

2PT535/01	Senior Seminar <u>Dr. Scott R. Swain</u>	2	Wednesday 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM, February 01 - May 11 A required M.Div. course that cannot be taken until at least sixty hours of the M.Div. curriculum have been completed. This course seeks to pull together the learning of the program by applying it to practical pastoral issues.
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## Required texts

Simon Gathercole, "The Gospel of Paul and the Gospel of the Kingdom," in *God's Power to Save: One gospel for a complex world?*, ed. Chris Green (available from professor)

Jason Hood, "Christ-Centred Interpretation Only? Moral Instruction from Scripture's Self-Interpretation as Caveat and Guide" (available from professor)

Danny Hyde, *In Living Color: Images of Christ and the Means of Grace* (Reformed Fellowship, 2009) **ISBN-13: 9780979367731**

Marilynne Robinson, *The Death of Adam: Essays on Modern Thought* (Picador, 2005) **ISBN-13: 9780312425326**

Carl R. Trueman, *Republicrat: Confessions of a Liberal Conservative* (P & R, 2010) **ISBN-13: 9781596381834**

**Note:** In order to prepare for class presentations, students will be expected to read other relevant resources as well.

## Assignments

**1. Reading report (30 %):** On the last day of class, students will hand in a reading report stating the percentage of the assigned readings that they have completed by that date.

**2. Class presentations (40 %):** On the first day of class, students will be assigned to a group or groups that will be responsible for doing a class presentation on a topic related to the assigned readings. Presentations will be graded according to the following criteria:

(a) **Substance:** Did the presentation display a clear understanding of the issues, rooted in significant research and reflection? Did it fairly represent all sides of the issues? Did it present a compelling case for a position on the issues that is "reformed according to the Word of God"?

(b) **Presentation:** Was the class presentation clear, interesting, and creative? Did the presentation engage class participation?

(c) **Payoff:** Did the presentation provide fellow classmates with a framework for thinking about/acting upon this issue as a Reformed pastor-theologian? Did the presentation introduce valuable resources that will aid further reflection upon this topic in the future?

**3. Class participation (30 %):** Students are expected to attend and to interact with all class presentations.

**Course Objectives Related to MDiv\* Student Learning Outcomes**

Course: Senior Seminar  
Professor: Scott R. Swain  
Campus: Orlando  
Date: Spring 2011

<b><u>MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes</u></b>		<b><u>Rubric</u></b>	<b><u>Mini-Justification</u></b>
<p><i>In order to measure the success of the MDiv curriculum, RTS has defined the following as the intended outcomes of the student learning process. Each course contributes to these overall outcomes. This rubric shows the contribution of this course to the MDiv outcomes.</i></p> <p><i>*As the MDiv is the core degree at RTS, the MDiv rubric will be used in this syllabus.</i></p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Strong</li> <li>➤ Moderate</li> <li>➤ Minimal</li> <li>➤ None</li> </ul>	
<b>Articulation (oral &amp; written)</b>	Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both oral and written, of essential biblical, theological, historical, and cultural/global information, including details, concepts, and frameworks.	Strong	Presentations emphasize articulation.
<b>Scripture</b>	Significant knowledge of the original meaning of Scripture. Also, the concepts for and skill to research further into the original meaning of Scripture and to apply Scripture to a variety of modern circumstances. (Includes appropriate use of original languages and hermeneutics; and integrates theological, historical, and cultural/global perspectives.)	Moderate	Readings and presentations promote a responsible use of Scripture.
<b>Reformed Theology</b>	Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.	Moderate	Presentations apply Reformed theology to specific issues.
<b>Sanctification</b>	Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student's sanctification.	Moderate	Presentations aim to form participants according to the image of Christ.
<b>Desire for Worldview</b>	Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God.	Strong	Readings and presentations serve the formation of a Christian worldview.
<b>Winsomely Reformed</b>	Embraces a winsomely Reformed ethos. (Includes an appropriate ecumenical spirit with other Christians, especially Evangelicals; a concern to present the Gospel in a God-honoring manner to non-Christians; and a truth-in-love attitude in disagreements.)	Strong	Presentations promote charitable dialogue, fair presentation of differing views, and winsome modes of communication.
<b>Preach</b>	Ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.	None	
<b>Worship</b>	Knowledgeable of historic and modern Christian-worship forms; and ability to construct and skill to lead a worship service.	Moderate	Some issues related to public worship addressed.
<b>Shepherd</b>	Ability to shepherd the local congregation: aiding in spiritual maturity; promoting use of gifts and callings; and encouraging a concern for non-Christians, both in America and worldwide.	Strong	Presentations provide opportunity to enhance the skills and character of pastor-theologians.
<b>Church/World</b>	Ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues.	Strong	Presentations promote cultural engagement and denominational understanding and discernment.