computing facilities are available on campus. This seminar is sponsored in cooperation with the J. Alan Groves Center for Advanced Biblical Research.

*Spring semester. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Lowery.*

#### **OT 751 Ugaritic I**

Purpose:

- To obtain basic reading competence in Ugaritic
- To compare Ugaritic to Hebrew and other Semitic languages to better understand Hebrew as a West Semitic language
- To enter the thought world of an ancient Near Eastern culture
- To show how the study of Ugaritic enriches Old Testament interpretation



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### OLD TESTAMENT

Topics covered include the place of Ugaritic among Semitic languages; introduction to Ugaritic grammar and syntax; translation of selections from Ugaritic mythological texts. Prerequisite, OT 013, or equivalent.

*Fall semester. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Staff.*

#### **OT 753 Ugaritic II**

Purpose:

- Advanced study of the Ugaritic language
- Further study and in-depth analysis of Ugaritic mythological texts

Prerequisite, OT 751.

*Spring semester. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Staff.*

#### **OT 761 Biblical and Inscriptional Aramaic (formerly Biblical and Targumic Aramaic)**

Purpose:

- To gain a competence in reading biblical Aramaic texts
- To provide linguistic background to the study of Biblical Aramaic with an introduction to Inscriptional Aramaic

Topics covered include a survey of biblical Aramaic grammar, with an emphasis upon translation of the Aramaic portions of the Old Testament, and a brief introduction to Inscriptional Aramaic, including translation of two or three texts from Syria-Palestine and Mesopotamia, dating from the ninth and eighth centuries B.C. Prerequisite, OT 013, or equivalent. Student enrolled in the Ph.D. program in Hermeneutics and Biblical Interpretation will need to obtain a final grade of B- or better in this course to satisfy the requirement of demonstrating competence in Biblical Aramaic.

*Fall semester. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Green.*

#### **OT 773 Explorations in Biblical Hebrew Poetry**

Purpose:

- To review recent theories on parallelism and prosody in biblical Hebrew
- To investigate recent advances in biblical Hebrew text-linguistics, and apply text-linguistic theory to biblical Hebrew poetic texts

- To engage in original text-linguistic research in the book of Jeremiah

Topics covered will include the nature of the grammar of Hebrew poetry, formalist and functional text-linguistic theories and their application to narrative and non-narrative genres in the Hebrew Bible, and text-linguistic structure of the book of Jeremiah. A portion of the course will involve seminar discussions led by students.

*Spring semester. Mr. Kelly.*

#### **OT 803 Bible Translation**

Purpose:

- To reflect on issues involved in translating biblical texts.
- To evaluate modern translations.
- To develop skills in the art of translation.

Topics include a discussion of the possibility of translation given linguistic non-isomorphism, the nature of translational decision, and the role of precedent in translation. In addition to lectures and discussion, students will work together to produce three translations of the biblical book of Jonah: "inter-linear", "essentially literal", and "fluid." Prerequisite, OT 012 or equivalent.

*Spring semester. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Putnam.*

#### **OT 821 Genesis 1 – 3**

Purpose:

- To engage in a grammatical-historical interpretation of Genesis 1-3 (with particular attention to the ancient Near Eastern background to these chapters and to their literary function as an introduction to the Pentateuch)
- To reflect on the history of Jewish and Christian interpretation of these chapters, from early Jewish to post-reformational

Topics covered include creation in the ancient Near East; Genesis 1-3 as an introduction to the Pentateuch; the image of God; royal imagery in Genesis 1-3; Genesis 3: fall or maturation?; and Adam in early Jewish and Christian interpretation.

*Fall semester. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Green.*



## {Course Descriptions}

### OLD TESTAMENT

#### **OT 903 Critical Methodologies**

Purpose:

- To explore various methods and approaches of biblical criticism and study
- To learn to be critical about the nature of one's assumptions concerning the nature of the Bible, its coherence, and its study

Topics covered include the traditional critical methods (source, form, redaction) as well as the more contemporary approaches (e.g., literary, canonical, reader-response, ideological, etc.)

*Fall semester. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Green and Mr. Kelly.*

#### **OT 913 The Book of Proverbs**

Purpose:

- To provide an inductive and exegetical orientation to the book of Proverbs

Topics covered include Proverbs' purpose, organization, provenance and interpretation, emphasizing the translation, interpretation and use of the individual wisdom saying found in Proverbs 10:1-30:9.

*Spring semester. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Putnam.*

#### **OT 944 Metaphor in Scripture**

Purpose:

- To understand and be able to explain various theories of metaphor, from Aristotle to cognitive science
- To apply the cognitive theory of metaphor to literary texts and to Scripture
- To identify, describe, and explore the theological and ministerial implications of a biblical metaphoric world
- To provide an inductive exploration of metaphoric "worlds" in Scripture

Topics covered include the identification of textual metaphors and their underlying root metaphors in Scripture, the alignment of those metaphors with others that belong to the same metaphoric "world", and discerning the theological and pastoral implications of those different "worlds."

*Fall semester. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Putnam.*

#### **OT 971 The Book of Ecclesiastes**

Purpose:

- To read the Hebrew text of Ecclesiastes, with special attention to the unique grammatical (especially syntactic) features of the text
- To address questions of authorship and date as they relate to the interpretation of the text
- To come to an understanding of the meaning and message of the book

Topics covered include the syntax and text linguistic features of the book. Students will be encouraged to explore the relationship of the theology of Ecclesiastes with the rest of Scripture, especially with the NT. The student will be expected to master the Hebrew text during the course. The book raises important questions about the hermeneutical process that will be discussed.

*Spring semester. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Staff*

#### **OT 981 Readings in Old Testament Introduction and Theology**

Purpose:

- To introduce the broad spectrum of Old Testament introduction and theology

Topics covered include general introduction (canon, text, historical background, and language); special introduction (background to the individual books); critical methodologies; and Old Testament theology. Required of all Ph.D. candidates in Hermeneutics and Biblical Interpretation and limited to Ph.D. candidates only.

*Fall and spring semesters. Students may take only one semester for credit. Staff.*

#### **Holy Land Studies**

Students may elect to take a course for credit during the Winter Term at the Jerusalem University College in Jerusalem. See page 52 additional information. Course offerings are available in the Registrar's Office.

*(Not given in 2010-2011.)*



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# {Course Descriptions}

## NEW TESTAMENT

### New Testament

*To accept the New Testament as canonical is, in a word, to acknowledge the twenty-seven writings in the second part of the Holy Bible as possessing divine authority and as constituting, accordingly, an integral part of the divine rule for faith and life... There is implicit in the claim of canonicity, therefore, the judgment that divine inspiration has constituted these writings with a quality that sets them apart from all merely human writings. Those who accept this high view of the New Testament, accordingly, do not shrink from identifying it as the Word of God, the infallible and inerrant rule of faith and life.*

– Ned B. Stonehouse

The New Testament is the account of the presence of the kingdom of heaven, and centers in the person of Jesus Christ. This is the cornerstone for all Christian ministry. The New Testament department is committed to teaching the New Testament as the full revelation of the covenant of God's grace in Jesus Christ.

To this end, the New Testament curriculum enables students:

- To acquire a reading knowledge of New Testament Greek
- To understand and value the historical context in which God accomplished his work in Christ, and through which he gave us the New Testament
- To perceive the unity of the Old and New Testaments and the hermeneutical significance thereof
- To grapple with the challenges of biblical interpretation
- To recognize major biblical-theological themes of the New Testament and their importance for understanding the biblical message
- To evaluate the ways in which the New Testament has been interpreted in the past
- To develop skill in understanding and applying each of the books of the New Testament

*New Testament faculty: Professor Poythress, Coordinator; Professor Beale; Mr. Crowe, Minger.*

### Master's level

#### **NT 011a, 012a, 013a New Testament Greek 1a, 2a and 3a**

Purpose:

- To prepare students for further work in the New Testament by giving them a reading knowledge of Koiné Greek
- The course is designed for beginners; no prior knowledge of Greek is assumed. The students will cover the basics of grammar and acquire a core vocabulary. During the last semester students will do recitations from the Greek New Testament and be introduced to the issues of syntax.

*The instructional sequence is as follows: summer term, four hours; fall and spring semesters, three hours. Students must begin course with the summer term (see "Placement in Greek and Hebrew" on page 56). Auditing not permitted. Staff.*

#### **NT 011aa, 012aa, 013aa New Testament Greek 1aa, 2aa and 3aa**

This course is identical in content with NT 011a, 012a, 013a.

*The instructional sequence is as follows: fall semester, four hours; winter term, two hours; spring semester, four hours. Students must begin course with the fall semester (see "Placement in Greek and Hebrew" on page 55). Auditing not permitted. Staff.*

#### **NT 012b, 013b New Testament Greek 1b and 2b**

For purpose and content see NT 011a, 012a, 013a, but note that, because previous formal study of at least six semester hours is presupposed, the material will be covered at an accelerated pace.

*Fall and spring semesters, three hours each. Students must begin course with the fall semester (see "Placement in Greek and Hebrew" on page 55). Auditing not permitted. Staff.*



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## {Course Descriptions}

### NEW TESTAMENT

#### **NT 013c New Testament Greek c**

Purpose:

- To ensure that students with a good foundation in Greek are fully prepared for further work in the New Testament
- The course emphasizes reading, vocabulary work, and syntactical analysis. It is prescribed for entering students who pass the placement exam (see “Placement in Greek and Hebrew” on page 55) but show by their results in the test that they have need of additional instruction.

*Fall semester, two hours. Auditing not permitted. Staff.*

#### **NT 111 General Introduction to the New Testament**

Purpose:

- To provide students with the historical and literary framework requisite for responsible New Testament interpretation
- Topics covered include introductory matters that apply to the New Testament as a whole: historical and linguistic background, inscripturation and canon formation, textual transmission and criticism. The general approach to these issues is historical, but with an underlying concern for the theological dimensions of each. Prerequisite, NT 010 or equivalent completed or in progress.

*Fall semester, three hours. Mr. Beale and Mr. Crowe.*

#### **NT 123 Biblical Hermeneutics: Old and New Testaments**

Purpose:

- To grow in skill in understanding, interpreting, and applying the Bible

Topics covered include prolegomena to biblical interpretation, principles and practice of biblical interpretation, and the question of hermeneutics in the historical-critical tradition. Prerequisites, OT 013 completed or in progress, NT 013 or equivalent completed or in progress, and NT 111.

*Spring semester, four hours. Mr. Poythress.*

#### **NT 133 Biblical Theology II**

For course description, see OT 131 on page 96. Not available to M.Div. or M.A.R. students.

*Spring semester, three hours. Staff.*

#### **NT 143 New Testament for Ministry**

Purpose:

- To examine some of the ways that New Testament writers applied the story of Jesus Christ to various problems confronting the first-century church
- To develop responsible ways of applying the story of Jesus Christ to problems we face today

Topics covered include how the centrality of Jesus in the NT functions in relation to redemptive history, how that history applies to believers today, some major theological themes of the NT Gospels and Epistles, and the task of bridging the historical and cultural gap between the ancient and modern worlds. Not available to M.Div. or M.A.R. students.

*Spring semester, three hours. Staff.*

#### **NT 211 New Testament Interpretation: The Gospels**

Purpose:

- To develop a framework of understanding for interpreting and applying the canonical Gospels
- To familiarize students with the Gospels' description of the earthly ministry and teaching of Jesus Christ, and to enable them to understand and apply the theology of the Gospels in ministry

Topics covered include a selective survey and critique of historical-critical investigation of the Gospels, questions of special introduction, an overview of the content and theology of Jesus' actions and teaching, and an examination of the character and special emphases of each canonical Gospel. Prerequisites, NT 013 or equivalent, OT 013 or equivalent, NT 111 and NT 123.

*Fall semester, four hours. Mr. Crowe.*



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## {Course Descriptions}

### NEW TESTAMENT

#### **NT 223 *New Testament Interpretation: Acts and the Pauline Epistles***

Purpose:

- To deepen understanding of Acts and the letters of Paul
- Topics covered include questions of special introduction, and basic themes in the theology of Acts and the letters of Paul. Prerequisites, NT 013 or equivalent, OT 013 or equivalent, NT 111 and NT 123.

*Spring semester, four hours. Mr. Beale.*

#### **NT 311 *New Testament Interpretation: General Epistles and Revelation***

Purpose:

- To introduce the particular character of Revelation and the General Epistles
  - To enable students to understand these books so that they can apply their teaching to their own lives and in their ministry
- This course will deal with questions of special introduction, and will include the exegesis of selected passages in order to establish the structure and distinctive themes of these books. Prerequisites, NT 013 or equivalent, NT 111 and NT 123.

*Fall semester, two hours. Mr. Poythress and Mr. Crowe.*

#### **NT 412 *The Gospel of Matthew***

*See NT 712 below. Prerequisite, NT 013, completed or in progress. Spring semester, two hours. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Crowe.*

#### **NT 421 *Parables and Miracles of Christ***

*See NT 721 below. Fall semester, two hours. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Poythress.*

#### **NT 433 *The Book of Revelation***

*See NT 733 below. Prerequisite, NT 013, completed or in progress. Spring semester, two hours. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Poythress.*

#### **NT 553 *Miracles and Miraculous Gifts***

*See NT 853 below. Prerequisite, NT 223, completed or in progress. Spring semester, two hours. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Poythress.*

#### **NT 581 *Theology of Hebrews***

*See NT 881 below. Prerequisite, NT 123. Fall semester, two hours. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Tipton.*

#### **NT 612 *New Testament Theology***

*See NT 912 below. Limited enrollment. Prerequisite, NT 013 or equivalent. Fall semester, two hours. Mr. Beale.*

#### **NT 651 *Theological Models and Exegesis***

*See NT 951 below. Prerequisite, NT 123. Fall semester, two hours. Mr. Poythress.*

### **Th.M. and Ph.D. level**

#### **NT 712 *The Gospel of Matthew***

Purpose:

- To become better interpreters of the Gospel of Matthew
- To develop skill in exegesis
- To understand the biblical theology of Matthew

Topics covered include prolegomena to Matthew, exegesis of key passages, theological distinctives of the gospel, and its role in biblical theology.

*Spring semester. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Crowe.*

#### **NT 721 *Parables and Miracles of Christ***

Purpose:

- To develop skill in interpreting the parables and miracles within their context in the Gospels

Topics covered include genre, the nature of metaphor, the relations to the crucifixion and resurrection of Christ, and preaching from the Gospels.

*Fall semester. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Poythress.*



# {Course Descriptions}

## NEW TESTAMENT

### **NT 733 The Book of Revelation**

Purpose:

- To interpret Revelation

Topics covered include historical background of its imagery and the contemporary bearing of its message.

*Spring semester. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Poythress.*

### **NT 853 Miracles and Miraculous Gifts**

Purpose:

- To understand biblical teaching on miracle and prophecy, in order to evaluate the modern charismatic movement

Topics covered include the theology of miracle and word revelation in the New Testament, with special attention to redemptive-historical interpretation of the book of Acts, and the evaluation of contemporary charismatic phenomena in the light of Scripture.

*Spring semester. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Poythress.*

### **NT 881 Theology of Hebrews**

Purpose:

- To examine prominent themes in the teaching of Hebrews

Topics covered include eschatological structure, eschatology and ethics, the issue of apostasy, and aspects of the heavenly, high priestly ministry of Jesus.

*Fall semester. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Tipton.*

### **NT 891 Greek Discourse Analysis**

Purpose:

- Linguistic analysis of New Testament Greek discourse in order to improve exegesis

Topics covered include the introduction to various linguistic theories of sentence and discourse, elements of tagmemic theory, the relation of grammar to reference and meaning, paragraph and discourse, regularities and stylistic deviations, exegesis of selected New Testament texts. Prerequisite, NT 123.

*Fall semester. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Poythress.*

### **NT 912 New Testament Theology**

Purpose:

- To grow in understanding of how to do biblical theology in the New Testament and to better understand the theological unity of the New Testament amidst its diversity

Topics covered include: (1) covering some of the important literature in the field; (2) the relationship of exegetical method to a method of doing biblical theology; (3) the theological relationship of the Old Testament to the New Testament; (4) the integral relationship of New Testament theology to the ideas of the kingdom, inaugurated eschatology and the new creation in comparison to other proposed "centers" for the New Testament. Limited enrollment.

*Fall semester. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Beale.*

### **NT 921 Readings in New Testament Introduction and Theology**

Purpose:

- To instill a general knowledge of the entire field of New Testament study

This is a reading course required of Ph.D. students in Hermeneutics and Biblical Interpretation. Readings cover general introduction (canon, text, history of criticism), special introduction, and biblical theology.

*Fall and spring semesters. Students may only take one semester for credit. Staff.*

### **NT 931 Theology of Language and Interpretation**

Purpose:

- To build a theology of language in order to draw implications for biblical interpretation

Topics covered include major biblical teachings about God, the Word of God, verbal communication, and human language, with implications for the process of biblical interpretation, interpretive goals, and the appropriate qualifications of interpreters.

*Fall semester. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Poythress.*



2010-2011

## {Course Descriptions}

### NEW TESTAMENT

#### **NT 941 *New Testament Use of the Old Testament (formerly Hermeneutics in the New Testament Period)***

Purpose:

- To examine the apostolic use of the Old Testament in its first century hermeneutical context
- To enable students to discern whether, and in what respects, this apostolic usage may be regarded as determinative for exegesis today

This course will examine New Testament use of the Old Testament in the light of its Old Testament context, the New Testament context and its environment. Area seminar for Ph.D. students specializing in Hermeneutics and Biblical Interpretation; others admitted only by special permission of the instructor. Limited enrollment.

*Fall semester. Mr. Beale.*

#### **NT 951 *Theological Models and Exegesis***

Purpose:

- To understand the role of interpretive frameworks, in order to deepen interpretation

Topics covered include the interrelations of systematic theology and exegesis, with special attention to the covenant concept, theological concept formation, and key metaphors of theology; and the bearing of philosophy of science on theological method.

*Fall semester. Mr. Poythress.*

#### **NT 961 *The Structure of Pauline Theology***

Purpose:

- To understand relations among major themes in Paul
- Topics covered include the organic unity of justification, sanctification, union with Christ, covenant, and eschatology in Pauline theology.

*Fall semester. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Poythress.*

#### **NT 981 *History of Interpretation***

Purpose:

- To enable students to learn the history of biblical interpretation through the study of primary documents from the Patristic period to modern times

The course will focus on those biblical interpreters whose work provoked significant developments in hermeneutical theory or practice in the church. The impact of modern New Testament criticism on hermeneutics will be a special interest.

*Fall semester. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Staff.*

#### **NT 993 *Hermeneutical Foundations***

Purpose:

- To evaluate and reform views on foundational issues in hermeneutics

Topics covered include the role of hermeneutics; the nature of meaning; divine authorship; grammatical-historical method; the problem of historical relativity; problems of circularity, incompleteness, probability; and the work of the Holy Spirit in hermeneutics. Area seminar for Ph.D. students specializing in Hermeneutics and Biblical Interpretation; others admitted only by special permission of the instructor.

*Spring semester. Mr. Poythress.*

Courses listed for other majors which may be counted as major courses for the Th.M. degree in New Testament: OT 761, OT 783, ST 781.



2010–2011

# {Course Descriptions}

## CHURCH HISTORY

### Church History

It has been well said that people make history, but they do not make the history that they choose. All human beings act in particular times, in particular places, and for a variety of different reasons. The aim of the Church History department is to teach students to understand the way in which human action is shaped by historical, social, economic, cultural, and theological concerns; and by so doing to allow the students to understand better their own positions as those who act in context. Though we live in an anti-historical age, the Church History department is committed to helping students realize the liberating importance of having a solid grasp of those historical trajectories which shape, often in hidden ways, the life of the church in the present.

To that end, the Church History curriculum enables students:

- To recognize the ambiguities and complexities of human history
- To examine themselves in the light of the past
- To engage with an epistemologically self-conscious historical methodology
- To see how the church's testimony to Christ has been preserved and articulated through the ages
- To recognize turning points in the history of the church
- To identify major types and paradigms of Christian vision in societies past and present
- To be well acquainted with the Reformed heritage
- To recognize global patterns in the spread of the gospel through missions
- To cultivate a modesty with regard to their own times and cultures by setting these within the perspective of the great sweep of church history
- To be inspired by what they learn to proclaim God's grace to today's world

*Church History faculty: Associate Professor Jue, Coordinator; Professors Trueman and Lillback; Mr. Campbell, Mr. Chi, Mr. Garcia, Mr. Nichols, Mr. Oliver, Mr. Park, Mr. Troxel, Mr. Van Dixhoorn, and Mr. Williams.*

### Master's level

#### CH 131 *Survey of Church History*

Purpose:

- To introduce students to the major movements and personalities of church history
- To give students first hand exposure to primary source material
- To enable students to articulate the historical development of theology in an essay

Topics covered will be drawn from all periods of church history, from the immediate post-apostolic period to the development of Christianity in the modern world. Not available to M.Div. or M.A.R. students.

*Fall semester, three hours. Mr. Jue.*

#### CH 211 *The Ancient Church*

Purpose:

- To introduce students to the major events, personalities, and ideas which shaped the life and thought of the early church
- To encourage students to think historically about the church's past
- To enable students to read the major texts of the early Church Fathers for themselves

Topics and personalities covered include the first-century background, the Apostolic Fathers, Irenaeus, Tertullian, Origen, trinitarian and christological debates, Augustine, the rise of monasticism, and martyrdom.

*Fall semester, two hours. Mr. Trueman.*

#### CH 223 *The Medieval Church*

Purpose:

- To introduce students to the major events, individuals, and ideas which shaped the Medieval Church
- To help students understand the historical context which shaped the development of Medieval theology
- To enable students to read the major texts of the Medieval theologians



## {Course Descriptions}

### CHURCH HISTORY

Topics covered include the influence of Aristotelian philosophy on Medieval theology, Thomas Aquinas, Anselm, Abelard, the pastoral theology of Gregory the Great, the rise of the monastic orders, John Duns Scotus, William Ockham, Medieval mysticism, and the rise of Islam.

*Spring semester, two hours. Mr. Jue.*

#### **CH 311 The Reformation**

Purpose:

- To introduce students to the major events, personalities, and ideas which shaped the Reformation of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries
- To encourage students to think historically about the church's past
- To enable students to read major theological texts from the Reformation for themselves

Topics and personalities covered include the late medieval context, Martin Luther, John Calvin, justification by faith, anabaptism, the Catholic Reformation, the Anglican settlements, and the rise of Puritanism.

*Fall semester, three hours. Mr. Trueman.*

#### **CH 321 The Church in the Modern Age**

Purpose:

- To introduce students to the major events, individuals, and ideas that influenced the development of the church from the late-seventeenth century to the present
- To help students examine the historical context out of which theological distinctions within the modern church emerged
- To encourage students to reflect upon the globalization of Christianity

Topics covered include Colonial North American Puritanism, the First and Second Great Awakenings, the history of American Presbyterianism, Old Princeton Theology, the Enlightenment and German Liberal Theology, the modern missionary movement, Fundamentalism, Evangelicalism, global Christianity, and the post-modern church.

*Fall semester, four hours. Mr. Jue.*

#### **CH 403 Asian American History and Theology**

Purpose:

- To examine the historical-theological development of the Asian church in America
- To equip students to understand the place of the Asian American church within the broader history of Christianity in America
- To expose students to the most recent scholarship in ethnic studies and Asian American theology
- To encourage students to reflect upon the usefulness of Reformed theology for an Asian American context

Topics covered include the history of the Chinese, Japanese, and Korean American churches; theological contextualization; patterns of assimilation; racial discourse in cross-cultural ministries; single ethnic, multiethnic, and postethnic models of ministry; and the exploration of a Pan-Asian Reformed theology.

*Spring semester, two hours. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Jue.*

#### **CH 423 Readings in the History of American Evangelicalism**

*See CH 723 below. Spring semester, two hours. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Jue.*

#### **CH 432 English Puritan Thought**

*See CH 732 below. Winter term, two hours. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Trueman.*

#### **CH 463 The Life and Thought of John Calvin**

*See CH 763 below. Spring semester, two hours. Mr. Lillback.*

#### **CH 483 God and Scripture in the Era of Reformed Orthodoxy (ca. 1560 – ca. 1680)**

*See CH 783 below. Spring semester, two hours. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Trueman.*



2010-2011

## {Course Descriptions}

### CHURCH HISTORY



#### **CH 531 *The Doctrine of the Church in Reformed Theology***

See CH 831 below. Fall semester, two hours. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Troxel.

#### **CH 563 *Scottish Presbyterianism***

See CH 863 below. Spring semester, two hours. Mr. Trueman.

#### **CH 583 *The Life and Thought of Francis Turretin***

See CH 883 below. Fall semester, two hours. Mr. Jue.

#### **CH 591 *Reformed Confessions and Catechisms***

See CH 891 below. Winter semester, two hours. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Trueman.

#### **CH 601 *The History of North American Eschatology***

See CH 901 below. Fall semester, two hours. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Jue.

#### **CH 643 *Studies in Old Princeton Theology***

See CH 943 below. Spring semester, two hours. Mr. Jue.

#### **CH 661 *Readings in the History of Reformed Thought***

See CH 961 below. Spring semester, two hours. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Trueman.

#### **CH 691 *History of the Korean Church from Korea to North America***

Purpose:

- To provide an overview of the development of the Korean Church from its early days of Protestant missions until today, focusing on various challenges the church faced, including Shinto crisis, communist persecution, and the side-effects of rapid industrialization
- To provide a brief introduction to the Korean-American church as an important outgrowth of the Korean church movement in the twentieth century
- To stimulate both academic and ministerial interest in the study of the Korean Church  
*Fall semester, two hours. Mr. Park.*



2010-2011

## {Course Descriptions}

### CHURCH HISTORY

#### Th.M. and Ph.D. level

##### **CH 723 *Readings in the History of American Evangelicalism***

Purpose:

- To understand the major philosophical and theological currents that shaped American Evangelicalism
- To examine the writings of American Evangelicals within the historical contexts of the eighteenth through twenty-first centuries
- To highlight ways in which the history of American Evangelicalism influences the development of global Christianity

Topics covered include post-puritanism, revivalism, fundamentalism, the battle for the Bible, missions, prophecy movement, Pentecostalism, and neo-Evangelicalism.

*Spring semester. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Jue.*

##### **CH 732 *English Puritan Thought***

Purpose:

- To introduce students to reading English Puritan texts in historical context
- To give students an understanding of how English Puritan thought connected both to previous medieval and patristic discussions, and also to the theology of the European Reformation
- To facilitate critical discussion of the historical events (political, cultural, intellectual) which helped to shape and inform the thought of the English Puritans

Topics covered include the impact of William Perkins; issues in Puritan ecclesiology and pastoral theory; the growing radicalism of the 1640s; the relationship between Reformed Orthodoxy and Puritan thought; and the impact of the Great Ejection of 1662 on English Reformed theology.

*Winter term. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Trueman.*

##### **CH 763 *The Life and Thought of John Calvin***

Purpose:

- To familiarize students with the life and writings of John Calvin through intensive study and discussion of his writings
- To help students to read and appropriate the theology of the past for theological reflection today
- To encourage students to read John Calvin for themselves

Topics covered include the significant life events that impacted Calvin's theology, Calvin's view of Apologetics, the doctrine of Scripture, doctrine of the covenant, Calvin's view of the extent of atonement, and Calvin's view of the Lord's supper in the context of Luther, Bucer, Zwingli, and Bullinger.

*Winter term. Mr. Lillback.*

##### **CH 783 *God and Scripture in the Era of Reformed Orthodoxy (ca. 1560 – ca. 1680)***

Purpose:

- To familiarize students with debates concerning the doctrine of God and the doctrine of Scripture in the era of Reformed Orthodoxy
- To encourage students to explore the relationship between God, revelation, and Scripture within an historical context
- To facilitate critical discussion of significant issues in the relevant primary and secondary sources

Topics covered include the medieval background; the essence and attributes of God; Trinitarianism in the seventeenth century; the formalization of the Scripture principle; the attributes of Scripture; principles of interpretation; and the crisis in biblical authority in the late seventeenth century.

*Spring semester. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Trueman.*



2010–2011

## {Course Descriptions}

### CHURCH HISTORY

#### **CH 831 *The Doctrine of the Church in Reformed Theology***

Purpose:

- To familiarize students with ecclesiology (the doctrine of the church) in the Reformed tradition through readings in historical, biblical, and systematic theology
- To acquaint students with the theological foundations, principles, and practices that support, guide, and embody Reformed ecclesiology
- To provide students with resources to answer the ancient and modern challenges of sacramental, ecumenical, consumeristic, and post-modern views of the church
- To train students to articulate and defend more thoughtfully and winsomely the conviction that the church is “the kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ”

Topics covered include the relationship between ecclesiology and biblical and systematic theology, church power, church and state, church and the Kingdom of God, as well as readings in James Bannerman, John Calvin, William Cunningham, Herman Bavinck, G.C. Berkouwer, Charles Hodge, John Murray, Thomas Peck, John Owen, Herman Ridderbos, Stuart Robinson, James Thornwell, Geerhardus Vos, and Thomas Witherow.

*Fall semester. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Troxel.*

#### **CH 863 *Scottish Presbyterianism***

Purpose:

- To enable students to understand how and why Presbyterianism developed in the manner in which it did
- To enable students to read for themselves some of the great foundational writings of the early Scottish Presbyterians
- To encourage students to reflect upon the relationship of historic Presbyterianism to the contemporary world

Theologians covered include John Knox, David Calderwood, Samuel Rutherford, and George Gillespie.

*Spring semester. Mr. Trueman.*

#### **CH 872 *The Life and Thought of John Owen***

Purpose:

- To familiarize students with the life and writings of John Owen through intensive study and discussion of his writings
- To help students to read and appropriate the theology of the past for theological reflection today
- To encourage students to read the Puritans for themselves

Topics covered include the social and political background, Arminianism, Socinianism, Trinitarianism, christology, church and state issues, and Owen’s significance in the ongoing development of Reformed theology.

*Winter term. Mr. Trueman.*

#### **CH 883 *The Life and Thought of Francis Turretin***

Purpose:

- To examine the history and theology of Francis Turretin (1623-1687) through a careful reading of Turretin’s *Institutes of Elenctic Theology* (the primary Systematic Theology textbook of Old Princeton)
- To introduce the historical and theological context of seventeenth-century Protestant Scholasticism and its relation to the sixteenth-century Reformers
- To enable students to reflect upon the Reformed theological tradition and its value for the contemporary church

Topics covered include the background of Post-Reformation Scholasticism, theological prolegomena, the doctrine of God, the decrees of God, man’s free will, justification, covenant theology, ecclesiology, and eschatology.

*Fall semester. Mr. Jue.*

#### **CH 891 *Reformed Confessions and Catechisms***

Purpose:

- To familiarize students with the confessional and pedagogical literature of the Reformed tradition
- To facilitate students’ understanding of these documents in their historical context
- To encourage students to interact with these documents as items of perennial interest



2010–2011

## {Course Descriptions}

### CHURCH HISTORY

Topics covered include the nature and function of confessions and catechisms, the various historical backgrounds and contexts for the documents, early Reformed confessions, the Three Forms of Unity, and the *Westminster Standards*.

*Winter semester. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Trueman.*

#### **CH 901 *The History of North American Eschatology***

Purpose:

- To examine the history of eschatological thought from the seventeenth to the twenty-first centuries in North America
- To help students analyze how the historical context shaped the development of eschatology
- To introduce students to the history of biblical exegesis on the Apocalypse

Topics covered include the background of Augustinian eschatology and seventeenth-century millenarianism, Colonial apocalyptic expectations, the postmillennialism of Jonathan Edwards, the millennium and the War of Independence, the eschatology of Old Princeton, the rise of Dispensationalism, biblical theology and eschatology, and post-modern eschatology.

*Fall semester. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Jue.*

#### **CH 943 *Studies in Old Princeton Theology***

Purpose:

- To deepen students' knowledge of Old Princeton's theological contribution
- To explore the writings of the Princeton theologians in the context of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries
- To investigate the theology of Old Princeton within the wider history of the Reformed tradition

Topics covered include theological method, the influence of Common Sense Philosophy, doctrine of Scripture, Calvinism in North America, confessionalism, Presbyterian polity, and Reformed biblical theology.

*Spring semester. Mr. Jue.*

#### **CH 951 *Old Religion in the New World: Transatlantic Puritan Theology***

Purpose:

- To introduce students to the British context out of which colonial Puritanism emerged
- To explore the transatlantic dimension of colonial Puritanism through the cross-fertilization of theological ideas
- To examine how colonial Puritan theology distinguished itself in a North American context

Topics covered include the social and political background of the seventeenth century, covenant theology, soteriology, ecclesiology, sacraments, and eschatology.

*Fall semester. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Jue.*

#### **CH 961 *Readings in the History of Reformed Thought***

Purpose:

- To deepen students' knowledge of Reformed theological writing in historical context
- To familiarize students with significant documents and theologians of the Reformed tradition
- To help students think historically about theology and their own tradition

Topics covered include the doctrine of God, salvation, the sacraments, church and state, and eschatology. Texts will be drawn from Calvin, the Puritans, the Reformed Orthodox, the Dutch Reformed tradition, and various other Reformed traditions.

*Spring semester. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Trueman.*

Courses listed for other majors which may be counted as major courses for the Th.M. degree in Church History: NT 982, ST 741, ST 773, ST 791, ST 803, ST 901, ST 932, ST 972, AP 903.



2010-2011

# {Course Descriptions}

## SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY

### Systematic Theology

*The task of systematic theology is to set forth in orderly and coherent manner the truth respecting God and his relations to men and the world. This truth is derived from the data of revelation, and revelation comprises all those media by which God makes himself and his will known to us men. All other departments of theological discipline contribute their findings to systematic theology and it brings all the wealth of knowledge derived from these disciplines to bear upon the more inclusive systematization which it undertakes.*

– John Murray

Systematic theology seeks rightly to divide the Word of truth, particularly the holy Scriptures. It aims at formulations which correctly understand the Scriptures, through proper exegesis, and applies those formulations to the needs of the church and the issues of the day.

To that end, the Systematic Theology curriculum enables students:

- To understand and be able to articulate “the whole counsel of God” in the form of the system of doctrine taught in Scripture
- To grasp the way this system of doctrine derives from sound interpretation that does justice to the unity of Scripture in its historical and authorial diversity
- To understand the history of doctrine, primarily the theological heritage of the Reformed Churches and their confessional documents, especially the *Westminster Standards*
- To recognize within the theological heritage of the Reformed Churches what is perennial and undoubted and what is not yet settled
- To value the *Westminster Standards* as a summary of the system of doctrine taught in Scripture and, where appropriate, be prepared *ex animo* to subscribe to them as such
- To embrace the system of doctrine taught in Scripture in a way that enhances devotion to God and service to the church and the world, and so, in all, “to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge”

*Systematic Theology faculty: Professor Oliphint, Coordinator; Professor Emeritus Gaffin; Associate Professors Tipton and Garner; Mr. Ferguson, Mr. Letham, and Mr. Troxel.*

### Master’s level

#### ST 101 *Prolegomena to Theology*

Purpose:

- To provide foundations for the study of theology, particularly for deepening understanding of the teaching of Scripture as a whole and in its unity
- Topics covered include nature, method, and sources of theology; revelation and the inspiration of Scripture.

*Fall semester, two hours. Mr. Garner.*

#### ST 113 *Doctrine of God*

Purpose:

- To grasp that we can know nothing of God except he first revealed himself to us
- To recognize that the doctrine of God (theology proper) seeks to unpack the teaching of Scripture and not directly the problems set by philosophy
- To value those ecumenical creeds of the church which give classic expression to vital elements of the doctrine of God, and whose doctrine is evident in the *Westminster Standards*
- To embrace the doctrine of God not as a bare set of propositions but as the very personal knowledge of God so essential to worship and service and so characteristic of a Reformed world and life view

Topics covered include revelation, names and attributes of God, and God as Trinity.

*Spring semester, two hours. Mr. Oliphint.*

#### ST 131 *Survey of Reformed Theology*

Purpose:

- To learn the basic doctrines upheld in mainstream Reformed theology
- To grasp the coherency of the system



2010–2011

## {Course Descriptions}

### SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY

- To understand the biblical basis for Reformed doctrine
- To appreciate the distinctiveness of Reformed theology

Topics covered include the inspiration and authority of Scripture, covenant theology, creation of man in the image of God, the person and work of Christ, and the application of redemption in Christ. Not available to M.Div. or M.A.R. students.

*Fall semester, three hours. Mr. Tipton.*

#### **ST 211 Doctrine of Man**

Purpose:

- To deepen understanding of biblical anthropology in its redemptive-historical and Reformed context

Topics covered include the theology of creation days; the nature of man, particularly as a psycho-somatic unity created in the image of God; the covenant of creation; the epistemological implications of Reformed anthropology; the fall and its implications; the imputation of Adam's sin; the intermediate state; the nature of free moral agency; and total depravity and inability. Special attention will be given from an exegetical perspective to the redemptive-historical character and systematic theological implications of Reformed anthropology. Prerequisites, OT 011 completed or in progress, and NT 013, or equivalent.

*Fall semester, two hours. Mr. Garner.*

#### **ST 223 Doctrine of Christ**

Purpose:

- To deepen understanding of the salvation accomplished by the triune God in Christ in both its central focus and comprehensive scope

Topics covered include plan of salvation, covenant of grace, and person and work of Christ. Prerequisites, OT 012, or equivalent, and NT 013, or equivalent.

*Spring semester, three hours. Mr. Tipton.*

#### **ST 323 Christian Ethics**

Purpose:

- To study and reflect on our obligations toward God's revealed will in the setting of the covenant

- To arrive at certain convictions about key moral issues facing the church today
- To grow in wisdom, the ability to discern good and evil in every situation

Topics covered include the biblical foundation for ethics, an introduction to different types of ethical systems, hermeneutical questions, Christians and the public square, sanctification, the clash of obligations, calling, stewardship, sexual ethics, bioethical issues, race matters, ethics in cyberspace, just war theory, and ecology. Prerequisite, OT 013, or equivalent, and NT 013, or equivalent.

*Spring semester, four hours. Mr. Edgar.*

#### **ST 313 Doctrine of Salvation**

Purpose:

- To deepen understanding of the application of the salvation applied by the triune God in Christ in both its central focus and comprehensive scope

Topics covered include the relationship between eschatology and soteriology; the meaning of, and relationship between, *historia salutis* and *ordo salutis*; the function of union with Christ in Reformed soteriology; the distinct-yet-inseparable benefits of union with Christ (e.g., justification, sanctification, and adoption); a survey of biblical eschatology; and theology of the sacraments. Special attention will be given from an exegetical perspective to the redemptive-historical character and systematic theological implications of Reformed soteriology and eschatology. Prerequisites, OT 013, or equivalent, and NT 013, or equivalent.

*Spring semester, four hours. Mr. Tipton.*

#### **ST 461 Topics in the Doctrine of Man**

*See ST 761 below. Prerequisite, ST 211, completed or in progress. Fall semester, two hours. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Poythress.*

#### **ST 481 The Theology of Romans**

*See ST 781 below. Fall semester, two hours. Mr. Tipton.*



2010-2011

## {Course Descriptions}

### SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY

#### **ST 503 The Theology of Karl Barth**

See ST 803 below. Spring semester, two hours. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Oliphint and Mr. Tipton.

#### **ST 532 The Westminster Standards**

See ST 932 below. Winter term, two hours. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Staff.

#### **ST 601 The Trinitarian Theology of Cornelius Van Til**

See ST 901 below. Fall semester, two hours. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Tipton.

#### **ST 621 The Theology of Adoption**

See ST 921 below. Spring semester, two hours. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Garner.

#### **ST 644 The Philosophical Theology of Thomas Aquinas**

See ST 944 below. Spring semester, two hours. Mr. Oliphint.

#### **ST 672 Reformed Spirituality**

Purpose:

- To acquaint students with the distinctives of Reformed spirituality
- To encourage students toward greater communion with God in faith and life
- To highlight the relationship between Reformed spirituality and the piety that dominates much of the evangelical world and popular religion

Topics covered include the doctrine of the church; sanctification; worship; the Lord's Day and its observance; the means of grace (preaching, prayer, the sacraments of baptism and communion); family worship; Christian liberty; the doctrines of vocation and providence; the Reformed world and life view; and the Christian in society.

Winter term, two hours. Mr. Troxel.

### **Th.M. and Ph.D. level**

#### **ST 701 Topics in Medical Ethics**

Topics covered include bioethics, medicine as a Christian calling, in vitro fertilization, AIDS, genetic engineering, and euthanasia. Prerequisite, ST 323.

Fall semester. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Edgar.

#### **ST 741 Themes in Puritan Theology**

Purpose:

- To provide opportunity for consideration of some of the leading themes in the theology of the British Puritans of the seventeenth century
- Topics covered include representative writings of Thomas Goodwin, John Owen, Richard Baxter, John Flavel, Richard Sibbes, Stephen Charnock, and others on the topics of knowledge of God, providence, sanctification, and assurance.

Fall semester. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Ferguson.

#### **ST 761 Topics in the Doctrine of Man**

Purpose:

- To deepen understanding of man, and our theological method, through use of biblical theology and linguistics
- Topics covered include the relation of classical theological anthropology to biblical-theological method, including theology of sonship in Paul and John; special attention to the image of God; dichotomy and trichotomy; the covenant with Adam; and the nature of sin.

Fall semester. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Poythress.

#### **ST 773 Studies in Historical Theology II**

Purpose:

- To provide opportunity for reading and seminar reflection on important theologians from the Reformation to the early twentieth century
- Topics covered include representative writings of Luther, Calvin, Turretin, Schleiermacher, and Barth. Seminar presentation is required.

Spring semester. Mr. Tipton.



2010-2011

## {Course Descriptions}

### SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY

#### **ST 781 The Theology of Romans**

Purpose:

- To examine aspects of the teaching of Romans for their bearing on systematic theological issues

Topics covered include some prolegomena for systematic theology and for studying the theology of Romans, and exegetical-theological comments on selected passages.

*Fall semester. Mr. Tipton.*

#### **ST 791 Issues in Theology Proper**

Purpose:

- To introduce students to current discussions in theology proper
- To develop a response to challenges to a Reformed doctrine of God

Students will be expected to analyze and critique both classical and contemporary essays that look at language about God, God and evil, God and morality, as well as God's necessity, omnipotence, omniscience, eternity, providence, foreknowledge, and simplicity. Seminar discussions in these and related areas.

*Fall semester. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Oliphint.*

#### **ST 803 The Theology of Karl Barth**

Purpose:

- To understand the place of Barth in his western European post-Enlightenment context
  - To evaluate the foundations of Barth's theological approach
  - To gain exposure to some of Barth's theological writings
  - To reflect on the critique of Barth offered by Cornelius Van Til
- Spring semester. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Oliphint and Mr. Tipton.*

#### **ST 811 Covenant Theology**

Purpose:

- To provide a thorough understanding of critical issues in the development of Reformed covenant theology

Topics covered include Trinity and covenant, the pactum salutis, the covenant of works, the covenant of grace, covenant theology and justification, and covenant theology and epistemology. Special attention will be given from an exegetical perspective to the development of Reformed covenant theology.

*Fall semester. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Tipton.*



2010-2011

## {Course Descriptions}

### SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY

#### **ST 901 *The Trinitarian Theology of Cornelius Van Til***

Purpose:

- To investigate the context, structure, and significance of Cornelius Van Til's trinitarian theology
- To encourage the student to engage critically central issues in trinitarian theology from a Van Tillian perspective

Topics covered include the architectonic significance of the Trinity, both in Van Til's theology and apologetics. Special attention will be given to Van Til's historical and theological context, his theology of triune personhood, the structure and function of the representational principle, the distinctively trinitarian character of the transcendental method, and his place in contemporary discussions of trinitarian theology, ranging from the theological function of *perichoresis* to the notions of relationality and temporality within the Godhead.

*Fall semester. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Tipton.*

#### **ST 921 *The Theology of Adoption***

Purpose:

- A detailed investigation of the importance of adoption in Pauline, biblical, and historical theology.

Topics covered include the historical neglect of the doctrine, its renewed treatment in contemporary theology, and its place in pastoral theology. Course work includes the preparation and presentation of detailed investigative papers.

*Spring semester. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Garner.*

#### **ST 932 *The Westminster Standards***

Purpose:

- To exposit the theology of the Westminster Assembly by means of a study of the *Westminster Confession of Faith*

Topics covered include the origin and convening of the Westminster Assembly.

*Winter term. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Staff.*

#### **ST 944 *The Philosophical Theology of Thomas Aquinas***

Purpose:

- To begin to understand some of the basic elements of Thomas' philosophical theology
- To evaluate Thomas' philosophical theological view of knowledge and cognition
- To critically assess Thomas in light of historic, Reformed orthodoxy
- To appreciate those elements in Thomas' philosophical theology that have their basis in Scripture

Topics covered will include, primarily, the doctrine of God, but will also include Thomas' view of knowledge, the metaphysics of the Incarnation, and the doctrine of providence and suffering.

*Spring semester. Mr. Oliphant.*

#### **ST 972 *Calvin's Doctrine of the Holy Spirit***

Purpose:

- To research Calvin's teaching on the person and work of the Spirit, with attention to his expositions in the *Institutes*, *Commentaries*, and *Treatises*

Seminar presentation required.

*Winter term. Staff.*

Courses listed for other majors which may be counted as major courses for the Th.M. degree in Systematic Theology: CH 863, CH 883, CH 891, CH 901, CH 943, CH 951, CH 961, NT 853, NT 881, NT 931, NT 951, NT 961, NT 993, AP 861, AP 931, AP 963, AP 981.



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## {Course Descriptions}

### APOLOGETICS

## Apologetics

*Every form of intellectual argument rests, in the last analysis, upon one or the other of two basic presuppositions. The non-Christian's process of reasoning rests upon the presupposition that man is the final or ultimate reference point in human predication. The Christian's process of reasoning rests upon the presupposition that God, speaking through Christ by his Spirit in the infallible Word, is the final or ultimate reference point in human predication.*

– **Cornelius Van Til**

Apologetics is a theological discipline that seeks to defend and commend the Christian faith. The apologetic tradition of Westminster attempts to apply Reformed theology to the challenges that confront Christianity and the church. Apologetics is an indispensable preparation for gospel ministry and for evangelism.

To that end, the Apologetics curriculum enables students:

- To understand biblical religion as a world-and-life view, rather than a set of isolated truths
- To develop arguments which address the deepest levels of various worldviews
- To articulate biblical principles for the defense and commendation of the gospel of Jesus Christ in evangelism
- To understand the patterns and cultural trends of our times
- To develop answers to some of the most frequent challenges raised against Christian faith
- To know something of the history of thought
- To be familiar with some of the most articulate apologists throughout history
- To articulate the relationship between faith and reason

*Apologetics faculty: Professor Edgar, Coordinator; Professor Oliphint; Mr. Park and Mr. Ward.*

## Master's level

### **AP 101 Introduction to Apologetics**

Purpose:

- To introduce students to Christian apologetics
- To learn the art of Christian persuasion
- To learn how to lift up Christ and give reasons for the hope that we have (1 Peter 3:15)

To develop tools in order to understand the surrounding culture  
Topics covered include the biblical basis for apologetics, developing a world and life view, the issue of meaning, presuppositionalism, engaging contemporary culture, and highlights in the history of apologetics. We will give special attention to the problem of meaning, the problem of evil, world religions (including Islam), science and faith, reason and revelation, and aesthetics.

*Fall semester, three hours. Mr. Edgar.*

### **AP 213 Principles of Christian Apologetics**

Purpose:

- To build on the principles established in AP 101
- To establish the Scriptural warrant for the Christian faith
- To understand the place and importance of evidences in apologetics
- To establish biblical principles necessary for a defense of Christianity

Topics covered include the nature and structure of arguments, an in-depth analysis and critique of some of the traditional proofs for the existence of God, and the necessity of a Reformed doctrine of revelation for apologetics. Prerequisites, AP 101, and NT 013, or equivalent, completed or in progress.

*Spring semester, three hours. Mr. Oliphint.*

### **AP 433 Christianity and the Arts**

*See AP 733 below. Spring semester, two hours. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Edgar.*



2010–2011

## {Course Descriptions}

### APOLOGETICS

#### **AP 441 The Apologetics of Cornelius Van Til**

See AP 721 below. Fall semester, two hours. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Oliphint.

#### **AP 511 Christianity and Film**

Purpose:

- To learn how to “read” a film (in general)
  - To explore the role of film in contemporary culture (i.e., how film reflects and shapes culture)
  - To develop a Christian framework for looking at film
- Topics covered include film and culture; the idea of “story” and representation in film. A key question: What do we learn through film of other human beings, of our own hearts, and even of God himself? Students will watch and journal about one film per week. The weekly film will be watched outside of class time.

Fall semester, two hours. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Edgar.

#### **AP 522 Music and Worship in the Changing Church**

Purpose:

- To acquaint students with several issues surrounding music and worship in today’s church
  - To arrive at certain solutions for the challenges involved
  - To look at these issues from the point of view of the pastor, worshipers, and musicians
  - To understand the balance between preaching, music, and liturgy
- Topics covered include Bible study, the history of music in worship, comparative evaluations of church worship styles, field work in several churches, and discussions of hymns and other worship music.

Winter term, two hours. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Ward.

#### **AP 543 Intercultural Apologetics**

See AP 843 below. Spring semester, two hours. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Park.

#### **AP 566 Theodicy**

See AP 861 below. Prerequisites, AP 101. Fall semester, two hours. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Edgar.

#### **AP 583 The Problem of Knowledge and Christianity**

See AP 883 below. Prerequisites, AP 101. Spring semester, two hours. Mr. Oliphint.

#### **AP 591 Jacques Ellul as an Apologist**

Purpose:

- To be thoroughly acquainted with the work of the French sociologist Jacques Ellul
  - To interact with his views on power, ethics, Scripture, politics, economics, and technique
- Topics covered include the study of several of Ellul’s books, using an inductive approach. Special emphasis will be on the major themes in his writings, such as technique, propaganda, economics, and power.

Fall semester, two hours. Mr. Edgar.

#### **AP 603 Cultural Analysis**

See AP 903 below. Prerequisites, AP 101. Spring semester, two hours. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Edgar.

#### **AP 623 The Apologetics of C. S. Lewis**

See AP 923 below. Spring semester, two hours. Mr. Park.

#### **AP 631 Philosophy for Theologians**

See AP 931 below. Fall semester, two hours. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Oliphint.

#### **AP 653 The Challenge of Islam**

See AP 953 below. Spring semester, two hours. Mr. Edgar.

#### **AP 663 Warrant and Christian Epistemology**

See AP 963 below. Spring semester, two hours. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Oliphint.

#### **AP 681 Theology of Science**

See AP 981 below. Prerequisites, ST 113, and AP 101, completed or in progress. Fall semester, two hours. Mr. Poythress.



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## {Course Descriptions}

### APOLOGETICS

#### Th.M. and Ph.D. level

##### **AP 713 Christianity in Conflict I**

Purpose:

- To study the major apologetics texts of the church in the first thousand years of its history
- To compare the methods and arguments used
- To assess those methods in relation to the needs in apologetics today

Topics covered include texts by Justin Martyr, Tertullian, Irenaeus, Origen, Augustine, and Boethius. The approach will generally be inductive, based on the actual texts. Some lectures will be given.

*Spring semester. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Edgar and Mr. Oliphint.*

##### **AP 721 The Apologetics of Cornelius Van Til**

Purpose:

- To study in-depth the principles, method, and content of Van Til's apologetic
- To develop and critique Van Til's apologetic approach
- To apply the insights of Van Til's apologetic to current challenges to the Christian faith

Topics covered include the impact of Van Til's apologetic in the context of its development. There will be some attention given to critical analyses of Van Til's position. Seminar discussions will focus on the content of Van Til's thought.

*Fall semester. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Oliphint.*

##### **AP 733 Christianity and the Arts**

Purpose:

- To understand the dynamics of art
- To arrive at a Reformed view of aesthetics
- To learn how Scripture speaks about the arts
- To develop convictions about the proper role of the arts in daily life
- To explore the role of the arts in worship

Topics covered include the present state of the arts, the character of beauty, art as a vocation, the arts in the Bible, and the special

dynamic of evil and redemption in the arts. Sessions will integrate guest artists; a museum visit; discussions of music, poems, novels, and paintings.

*Spring semester. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Edgar.*

##### **AP 743 Christianity in Conflict II**

Purpose:

- To study the major apologetics texts of the church in the Medieval period
- To compare the methods and arguments used
- To assess those methods in relation to the needs in apologetics today

Topics covered include texts by Anselm, Thomas Aquinas, Peter Abelard, John Duns Scotus, Ockham, and Buridan. The approach will generally be inductive, based on the actual texts. Some lectures will be given.

*Spring semester. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Edgar and Mr. Oliphint.*

##### **AP 753 Christianity in Conflict III**

Purpose:

- To study the major apologetics texts of the church in the early modern period
- To compare the methods and arguments used
- To assess those methods in relation to the needs in apologetics today

Topics covered include texts by Luther, Calvin, Descartes, Pascal, Butler, Hume, Kant, Schleiermacher, Groen, and Kuyper. The approach will generally be inductive, based on the actual texts. Some lectures will be given.

*Spring semester. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Edgar and Mr. Oliphint.*

##### **AP 763 Christianity in Conflict IV**

Purpose:

- To study the major apologetics texts of the church in the last two centuries
- To compare the methods and arguments used



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## {Course Descriptions}

### APOLOGETICS

- To assess those methods in relation to the needs in apologetics today

Topics covered include texts by Machen, Chesterton, K ung, von Balthasar, Schaeffer, Carnell, the Talbot School, Tillich, Clark, and Pannenberg. The approach will generally be inductive, based on the actual texts. Some lectures will be given.

*Spring semester. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Edgar and Mr. Oliphint.*

#### **AP 771 Apologetics in a Global Setting**

Purpose:

- To understand the phenomenon of globalization
- To examine the application of Reformed



apologetics in a global context

- To study the major issues raised for the church because of globalization
- To relate globalization to Christian missions

Topics covered include comparative sociology, the clash of civilization, the issue of religion and violence, the phenomenon of de-secularization, traditionalism versus modernizing, contextualization, and postmodernism.

*Fall semester. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Edgar.*

#### **AP 843 Intercultural Apologetics**

Purpose:

- To understand the contemporary task of apologetics in the context of global interchanges and clashes of cultures
- To establish a proper understanding of the relationship between Christian world- and life-views and various cultural contexts in which apologists must function
- To develop a Reformed theology of religions as well as strategies to deal with other religious challenges to Christian claims
- To become sensitized to various non-Western expressions of Christian faith in a rapidly emerging post-European and post-North American era of Christendom
- To give a focused attention to the contributions of Harvie M. Conn as a model of intercultural apologist

Topics covered include justification for cultural and intercultural apologetics, the definition of culture, religion and culture, towards a Reformed theology of religions, responding to the challenges of other religions to Christian faith, and unity and diversity in Christian witness to the world.

*Spring semester. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Park.*



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## {Course Descriptions}

### APOLOGETICS

#### **AP 861 Theodicy**

Purpose:

- To understand the problem of evil from a biblical point of view
- To be familiar with the major options as expressed through the ages
- To develop apologetic answers for the problem of evil

Topics covered include key biblical texts; the doctrines of God's power, goodness, and justice; examinations of the classical writings on the subject by Augustine, Thomas Aquinas, Leibnitz, Moltmann, Plantinga, Blocher, and others.

*Fall semester. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Edgar.*

#### **AP 883 The Problem of Knowledge and Christianity**

Purpose:

- To focus on various problems of epistemology
- To seek to demonstrate the necessity of a consistent Christian epistemology
- To develop principles necessary if one wants an adequate account of knowledge

Topics covered include foundationalism, coherentism, and the justification of knowledge.

*Spring semester. Mr. Oliphint.*

#### **AP 891 Jacques Ellul as an Apologist**

Purpose:

- To be thoroughly acquainted with the work of the French sociologist Jacques Ellul
- To interact with his views on power, ethics, Scripture, politics, economics, and technique

Topics covered include the study of several of Ellul's books, using an inductive approach. Special emphasis will be on the major themes in his writings, such as technique, propaganda, economics, and power.

*Fall semester. Mr. Edgar.*

#### **AP 903 Cultural Analysis**

Purpose:

- To develop proper tools for the study of culture
- To interact with various theologies of culture
- To understand the relation between Christian faith and the public square
- To find culturally aware ways to do evangelism

Topics covered include an in-depth look at two cultures, American and one other; H. Richard Niebuhr's *Christ and Culture* and his critics; methodology for a biblical approach to understanding cultural dynamics; demographics; and popular culture.

*Spring semester. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Edgar.*

#### **AP 923 The Apologetics of C. S. Lewis**

Purpose:

- To become familiar with the theological and apologetic writings of C. S. Lewis
- To understand Lewis in the context of his time
- To understand and critically evaluate the major features of Lewis's theology and apologetic strategies

Topics covered include the context of C. S. Lewis, Lewis's idea of pre-evangelism, his understanding of the key theological themes, religious psychology, and literary imagination.

*Spring semester. Mr. Park.*

#### **AP 931 Philosophy for Theologians**

Purpose:

- To understand past and current discussions in the philosophy of religion
- To develop a Reformed response to various aspects of natural philosophy
- To critically analyze the traditional approach to religious philosophy

Topics covered include theistic proofs, arguments from religious experience, the problem of evil, miracles, the relationship of faith and reason, religious pluralism, and other subjects that interface with theology and philosophy. Seminar discussions.

*Fall semester. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Oliphint.*



## {Course Descriptions}

### APOLOGETICS

#### **AP 953 The Challenge of Islam**

Purpose:

- To study the history and presence of Islam in the world
- To understand the major tenets of Muslim belief and practice
- To develop effective apologetics strategies toward Muslim people
- To investigate strategies for statecraft in the face of the presence of Islam
- To explore ways to welcome Muslim converts to Christian faith in the church

Topics covered include the origins of Islam, its major caliphates, Wahhabism, the text and character of the Qur'an, religion and violence, a visit to a local mosque, and special presentations from scholars called to respond to various facets of Islam.

*Spring semester. Mr. Edgar.*

#### **AP 963 Warrant and Christian Epistemology**

Purpose:

- To understand the epistemology of Alvin Plantinga
- To critically evaluate and analyze Plantinga's epistemology as a Christian epistemology
- To develop principles for a Reformed epistemology in light of current discussions

Seminar discussions will include foundationalism, coherentism, and reliabilism, as well as proper function epistemology. Special attention will be given to the development of a Reformed approach to a theory of knowledge.

*Spring semester. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Oliphint.*

#### **AP 981 Theology of Science**

Purpose:

- To develop a framework for understanding and evaluating science within a biblically-based worldview, utilizing resources from systematic theology, presuppositional apologetics, and biblical theology
- To interpret Genesis 1-3, weigh rival views of its meaning and implications, and consider its bearing on modern science
- To interact critically with modern approaches to the

relation of science and Christianity, and with treatments of particular issues such as the age of the earth, uniformitarianism, evolutionary theories, intelligent design, the origin of man, and Noah's flood

Topics covered include theology of creation and providence; the word of God in providence; interpretation of Genesis 1-3; the relation of general and special revelation; the bearing of presuppositional apologetics on analysis of science; the influence of Christianity on the rise of science; inductivist, instrumentalist, materialist, and relativist influences on thinking within and about science.

*Fall semester. Mr. Poythress.*

Courses listed for other majors which may be counted as major courses for the Th.M. degree in Apologetics: OT 903, NT 931, NT 951, ST 701, ST 791, ST 803, ST 901, PTM 462.



## {Course Descriptions}

### PRACTICAL THEOLOGY

## Practical Theology

The Department of Practical Theology exists to apply biblical exegesis and theology in the formation of godly and competent practitioners who can minister God's unchanging Word to our changing world.

To that end, the Practical Theology curriculum enables students:

- To be faithful and effective preachers of God's Word to the present generation
- To shepherd the flock to which they have been called
- To minister the Word through biblical counseling
- To spread the good news of the kingdom of God in word and in deed in the task of evangelism and world missions
- To develop the realm of Christian education both within and without the church context
- To exercise gifts of leadership in various ministries
- To understand the church of Jesus Christ, its functions, its needs, and the variety of ministries into which leaders are called

*Practical Theology faculty: Professor Witmer, Coordinator; Professor Emeritus Ortiz; Professor Finlayson; Associate Professor Leonard; Mrs. Altena, Mrs. Baker, Mr. Brown, Mr. Currie, Mr. Ellis, Mr. Emlet, Mr. Gornik, Mr. Greenway, Mr. Hall, Mr. Hobaugh, Mr. Keller, Mrs. Kim, Mr. Lane, Mrs. Langberg, Mr. Lee, Ms. Lowe, Mr. Powlison, Mr. Rasmussen, Mr. Rowe, Mr. Ryken, Mr. Scott Smith, Mr. William Smith, Mr. Winston Smith and Mr. Welch.*

## Master's level

### PT 013P *English Bible Survey*

Purpose:

- To provide a thorough survey of the content of the English Bible
- To equip future church leaders with skills for teaching the English Bible in the local church
- To meet the requirement of passing the English Bible examination

Topics covered include the reading of the entire English Bible, written exercises, class discussion, and laboratory experience in study methods. Offered as an Independent Study. The cost for the Independent Study is one-half the normal hourly rate.

*Spring semester, non-credit. Mr. Leonard.*

### PT 021P, 021P-2 *Mentored Ministry Integration Seminar*

Purpose:

- To discuss the integration of biblical and theological principles to ministry situations
- To provide a workshop in which each student will present one case from an actual ministry experience
- To learn to analyze problems, apply biblical principles, and propose appropriate solutions in the context of lively class discussions

Students in the M.Div. program are required to take this seminar twice. No auditing permitted.

*Fall and spring semesters, non-credit (class meets one hour per week). Mr. Witmer.*

### PT 031P, 033P *Advanced Theological Writing I, II*

Purpose:

- To equip students to write theological papers clearly and accurately

Topics covered include the thesis; overall organization and paragraph structure in theological writing; styles of writing apologetic, exegetical, and other research papers; summary, paraphrase, quotation, and documentation forms; vocabulary development;



## {Course Descriptions}

### PRACTICAL THEOLOGY

and advanced English grammar. Correction will be provided for papers, sermons, and presentations written by students for regular seminary courses while enrolled in Advanced Theological Writing.

Required of entering non-native English speakers whose TOEFL score is below 640 (273 computer or 111iBT) and of others whom faculty identify as needing work on their writing. Students placed into Advanced Theological Writing must register for it each semester until their writing skills meet the level required to earn a passing grade, and must pass in order to graduate.

The cost for the course is one-half the normal hourly rate. No auditing permitted. One of the following grade designations will be given: Pass or Continued in Course. For those required to enroll, attendance and completion of the course requirements will be necessary in order to maintain a good academic standing and continue in a degree program.

*Fall and spring semesters, non-credit (class meets two hours per week). Mrs. Altena.*

#### **PT 111 Orientation to Ministerial Formation**

Purpose:

- To receive an introduction to the comprehensive picture of preparation for kingdom ministry, including the biblical qualifications for those who would serve as shepherds of God's flock
- To understand the powerful ministry dynamic of Spirit and Word to transform lives
- To remember the central role of a vital walk with the Lord to effective ministry (*Spiritual Formation*)
- To understand the steps necessary to achieve perceived ministry goals (*Professional Formation*)
- To understand and analyze the "call" to ministry
- To receive an introduction to the Mentored Ministry program
- To receive an introduction to the design of the Practical Theology curriculum
- To complete the Ministry Preparation Commitment designed to coordinate the resources of the Seminary and the church with one's comprehensive preparation for effective kingdom service

Topics covered include calling to ministry, the minister's family life, and spiritual formation, using various approaches to learning, including readings, response papers, and interaction with "Ministry Panels" in which experienced leaders will interact with the class on important topics such as "Call to Ministry" and "Family Life." This course is required for all first-year M.Div. Pastoral and General students.

*Fall semester, two hours. Mr. Witmer, Mr. Hobaugh and Mr. Lane.*

#### **PT 123 Gospel Communication**

Purpose:

- To introduce the student to Westminster's core values in preaching
  - To introduce the student to the basic elements of good sermon construction
  - To initiate practice in the skills of preparing sermons
  - To expose the student to various preaching models
- Topics covered include a biblical theology of preaching and gospel communication; the spiritual principles of proclaiming the gospel; the form of the message; studies in text and theme selection, exegesis, structure, and delivery.

*Spring semester, two hours. Staff.*

#### **PT 141 Preaching and Apologetics**

Purpose:

- To help students to "give a defense for the hope within them" through preaching
- To know when and how to engage apologetics in the context of a preaching ministry
- To discuss the implications of presuppositional apologetics in preaching

The course is a practicum which will include student sermons applying principles presented in lectures. Prerequisites, AP 101, and PT 123.

*Spring semester, one hour. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Edgar and Mr. Witmer.*



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## {Course Descriptions}

### PRACTICAL THEOLOGY

#### **PT 173 *Biblical Interpretation***

Purpose:

- To gain an overall framework for interpreting/applying any passage of Scripture, a framework that is sensitive to the reader's world, the author's world, and the text itself
  - To gain experience in seeing the Christological/Gospel-centered implications of any text as a prerequisite for meaningful personal application
  - To grow in ability to rivet Scriptural truth to real-life ministry situations
  - To practice biblical interpretation in the context of community
- Topics covered include the problem of meaning, historical and contemporary models for the interpretation/application of Scripture, Bible translators, resources for Bible study, genre, and contemporary challenges in interpretation (including the role of the reader and the impact of culture in the process of interpretation). Not available to M.Div. or M.A.R. students. Prerequisites, OT 131.

*Spring semester, three hours. Mr. Emlet.*

#### **PT 211 *The Doctrine of the Church***

Purpose:

- To strengthen the student's commitment to and service in the local church and to God
- To articulate a clear understanding of the Reformed doctrine of the church
- To aid the student in building a philosophy of ministry for the twenty-first century

Topics covered include a biblical theology of the church; the marks, attributes, and mission of the church; form of government; women's role in the church; gifts; and church discipline.

*Fall semester, two hours. Mr. Leonard.*

#### **PT 221 *Expository Skills and Evaluation***

Purpose:

- To create an appreciation for expository teaching
- To enhance the student's skill for choosing, understanding, and structuring a biblical text for the purpose of preaching
- To provide an opportunity to practice those skills

- To encourage critical reflection upon the student's own preaching for continuing development

Topics covered include analysis of various sermon forms and structures; unity, movement, and purpose in sermon construction; and grace dynamics of Christian preaching. Two expository messages will be preached by each student and evaluated by the professors. Preference given to M.Div. - Pastoral Ministry students. Prerequisite, PT 123.

*Fall semester, two hours. Mr. Currie.*

#### **PT 311 *Church Dynamics and Pastoral Practice***

Purpose:

- To introduce the biblical and theological concept of "shepherding" as a comprehensive matrix for pastoral ministry
- To present practical models deploying the special offices of elder and deacon for the care and growth of the flock
- To discuss the challenges in carrying out such a ministry in the contemporary cultural and ecclesiastical context

Topics covered include protection of the flock through the development of a proactive shepherding plan, biblical church discipline, dealing with conflict, and change in the local church.

*Fall semester, two hours. Mr. Witmer.*

#### **PT 332 *Seminar in Leadership***

Purpose:

- To examine biblical principles of leadership
- To evaluate one's leadership gifts, style, and strength
- To discuss practical leadership models and methods within the local church

Topics covered include characteristics of godly leaders, how to develop a ministry model, the importance of planning, practical pointers on leading a session and a congregation, a resume primer, and factors in evaluating a pastoral call. The course includes a special lecture by Dr. Diane Langberg on how to avoid experiencing a moral shipwreck in your ministry.

*Winter term, two hours. Mr. Witmer.*



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## {Course Descriptions}

### PRACTICAL THEOLOGY

#### **PT 343 Mission of the Church**

Purpose:

- To instill a passion and commitment for the mission of Christ's church in the world
- To enable the articulation of how the mission of Christ is taught throughout the Scriptures
- To equip with models for leading the church in its missions program
- To equip with models for leading the church in its educational program
- To enable the leadership in a church's evangelistic outreach

Topics covered include a biblical theory of mission, issues in world evangelization, building a missions program for the local church, contextualization, education and the church, curriculum design, and building evangelistic outreach for the local church.

*Spring semester, two hours. Mr. Leonard.*

#### **PT 353 Sermon Delivery**

Purpose:

- To increase awareness of delivery and language skills in preaching
- To provide an opportunity to test these skills
- To create critical reflection upon and means of continuing development of these skills in the student's preaching

Topics covered include elements of sermon delivery, use of image and metaphor, and language and speech-related skills. Two sermons will be preached by each student and evaluated by the professors. Prerequisites, PT 123 and, ordinarily, PT 221. Limited to candidates for the M.Div. degree in Pastoral Ministry track.

*Spring semester, two hours. Staff.*

#### **PT 372 Worship**

Purpose:

- To deepen the students' biblical and theological understanding of public worship
- To familiarize students with historic patterns of Christian worship
- To help students develop a vision for a worshipping congregation

- To encourage students to be thoughtful, joyful worshipers of the triune God
- To provide students with resources as they plan and lead public worship

Topics covered include biblical-theological foundations of worship, the directive principle of worship as outlined in the *Westminster Standards*, the role of the means of grace in worship, contextualization and worship, music and worship, and contemporary issues with regard to worship.

*Winter term, one hour. Mr. Scott Smith.*

#### **PT 421/PT 421P Theological Bibliography and Research Methodology**

Purpose:

- To provide instruction on how to formulate a strategy for research
  - To identify resources that will aid in the composition of a research project
  - To explain the principles for solid research methods
  - To create a workable outline and prepare the foundation of a research project
  - To develop a sense of competency in the movement from planned research to a completed project
  - To appreciate the importance of using each type of research tool effectively and properly
  - To develop skills in using the Westminster library and other libraries
  - To develop skills in using information resources on the internet
- Topics covered include developing a research strategy; building bibliographies; using library catalogs, reference resources, periodical resources, electronic resources on the internet; and critical thinking and writing.

*Fall semester, one hour. Mr. Finlayson.*



2010-2011

## {Course Descriptions}

### PRACTICAL THEOLOGY

#### **PT 433 Introduction to Youth Ministry**

Purpose:

- To provide a theological foundation for youth ministry
- To provide models of ministry that will help students do theological and missiological reflection
- To provide students with skills in engaging youth in their context
- To examine existing models of youth ministry in order to develop the students' style and form of ministry

Topics covered are theological foundations of youth ministry, major issues in youth ministry, the church and the importance of youth ministry, reaching the second generation Korean, discipling youth, and the importance of para-church organizations.

*Spring semester, two hours. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Ortiz.*

#### **PT 451 Interseminary Seminar**

Purpose:

- To enable students to understand current expressions of other Christian traditions
- To articulate the Reformed faith in an ecumenical setting that involves five seminaries in Eastern Pennsylvania

Topics covered include the presentation and discussion of student papers on a theological topic.

Class meetings are held on Fridays from 3-8 p.m. at the various seminaries, with supper provided by the host school. Limited to four Westminster students.

*Fall semester, two hours. Staff.*

#### **PT 463 Preaching from the New Testament**

Purpose:

- To encourage students to preach confidently from the New Testament

This is part of a series of collaborative courses, bringing together faculty from both the Practical Theology and New Testament departments. Each course focuses on preaching from a particular genre of the New Testament. This is a practicum course designed to introduce students to important homiletical principles while providing each student with the opportunity to preach in class.

*Spring semester, one hour. Mr. Witmer and NT Faculty.*

#### **PT 479 Illustrating Biblical Truth**

Purpose:

- To introduce the art of finding and using appropriate illustrative materials for preaching and teaching
- To make the biblical case for the importance of using illustrations in preaching and teaching
- To discuss the various sources of illustrative material
- To practice seeing life through the lens of Scripture
- To study and seek to apply the concept of sense appeal in the sermons of C. H. Spurgeon
- To study and seek to apply the art of storytelling according to Jay Adams

As a practicum, students will practice finding and presenting illustrations in class.

*Fall semester, one hour. Mr. Witmer.*

#### **PT 481 Preaching from the Old Testament**

Purpose:

- To encourage students to preach confidently from the Old Testament
- To help students preach from a particular genre of Old Testament revelation
- To have students prepare and present one sermon based on an Old Testament text

Topics covered include the particular hermeneutical and homiletical challenges facing the preacher working through the particular genre selected.

*Fall semester, one hour. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Staff.*

#### **PT 543 Special Preaching Situations**

Purpose:

- To equip students to be prepared to minister the Word of God in a variety of contexts including weddings, funerals, and other occasional preaching opportunities that arise on the church calendar (Christmas, Easter, etc.)

Topics covered include special dynamics of these situations. Students will prepare a ministry notebook including both wed-



## {Course Descriptions}

### PRACTICAL THEOLOGY – COUNSELING

ding and funeral services and will prepare and preach messages designed to meet these circumstances.

*Spring semester, one hour. Mr. Witmer.*

#### **PT 601 Congregational Polity: A Historical-Theological Approach**

Purpose:

- This course is required for students seeking ordination in the Conservative Congregational Christian Conference.

Topics covered include the formation of New England Congregationalism in seventeenth-century New England and its applicability to life today. The course develops the emergence of a theology which viewed all of life as covenantal with special application to church government. Specific attention will be paid to the Cambridge Platform of 1648 and the Savoy Declaration of 1658.

*Fall semester, two hours. Mr. Hall.*

#### **PT 671 Ecclesiology, Women, and the Contemporary Church**

Purpose:

- To affirm women's place and role in the church
- To explore the biblical teaching on women
- To examine current trends on the teaching of women in the church
- To help guide the student in ministering to women in the church

Topics covered include an understanding of the hermeneutical issues, a biblical understanding of male and female, the New Testament teaching on women's role in the church, and practical consideration of how women can serve in the church.

*Fall semester, two hours. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Leonard and staff.*

## Counseling

#### **PTC 151 Dynamics of Biblical Change**

Purpose:

- To build a firsthand understanding of the progressive sanctification process
- To enable students to connect biblical truth to the case study realities and details of lives lived

Topics covered include the nature of idolatry and faith; the relationship between motive and action; the way Christ's past, present, and future grace intersects with and affects how people live their daily lives; and the interplay of suffering and other situational factors with a person's actions and reactions.

*Fall semester, three hours. Mr. Powlison.*

#### **PTC 178 Helping Relationships**

Purpose:

- To help students develop a functional biblical counseling worldview
- To help students understand the importance of heart change as a methodological goal
- To develop an understanding of the role of Scripture in biblical counseling
- To highlight and practice the critical skills for effectiveness in biblical counseling

Topics covered include how to build a counseling relationship, how to gather and interpret data, how to function as an agent of repentance, and how to guide and assist others as they seek to apply change to daily life.

*Spring semester, three hours. Mr. Welch.*

#### **PTC 221 Counseling & Physiology**

Purpose:

- To equip with a nuanced and practical biblical anthropology that will help distinguish between spiritual and physical issues in the lives of counselees
- To deepen understanding of a select group of acute and chronic problems having physiological manifestations,



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## {Course Descriptions}

### PRACTICAL THEOLOGY – COUNSELING

particularly those that affect intellect and mood

- To develop biblical strategies for pursuing counselees with such problems
- To sharpen abilities to critique the reigning presuppositions of biological psychiatry that serve to undermine Scripture's authority in the counseling process

Topics covered include biblical anthropology and its counseling implications on neuropsychology, psychopharmacology, dementia, traumatic brain injury, psychiatry, obsessive-compulsive disorder, panic attacks and hallucinations, attention deficit disorder, addiction, homosexuality, and autism.

*Fall semester, two hours. Mr. Emler.*

#### **PTC 243 Theology and Secular Psychology**

Purpose:

- To teach students how to understand psychologists' observations, theories, and practices, and how to engage them critically, humbly, and lovingly
- To reinterpret through a redemptive gaze the things that psychologists see most clearly and care about most deeply
- To understand where biblical counseling fits in our cultural context, both within the evangelical church and within the surrounding mental health system

Topics covered include the skills of reinterpretation and redemptive interaction; historical overview of the biblical counseling and the evangelical psychotherapy movements; the lay of the land in contemporary counseling; assessment of motivation theories and self-esteem theory; and primary source readings from a half dozen representative psychologists, ranging from high culture to self-help.

*Spring semester, three hours. Mr. Powlison.*

#### **PTC 251 Marriage Counseling**

Purpose:

- To help students develop a rich, biblical-theological view of marriage and relationships that challenges popular goals for marriage/relationship counseling and provides powerful hope and direction
- To provide students with conceptual and methodological

tools for marriage counseling that are rooted in a biblical worldview of marriage and that recognize the unique challenges of marriage counseling

- To interact with prevailing secular models of marriage counseling within a biblical worldview
- To begin to develop the ability to offer relational skills within a larger context of heart change
- To consider current marriage problem areas impacting the church

Topics covered include a biblical theological review of marriage and relationships; and an introduction to systems theory, gender differences, communication, and conflict. Counseling videos will be used to help the student gain a sense of the counseling process.

*Fall semester, three hours. Mr. Winston Smith.*

#### **PTC 261 Human Personality**

Purpose:

- To deepen students' understanding of biblical doctrine as it applies to the person
- To examine what doctrines are especially important to apply in this generation
- To understand how to apply biblical doctrine in personal ministry
- To be able to uncover the implicit theology in other models of personal ministry and dialogue effectively about these issues

Topics covered include a review of systematic theological categories with a commitment to developing multiple applications, an examination of both Christian and non-Christian counseling case studies with an eye to enrich them with our theological work, and the practical application of a biblical-theological approach to the study of people.

*Fall semester, three hours. Mr. Welch.*

#### **PTC 303 Counseling Problems and Procedures**

Purpose:

- To identify the essential features of biblical counseling
- To identify current counseling issues that are apparent in the church



## {Course Descriptions}

### PRACTICAL THEOLOGY – COUNSELING

- To appreciate Scripture's depth as it addresses common problems such as suffering, anger, and anxiety
  - To prepare students to move toward people with any type of struggle in a way that is helpful and Christ-centered
- Topics covered include abuse, guilt and legalism, fear, anger, bipolar, schizophrenia, anorexia and bulimia, and addictions.

*Spring semester, three hours. Mr. Welch and staff.*

#### **PTC 358 Human Growth and Development**

Purpose:

- To develop counseling methods for understanding and communicating with children and adolescents
- To enhance students' understanding of the dynamics of family functioning that underscore behavioral problems of children and adolescents
- To understand the present legal issues in counseling children and adolescents
- To develop biblical models of parenting that students can use in counseling parents to be more effective in training and disciplining their children
- To develop an understanding of the effects of divorce on children and the issues in counseling with step and blended families

This course will focus on counseling with children and adolescents. It will provide students with a broader focus on evaluating children's behavioral and emotional issues in the context of family functioning. The course will give special attention to counseling method and relevant legal issues.

*Spring semester, three hours. Mrs. Lowe.*

#### **PTC 371P Counseling Observation**

Purpose:

- To see the application of a biblical model of counseling
- To learn how to manage a counseling hour
- To understand how ministry is done in the context of a relationship
- To provide direction in counseling

Students will observe counseling through a one-way mirror and meet with the counselor following the counseling session. Instead of addressing predetermined topics, the class will discuss topics that arise out of the counseling case. Limited enrollment. Preference given to M.Div. - Counseling and M.A. - Biblical Counseling students. Prerequisite, PTC 151.

*Fall and spring semesters, two hours. Staff.*

#### **PTC 432 Essential Qualities of a Biblical Counselor**

Purpose:

- To help students identify their strengths and weaknesses as counselors with regard to both heart issues and skills
- To help students develop strategies for growth in these areas
- To provide practical opportunities by which to make these evaluations and to develop skills that contribute to effective counseling

Character qualities covered include love, humility, faithfulness, and spiritual maturity. Skills are coordinated with those covered in *Methods of Biblical Change*. Prerequisite, either PTC 151 or PTC 178.

*Winter term, two hours. Mrs. Kim.*

#### **PTC 514 Seminar in Professional Orientation**

Purpose:

- To understand the organizational structures that oversee professional and lay counseling.
- To identify and apply ethical and legal guidelines
- To formulate a biblical perspective on professional ethics
- To discern the relevance of diversity and cross-cultural issues in counseling practice

*Winter term, two hours. Mr. Emlet and Mr. Winston Smith.*

#### **PTC 522 Counseling in the Local Church**

Purpose:

- To broaden students' understanding of counseling to include all relationships
- To build a thoroughly biblical understanding of the local church



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## {Course Descriptions}

### PRACTICAL THEOLOGY – EVANGELISM

as a ministering community where everyone plays a part

- To help students find their place of ministry within the context of the local church and to help others do the same
- To see the importance of both public and private ministry of the Word and how they interrelate
- To examine present ministry opportunities

Topics covered include a biblical foundation for private ministry of the Word; the role of community and relationships in the process of sanctification; developing a practical ecclesiology; and developing an eye for ministry opportunities such as conflict resolution, evangelism, and church discipline.

*Spring Semester, two hours. Mr. Lane.*

#### **PTC 591 CCEF Annual Conference**

Purpose:

- To introduce students to contemporary issues in Biblical Counseling

Topics covered will change every year so students can take the course more than once. Students should contact the fall course schedule for specific dates.

*Fall semester, one hour. Staff.*

#### **PTC 673 Case Study Seminar**

Purpose:

- To apply theology to the specifics of face-to-face ministry
- To develop more experience by discussing a broad range of counseling case studies
- To receive supervision on counseling cases

Faculty will present counseling cases for group discussion and students will present their own cases for supervision. Along with applying the content of the other counseling courses, topics include professional and ethical issues. Not available to M.Div. or M.A.R. students.

*Spring semester, two hours. Mr. Winston Smith and staff.*

## Evangelism

### **PTC 193 Guided Practicum in Personal Evangelism**

Purpose:

- To show students how to share the gospel in a personal way with those around them
- To help students get over the fear of sharing their faith with strangers
- To encourage students to develop the habit of regularly sharing their faith

Topics covered include “Evangelism Explosion,” the Navigator’s “Bridge,” and street preaching. Class members will regularly go out to share their faith with others.

*Spring semester, two hours. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Leonard.*

### **PTC 251 Jewish Evangelism**

Purpose:

- To learn to share the Messiah with Jewish people

Topics covered include the history of Jewish missions, Jewish cultural and religious sensibilities, strategies for gospel outreach to the Jewish people, and apologetic and theological issues involved in this field.

*Fall semester, two hours. Staff.*

### **PTC 403 Understanding Islam and Reaching Muslims**

Purpose:

- To know the history, theology, and culture of Islam
- To prepare students to share their faith with Muslims
- To be able to build a ministry that will reach out to Muslims

Topics covered include the life of Mohammed, the history of Islam, the culture of Islam, Islamic theology, Islamic worldview, folk Islam, how to answer Muslims’ questions, witnessing to Muslims, and building a ministry to Muslims.

*Spring semester, two hours. Mr. Leonard.*



## {Course Descriptions}

### PRACTICAL THEOLOGY – URBAN MISSION

## Urban Mission

### **PTM 143 Contextual Theology**

Purpose:

- To understand some of the issues involved in contextualization
- To sketch the history and recent developments revolving around contextualization
- To outline the general issues involved in contextualization with special attention to evangelism and hermeneutics
- To provide students with opportunities to test their understanding

Topics covered include history of contextualization, recent developments in contextualization, dangers inherent in contextualization, and models of contextualization.

*Spring semester, two hours. Staff.*

### **PTM 151 Mission to the City**

Purpose:

- To guide students in examining biblical principles as they are related to urban ministry
- To examine and define urban ministry in missiological terms
- To provide firsthand experience in terms of the significance of living, worshiping, and ministering in an urban context
- To evaluate personal tension in cross-cultural situations
- To present God's interest in the cities of his world

This is an introductory course in the urban mission program. Topics covered include assumptions for winning the city; elements necessary for urban ministry; statistics and issues in urbanization; reasons for urban growth; understanding cities; anti-urban attitudes; biblical and theological interpretation of our perceptions; incarnation; biblical background to the city; pictures and motives of the city in the Bible; summary of urban dynamics; response to urban dynamics in relationship to ministry models; transitions and the urban church; pictures of the church; models of churches in the city; the minister in the city; and the importance of youth in the city.

*Fall semester, two hours. Staff.*

### **PTM 163 Church Growth and Church Planting**

Purpose:

- To provide the student with various aspects of church growth methods, principles, and practices
- To review a brief history of the School of Church Growth
- To evaluate church growth principles and practices in order to become better equipped in the area of church growth ministries
- To develop skills in relationship to growing a church

Topics covered include church growth philosophy, history of church growth, organic church growth, theological presuppositions, critique of church growth, review of various urban models of church growth, and signs and wonders as a means to growth.

*Spring semester, two hours. Mr. Leonard.*

### **PTM 171 Mission Anthropology**

Purpose:

- To introduce students to the science of anthropology and how to utilize it for mission
- To explain the relationship between anthropology and contextualization
- To make students aware of the dangers of improper contextualization
- To trace the development of urban anthropology as a field of study and assist students in learning how to exegete urban culture
- To guide students in being able to critique current theological models
- To give students the opportunity to develop a theological framework for evangelizing a very particular urban culture or subgroup

Topics covered include introduction to anthropology, definition of culture, how to study culture, how to do proper cross-cultural comparisons, definition of worldview, how anthropology can be useful for Christian mission, how to contextualize, dangers of contextualization, development of urban anthropology as a sub-discipline, institutional discrimination, immigrant adaptation, and poverty.

*Fall semester, two hours. Mr. Leonard.*



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## {Course Descriptions}

### PRACTICAL THEOLOGY – URBAN MISSION

#### **PTM 181 Religions of the World**

Purpose:

- To acquaint the student with the doctrine and demographics of the major world religions
- To help students develop an evangelistic approach to members of these groups
- To provide firsthand encounters with people from these various groups

Topics covered include a theology of other religions and evangelistic methods. Religions covered may include Animism, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism.

*Spring semester, two hours. (Not given in 2010-2011.)  
Mr. Leonard.*

#### **PTM 311 Preparing for Cross-Cultural Ministry**

Purpose:

- To prepare the student for the challenges of a cross-cultural ministry
- To provide the student with the skills to work cross-culturally
- To encourage and deepen one's cross-cultural calling

Topics covered include a theology of culture; basic ethnographic skills; working on a team; ministry, family, and personal issues affecting cross-cultural ministry. Should be taken in conjunction with PTM 171.

*Fall semester, one hour. Mr. Leonard.*

#### **PTM 353 Urban Research Methods**

Purpose:

- To help students understand the importance of research in preparing for mission/ministry
- To introduce students to research methods such as participant observation, interviews, questionnaires, walk-throughs, demographic analysis, and model studies
- To assist students in being able to organize and analyze data
- To provide helpful tips on how to successfully write a major research paper, including Westminster's format requirements

Topics covered include definition of research; use of research for mission/ministry; general research studies (model studies,

community studies, people group studies, effective evaluation); specific research methods (library research, interviews, questionnaires, participant observation, walk-throughs, demographic statistics, focus groups); organization and analysis of data; Westminster's format guidelines; and Turabian requirements. Prerequisites, PTM 143, PTM 151, PTM 163, and PTM 173. Corequisite, Summative Project. Limited to M.A. Urban Mission students.

*Spring semester, one hour. Staff.*

#### **PTM 373 Missions and Mercy Ministries**

Purpose:

- To acquaint students with biblical material in reference to doing community analysis
- To guide students into ways of discovering the will of God for their communities
- To challenge students to uncover personal and systemic issues in society affecting the lives of people living in the city
- To assist students in utilizing demographic information for the purpose of understanding sociological realities as well as theological implications and missiological applications
- To provide students with field experience in assessing needs for urban ministries

Topics covered include demographics as an applied science, theological and missiological reasons for demographics and mercy ministry, definitions, community analysis, case studies, reasons for mercy/compassion ministry and community development, clarification of issues leading towards community development, liberation theology, and community development.

*Spring semester, two hours. Staff.*

#### **PTM 383 Theology of Mission**

Purpose:

- To have a thorough knowledge of the biblical teaching on the mission of the church
- To examine historical and current issues that have shaped the mission enterprise
- To be able to bring that knowledge to



## {Course Descriptions}

### PRACTICAL THEOLOGY – URBAN MISSION

bear on one's own ministry  
Topics covered include a biblical theology of missions, contextualization, and current trends in missions.

*Spring semester, two hours. (Not given in 2010-2011.)  
Mr. Leonard.*

#### **PTM 462 Understanding the Islamic Challenge**

Purpose:

- To look at the world of Islam, its beginning, its growth, and the doctrines of its major divisions
- To examine the current movements and stresses in the Muslim community with the challenge they pose to the church
- To suggest ways the church can meet today's Islamic challenge

Topics covered include the development and demographic profile of various American Islamic communities as well as their international connections; Muslim immigrants; the American born descendants of these immigrants; American converts to Islam; and reasons behind the rapid growth of Islam today among Americans without a Muslim background.

*Winter semester, two hours. Mr. Ellis.*

#### **PTM 572 The History and Theology of the African American Church**

Purpose:

- To gain a better understanding of the African American church
- Topics covered include the history, theology, and culture of the African American church.

*Winter term, two hours. (Not given in 2010-2011.) Mr. Ellis.*

#### **PTM 651 Cross-Cultural Missions Trip**

Purpose:

- To give students experience in working with a team cross-culturally
- To help students determine their calling to cross-cultural ministry
- To increase students' vision for reaching the world

Topics covered include pre-field orientation, cultural overviews of country to visit, and issues related to team ministry.

*Semester varies, two hours. (Not given in 2010-2011.)  
Mr. Leonard.*

#### **PTM 671, 671-2, 671-3, 671-4 Urban Mission Seminar**

Purpose:

- To guide students in the use of critical analysis when evaluating ministries or strategizing for new ministries
- To provide opportunities for students to learn from the life experiences of other students
- To present challenging situations facing those in ministry for students to evaluate in terms of theology, social sciences, and mission

Topics covered will change every semester so students can take the course more than once. These topics will include ministry models, mission case studies, reconciliation issues, and presentation of books for discussion.

*Fall and spring semesters, one hour. Staff.*

#### **PTM 681, 683 Perspectives on the World Christian Movement**

Employing numerous speakers and multimedia presentations, this class will seek to educate and enlist the student to the cause of worldwide evangelism. The class is offered in conjunction with the international educational efforts of the U.S. Center for World Mission.

*Fall and spring semesters, three hours. Staff.*



## {Course Descriptions}

### PRACTICAL THEOLOGY – D.MIN. MODULES

#### D.Min. Modules

##### **Module PR 1** *Introduction and Orientation to Graduate Work*

Purpose:

- To familiarize the student with Bibliographical Research preparing them for the course work ahead
- To improve writing and critical thinking skills
- To introduce current trends in the major theological disciplines
- To guide them through the preparation of their Research Project

##### **Module PR 2** *Pastoral Theology*

Purpose:

- To build a biblical theological basis for pastoral ministry
- To examine the importance of a shepherding ministry for the health and growth of the church. Students will critically assess various models of shepherding in the church and develop a usable model for use in their churches
- To help the student develop a theology of pastoral ministry and implement a plan for pastoral ministry

##### **Module PR 3** *Counseling and Christian Ministry*

Purpose:

- To help the student think biblically about the role of counseling in the church
- To impart a vision and implement a plan for the ministry of counseling in the church
- To give the pastor tools to help him identify and equip fellow church members in counseling ministry

##### **Module PR** *Theology of Missions and Evangelism*

Purpose:

- To equip pastors with a biblical theological framework to understand the mission of the church
- To help pastors understand the latest trends in Mission so that they can help design a missions program for their church
- To give pastors a biblical understanding of

evangelism and how to pastor a community  
Topics include contextualization, evangelism, social concern, and current trends in global mission. The practicum will provide instruments for diagnosing church health/growth patterns and for building growth strategies.

#### *Pastoral Ministry Concentration*

##### **Module PM 2** *Communication*

Purpose:

- To consider important principles in order to improve effective communication of biblical truth
- To help pastors reflect upon and improve their own teaching and preaching skills
- To help refresh and renew students in their enthusiasm and effectiveness in communicating God's word

Topics include the life of the pastor, communication theory and principles of learning.

##### **Module PM 4** *Leadership*

Purpose:

- To clarify the biblical calling and job description of a pastor in the light of contemporary cultural, church, and kingdom developments
- To glean principles of spiritual leadership from Nehemiah
- To help students lead their homes, gain and impart vision to their churches, establish workable structures for fulfilling the Great Commission in their churches and communities, train and work with their elders as a team, and set priorities and manage their time

This module is designed so that in class discussion, students can apply these principles in very practical ways to their particular situations. Topics include the dynamics of spiritual renewal, cell church model for pastoring, discipling, evangelizing, and individual philosophy of ministry.



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## {Course Descriptions}

### PRACTICAL THEOLOGY – D.MIN. MODULES

#### **Module PM 51 *Pastor as Physician of the Soul***

Purpose:

- To revisit a neglected aspect of pastoral care which views the pastor as the “physician of the soul,” whose work was called “the cure of the souls”
- To understand the dynamics of conversion experiences and how churches can foster an environment in which sincere inquirers are genuinely welcomed
- To understand the dynamics of spiritual growth, with particular focus on the importance of community in genuine growth
- To study the doctrines of salvation from the perspective of how they actually impact the hearts as well as the heads of parishioners

Topics covered will constantly press the issue of experiential use of the doctrines of grace. This will include a “case study” approach to Christian experience.

#### **Module PM 54 *Biblical Conflict Resolution***

Purpose:

- To equip students with the knowledge and skills of a biblical systematic theology of conflict resolution that can be immediately employed in a practical manner in the local church or para-church organization

Biblical conflict resolution is a sub-discipline of biblical counseling and, therefore, students are expected to work with counseling issues and participate in role-play cases in class.

#### **Module PM 56 *Pastoral Ministry in World Literature***

Purpose:

- To nurture the soul of the pastor by studying classic works of literature in which a minister of the gospel is the protagonist and in which pastoral ministry is a central theme
- To stimulate the imagination of the pastor, providing a rich body of material for further teaching and discipleship

Topics covered include primary texts dealing with the pastor in community and popular perceptions of the pastorate and their implications for local ministry; literature as an ideal context for

exploring the life of the pastor, including his calling, temptations, and frustrations; and literature as providing a broad conception of pastoral ministry and the form it takes in different cultures. The course would be equally valuable for ministers and their wives.

*Winter Term. Mr. Ryken.*

#### ***Counseling Concentration***

#### **Module PC 1 *Biblical Models of People and Change***

**This module is divided into the following segments:**

##### *Dynamics of Biblical Change*

Purpose:

- To equip students to teach a biblical model of counseling in their church
- To build a firsthand understanding of the progressive sanctification process
- To enable students to connect biblical truth to the case study realities and details of lives lived

Topics covered include the nature of idolatry and faith; the relationship between motive and action; the way Christ’s past, present, and future grace intersects with and affects how people live their daily lives; and the interplay of situational factors with a person’s actions and reactions.

##### *Human Personality*

Purpose:

- To deepen students’ understanding of biblical doctrine as it applies to the person
- To examine what doctrines are especially important to apply in this generation
- To understand how to apply biblical doctrine in personal ministry
- To be able to uncover the implicit theology in other models of personal ministry and dialogue effectively about these issues



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## {Course Descriptions}

### PRACTICAL THEOLOGY – D.MIN. MODULES

Topics covered include a review of systematic theological categories with a commitment to developing multiple applications, an examination of both Christian and non-Christian counseling case studies with an eye to enrich them with our theological work, and the practical application of a biblical-theological approach to the study of people.

#### **Module PC 2 *Methods of Biblical Change and Interacting with Psychology***

**This module is divided into the following segments:**

##### *Methods of Biblical Change*

Purpose:

- To equip students to teach counseling methods in their church
- To help students develop a functional biblical counseling worldview
- To help students understand the importance of heart change as a methodological goal
- To develop an understanding of the role of Scripture in biblical counseling
- To highlight and practice the critical skills of effectiveness in biblical counseling

Topics covered include how to build a counseling relationship, how to gather and interpret data, how to function as an agent of repentance, and how to guide and assist others as they seek to apply change to daily life.

##### *Theology and Secular Psychology*

Purpose:

- To teach students how to understand psychologists' observations, theories, and practices, and how to engage them critically, humbly, and lovingly
- To reinterpret through a redemptive gaze the things that psychologists see most clearly and care about most deeply
- To understand where biblical counseling fits in our cultural context, both within the evangelical church and within the surrounding mental health system

Topics covered include the skills of reinterpretation and redemptive interaction; historical overview of the biblical counseling and the evangelical psychotherapy movements; the lay of the land in contemporary counseling; assessment of motivation theories and self-esteem theory; and primary source readings from a half dozen representative psychologists, ranging from high culture to self-help.

#### **Module PC 3 *Family Counseling, Public Ministry of the Word, and Lay Ministry***

**This module is divided into the following segments:**

##### *Marriage Counseling*

Purpose:

- To help students develop a rich, biblical theological view of marriage and relationships that challenges popular goals for marriage/relationship counseling and provides powerful hope and direction
- To provide students with conceptual and methodological tools for marriage counseling that are rooted in a biblical worldview of marriage and that recognize the unique challenges of marriage counseling
- To interact with prevailing secular models of marriage counseling within a biblical worldview
- To begin to develop the ability to offer relational skills within a larger context of heart change
- To consider current marriage problem areas impacting the church

Topics covered include a biblical theological review of marriage and relationships; and an introduction to systems theory, gender differences, communication, conflict, divorce counseling, spouse abuse, and step-families. Counseling videos will be used to help the student gain a sense of the counseling process.

##### *Counseling in the Local Church*

Purpose:

- To broaden students' understanding of counseling to include all relationships



## {Course Descriptions}

### PRACTICAL THEOLOGY – D.MIN. MODULES

- To build a thoroughly biblical understanding of the local church as a ministering community where everyone plays a part
- To help students find their place of ministry within the context of the local church and to help others do the same
- To see the importance of both public and private ministry of the Word and how they interrelate
- To examine present ministry opportunities

Topics covered include a biblical foundation for private ministry of the Word; the role of community and relationships in the process of sanctification; developing a practical ecclesiology; and developing an eye of ministry opportunities such as conflict resolution, evangelism, and church discipline.



### Module PC 4 *Counseling Problems*

**This module is divided into the following segments:**

#### *Counseling Problems and Procedures*

Purpose:

- To identify the essential features of biblical counseling
- To identify current counseling issues that are apparent in the church
- To appreciate Scripture's depth as it addresses common problems such as suffering, anger, and anxiety
- To prepare students to move toward people with any type of struggle in a way that is helpful and Christ-centered

Topics covered include abuse, guilt and legalism, fear, anger, bipolar, schizophrenia, anorexia and bulimia, and addictions.

#### *Counseling and Physiology*

Purpose:

- To equip with a nuanced and practical biblical anthropology that will help distinguish between spiritual and physical issues in the lives of counselees
- To deepen understanding of a select group of acute and chronic problems having physiological manifestations, particularly those that affect intellect and mood
- To develop biblical strategies for pursuing counselees with such problems
- To sharpen abilities to critique the reigning presuppositions of biological psychiatry that serve to undermine Scripture's authority in the counseling process

Topics covered include biblical anthropology and its counseling implications on neuropsychology, psychopharmacology, dementia, traumatic brain injury, psychiatry, obsessive-compulsive disorder, panic attacks and hallucinations, attention deficit disorder, addiction, homosexuality, and autism.



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## {Course Descriptions}

### PRACTICAL THEOLOGY – D.MIN. MODULES

#### **Module PC 5 *Counseling Observation***

Purpose:

- To see the application of a biblical model of counseling
- To learn how to manage a counseling hour
- To understand how ministry is done in the context of a relationship
- To provide direction in counseling

Students will observe counseling through a one-way mirror and meet with the counselor following the counseling session. Instead of addressing predetermined topics, the class will discuss topics that arise out of the counseling case.

#### ***Urban Mission Concentration***

#### **Module PU 1 *Mission Strategies/Globalization***

Purpose:

- To learn what globalization is and how it affects virtually all contexts
- To understand the connection between urbanization and globalization as interlocking forces affecting life circumstances
- To be able to strategize as to how best to reach the people in the student's ministry context with the transforming power of Christ

#### **Module PU 2 *Contextual Theology***

Purpose:

- To sketch the history and recent developments revolving around contextualization
- To outline issues involved in contextualization and sample current responses to these issues
- To provide the student with opportunities to test his or her theories by sample attempts at the contextualization of theology
- To critique current attempts at contextual theology in order to highlight strengths and weaknesses and determine challenges to the student's own growth

#### **Module PU 3 *Community Analysis/Demographics***

Purpose:

- To understand the major factors involved in urbanization in the developing countries and ethnicization of North American cities
- To develop an in-depth knowledge of one particular community, including its place in the various political, economic, educational, and health, etc., systems in which it is a part and the nature of the people living there
- To analyze the demographic information from the standpoint of Christian evangelism and the church, and begin to integrate this information into mission strategy
- To become adept in handling surveys, questionnaires, and field research techniques with a view to using them for urban ministry
- To be able and motivated to interpret demographic realities to fellow Christians so that the churches where the students attend and minister may be moved to action

#### **Module PU 4 *Mission Anthropology***

Purpose:

- To acquaint students with anthropological concepts, particularly culture and worldview
- To expose students to anthropological methodology, particularly participant observation and ethnographic interviewing
- To challenge students in their understanding of themselves and others as culturally-formed beings
- To teach students the proper method of cross-cultural analysis
- To guide students into learning when to use the etic and when to use the emic perspective in studying culture



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