

2PT534 Field Education Seminar

Reformed Theological Seminary - Orlando
Wednesdays 3:00pm-4:00pm
Spring Semester, 2008
Instructor: Rev. Chuck DeGroat, M.Div., M.A.
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PURPOSE

A balanced seminary curriculum fosters a clear exegesis of Scripture (normative), a relevant exegesis of culture (situational), and a deep exegesis of the soul (existential). The three represent faith, hope and love. In this hermeneutical circle of revelation, we are invited to a lived theology. This course unites all three, as the student engages in a biblical (normative), corporate (situational), and internal (existential) examination of his/her internship experience and call to kingdom service. Through this process, the student will be better equipped to serve the Kingdom.

OBJECTIVES

At the completion of this course, students will:

1. **NORMATIVE** – Process his/her internship experience biblically, seeking to understand how God's word intersects with kingdom-service realities such as leadership models, philosophy, ecclesiology, and more.
2. **SITUATIONAL** – Process his/her internship corporately through class conversation about the experience.
3. **EXISTENTIAL** – Process his/her internship internally through a process of self-examination.

FORMAT

Teaching will include student presentation and discussion.

REQUIRED TEXTS

1. Allender, D. *Leading with a Limp*

SUGGESTED READINGS

1. Bennet, Arthur (ed). *The Valley of Vision* (a compilation of Puritan prayers)
2. Brueggemann, Walter. *Cadences of Home: Preaching among Exiles*
3. Buechner, Frederick. *Telling the Truth: The Gospel as Comedy, Tragedy and Fairy Tale*
4. Crabb, Larry. *The Safest Place on Earth*
5. Dawn, *The Sense of the Call* and *The Unnecessary Pastor* (co-authored by Peterson)
6. Nouwen, Henri. *The Way of the Heart*
7. Oden, Thomas. *Classical Pastoral Care*

8. Peterson, Eugene. *The Contemplative Pastor and Under the Unpredictable Plant*
9. Roberts, Wes. *God's Original Intent for the Church*
10. Rutherford, Samuel. *Letters*
11. Scazzero, Peter. *The Emotionally Healthy Church*
12. Willimon, Walter. *Pastor and Calling and Character*

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. PRESENCE – Come to class. Plan to engage and participate.
2. READING – Read *Leading with a Limp* in its entirety as early in the semester as possible.
3. PRESENTATION – Present a 10-15 minute reflection on what God is teaching you about Himself, yourself and kingdom service/call. A general guideline for the presentation is as follows:
 - a. Your internship experience (you may include other valuable ministry experiences)
 - b. What was most helpful.
 - c. What was least helpful and/or frustrating.
 - d. Areas of personal strength.
 - e. Areas of need, weakness, etc.
 - f. A vision for the kind of kingdom service that might best fit you in terms of your character, giftedness, relational style, internal/external call, etc.
4. CONVERSATION – Help create an atmosphere of honest, gracious, and challenging feedback.

GRADING SCALE

(S) Satisfactory

(U) Unsatisfactory

A grade of Unsatisfactory will result from unexcused absences, failure to complete the class presentation, or a significant lack of participation which would amount to absence.