Course Description:

A study of the role of the pastor/missionary in educational ministry. The course emphasizes the biblical and theological foundations of educational ministry while at the same time examining the influences of various cultural expressions on the practice of education. Students are expected to acquire skills that will allow them to develop educational ministry that is sensitive to biblical/theological principles while exhibiting insight into the cultural phenomena that influence education.

Course Objectives:

For the students to be able to formulate a sound biblical and theological foundation for the educational ministry of the Church.

For the students to develop the sensitivity and tools for analyzing the educational ministry of the church within the context of cultural diversity.

For the students to be able to describe the role of the pastor/missionary in educational ministry in various cultural settings.

For students to be able to describe characteristics of the individuals to whom they will minister with particular attention to cultural variables.

For students to be able to plan and evaluate educational ministry within various cultural contexts.

Course Requirements:

Read at least 2000 pages on the topic of intercultural Christian education. A reading report containing author, title, publication data and number of pages must be submitted by the date when papers are due.

Write a paper of twenty-five pages on an intercultural educational problem. The topic should be one that you encounter in the course of your ministry. Describe the situation, set out the relevant biblical and theological concerns. Isolate the cultural concerns and show how your own culture handles the matter and explain why you must make adjustments for the culture in which you minister. Describe how the situation can best be handled within the confines of the culture in which you minister. Be careful to address such matters as the emic and etic concerns.

All papers must conform to guidelines for D.Min. papers adopted by RTS. Papers not submitted to the D.Min. office on the date set by that office will be penalized.

All papers submitted with the appropriate number of pages will begin with an assumed grade of 100 percent. Deductions from that grade may be taken according to the following criteria:

Up to ten percent for clarity, thoroughness, thoughtfulness, and matters of style for the entire paper.
Up to ten percent for how well the pertinent issues in the biblical and theological basis for Christian education are addressed. The paper should analyze the educational situation in such a way that the biblical and theological principles of Christian education are set forth in both the student’s native culture and in the culture of his ministry.

Up to ten percent for how well the paper uses the tools of exegesis, theological reflection and cultural analysis in developing a useful approach to the educational situation. The paper must emphasize the practical implications of using both biblical/theological and anthropological tools in dealing with concrete situations encountered in the practice of ministry.