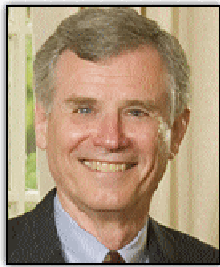


THEOLOGY OF MINISTRY
RTS Orlando 2DM801 CORE
Dr. Allen Curry
July 11-15, 2011

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will be a study of the biblical and Reformed view of integrating theology into ministry in a way that results in the transformation of lives and culture. Students will be taught how to use ministry as a means to integrate their studies in exegesis, systematic theology, church history, and the social sciences. Students will also be taught how to develop a working theology of ministry in order to apply the practical results to the practice of ministry and to evaluate their ministries in which they are now engaged.

COURSE INSTRUCTOR



Dr. Allen Curry became recognized as an able Christian educator and gifted administrator through his many years of service for Great Commission Publications. As the Director of Educational Services and Coordinator of Production he wrote educational materials and conducted hundreds of training seminars for teachers. He has continued to serve as a consultant. Prior to his work in publishing, Dr. Curry served as a pastor for three years. He is the author of *The God We Love and Serve* and articles on various subjects. For a number of years he served as Vice President for Academic Affairs at RTS and as Academic Dean of the Jackson campus. He has a B.A. from Geneva College, and M.Div. from Westminster Theological Seminary and Ed.M. and Ed.D. from Temple University. Allen is Professor Emeritus, Reformed Theological Seminary in Jackson, MS.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

For the students to be able to formulate a theology of ministry that will guide their practice.

For the students to be able to review the history of the development of the theology of ministry and to isolate issues that inform their practice of ministry and to show how these issues can enlighten their practice.

For students to be able to relate major themes of Christian theology to the practice of ministry.

For students to be able to formulate exegetical arguments for their theology of ministry.

For students to be able to evaluate their own ministry in light of the theology of ministry they develop.

For students to be able to recognize the role of the social sciences in the practice of ministry and to compare the relative value of those disciplines with the direction they get from the exegetical and theological sciences.

For students to be able to embrace their roles in the church, broadly considered, and to set an example for their parishioners and colleagues that reflects the Bible's teaching about the role of the minister.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

Integration Paper

A twenty page paper describing a problem that the student encounters in his ministry and showing how his theology of ministry provides direction for instituting programs in the church that lead to a resolution of the problem.

The paper will be graded on the basis of how clearly the situation in the church is described, the extent to which pertinent issues in theology of ministry are expounded and applied to the problem, and the usefulness of the solution. Consideration will also be given to the extent that the paper: reflects the reading done by the student, integrates material from class lectures, and reflects serious thought about how theology of ministry can and should guide your practice of ministry.

Integration Papers will be received in the D.Min. office by October 28, 2011. Email to jsisler@rts.edu in Word document: Lastname.CourseTitle.S11.IP (Sample: Smith.TheologyOfMinistry.S11.IP).

Course Reading

Each student must read 2000 pages of new reading on the topic of theology of ministry and write a one-page standard book report (see form below) on each book or article over 50 pages in length. The reading reports are due by the first day of class, July 11, 2011. Please see the following reporting form samples. Email to jsisler@rts.edu in a Word document for the first day of class. Please save as Lastname.CourseTitle.S11.RR (for Reading Report)

Required Reading: (If not previously read).

Baxter, Richard, *The Reformed Pastor*. Banner of Truth, 1974 (256p)
ISBN: 9781456568573

Oden, Thomas, *Pastoral Theology*. HarperCollins, 1982. (372p) ISBN: 9780060663537

Osmer, Richard R., *Practical Theology: An Introduction*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2008
(241p) ISBN: 9780802817655

Witmer, Timothy Z., *The Shepherd Leader*. P&R, 2010 (264p) ISBN: 9781596381315

Complete the remainder of your 2000 pages from the following:

- Carson, D. A., *Memoirs of an Ordinary Pastor*. Crossway, 2008 (148p) ISBN: 9781433501999
- Hanson, David, *The Art of Pastoring: Ministry Without all the Answers*. InterVarsity, 1994. (180p) ISBN: 9780830816699
- Laniak, Timothy, *Shepherds After My Own Heart*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 2006 (253p) ISBN: 9780830826216
- Lawrence, Bill, *Effective Pastoring Giving Vision, Direction, and Care to Your Church*. Word, 1999. (239p) ISBN: 9780849913532
- Peterson, Eugene, *The Contemplative Pastor: Returning to the Art of Spiritual Direction*. Eerdmans, 1994. (179) ISBN-13: 9780802801142
- Peterson, Eugene, *Working the Angles*. Eerdmans, 1994. (192p) ISBN: 9780802802651
- Purves, Andrew, *Reconstructing Pastoral Theology*. Westminster John Knox, 2004 (232p) ISBN: 9780664227333
- Tidball, Derek, *Ministry By The Book: New Testament Patterns for Pastoral Leadership*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 2008 (270p) ISBN-13: 9780830838592
- Ventura, Rob & Walker, Jeremy, *A Portrait of Paul: Identifying a True Minister of Christ*. Reformation Heritage Books, 2010, (207p) ISBN: 9781601780904
- Willimon, William H., *The Theology and Practice of Ordained Ministry*. Abingdon, 2002 (336p) ISBN: 9780687045327

Please send your Reading Report as one (1) Word document. See the following Report Report guide which includes the summary and all reports in one file.

Save your Word file as this sample: [Smith.TheologyOfMinistry.S11.RR](#) and email to jsisler@rts.edu by the first day of class.

**Enter Book Title
& Bibliographic Reference**

Overview—Give a brief overview of the book, including its theme, perspective and approach.

Critique—Offer a brief critique of the book, including elements of strength and weakness.

Application—Offer some specific application to your own ministry— demonstrating the value and relevance of the material in this book.

Best Quote—Be sure to include the page number where the quote can be found.

Insert page break and enter your next report with page breaks after each book.

This is a sample cover sheet for your Integration Paper

**THEOLOGY OF MINISTRY, 2DM801
INTEGRATION PAPER**

Presented to Dr. Allen Curry

**By
(Add Your Name &
Contact Information)**

In Partial Fulfillment of the
Requirements for the Degree Doctor of Ministry
REFORMED THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY ORLANDO

Completed _____ (Date)