

PT 518 PASTORAL MINISTRY SYLLABUS

***REFORMED THEOLOGICAL
SEMINARY
CHARLOTTE***

SPRING 2008

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Syllabus for PT518 Pastoral Ministry

“The Pastoral Ministry: Towards a Biblical-Theological Understanding
of the Minister and his Work”

Reformed Theological Seminary - Charlotte

SPRING 2009

Dr. Michael A. Milton

President and Professor Of Practical Theology, RTS Charlotte

Professor Name And Contact Information:

[Michael A. Milton, Ph.D.](#), President and Professor of Practical Theology, RTS Charlotte

Appointments: The “private ministry of the Word” is important and a key part of the class. In order to meet all of the demands of this office and to accommodate students’ need to meet privately, please make any request for an appointment through Miss Helen Holbrook, Executive Assistant to the President of the Seminary, at 704-688-4216 or through email at hholbrook@rts.edu.

Brief description of the class

The Pastoral Ministry course is an introductory course in pastoral theology which shall seek to mine a portion of the depths of the Pastoral Epistles, as well as other Scriptures, to locate the many facets of the vocation of Minister of the Gospel, including the Biblical warrant for the office, calling to the office, features of the pastor’s role and his work, dangers of the office, and practical considerations for transitioning from seminarian to pastor. Special attention will also be given to pastoral preparation for and conducting of regular and occasional services in the Church such as Weddings, baptisms, communicant classes, visitation of the sick and dying, and funerals.

The class will also allow students to focus on one of several areas of interest within the larger study, including military and institutional chaplaincy or Reformed campus ministry. In this area, or in the generalist area of interest, the student will become connected in a mentoring relationship with a chaplain, or campus minister or a pastor. A “learning contract” will be negotiated with the mentor, and certain questions and times of reflection and prayer will be required. This student and prospective mentor should be ready to validate no less than 10 hours of time spent together in theological reflection and prayer about the pastoral ministry. Some of this time may be spent through email correspondence and telephone contact, but at 8 of the 10 hours should be spent in face-to-face time.

Moreover, each student will gain practical experience in emergency pastoral care ministry through a special relationship between RTS Charlotte and Presbyterian Hospital. No less than 48 hours should be validated in this way. More information about this part of the course can be gained by making your necessary contact with Mrs. Tari Williamson at twilliamson@rts.edu.

Required coursework (with grading percentages)

Each student will be required to show regular attendance and appropriate participation in the class, meeting on Tuesdays, from 0900 until 1200, with chapel in between from 1000 until 1050.

Each student shall present three major papers by the conclusion of the class on May 12th:

(1) Hospital Pastoral Care Work: The student submits a 5-page theological reflection paper on his work at Presbyterian Hospital. The paper may focus on one or more aspects of ministry encountered while on duty there, and relate lessons learned (about God or ministry or yourself or others or all of these) through the lens of Scripture. This should be written as if writing to your congregation, letting them know what you discovered in your work there (20 % of the final grade);

(2) Pastoral Biography Paper: The student will submit a 5 page theological reflection on a favorite Minister of the Gospel from history (not living) and include a biographical sketch, reason for choosing this minister, areas of success and trial, summary of his contributions, and a listing of lessons learned about pastoral ministry for your own life (20 % of the final grade);

(3) Vision and Ministry Plan: The student, using a case study church approved by the professor beforehand, will produce a comprehensive Vision and Ministry Plan that will include:

Vision Plan

Burden for Ministry

Values for Ministry

Vision of Ministry

Philosophy of Ministry

Strategies for Ministry

Ministry Plan

Outreach

Evangelism equipping plan

Visitor welcome ministry

Visitor follow through ministry

Discipleship

Long term preaching plan

Pastor's Welcome Class outline

Christian education plan from nursery to all adults

Special Ministries (children, seniors, Members with disabilities; list at least three) (20 % of final grade)

Required readings (20 % of final grade)

Mid Term Exams (10 % of final grade)

Final Exams (10 % of final grade)

Deadlines

All papers are due by the last day of class. All readings must be completed with a signed statement of completion in to the professor by the last day of class.

Required Reading:

Baxter, Richard, *The Reformed Pastor*, (Regent College Publishing, 2001).
9781573832014

Dawn, Marva J., *The Unnecessary Pastor: Rediscovering the Call*, (Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1999).
9780802846785

Peterson, Eugene H., *The Contemplative Pastor: Returning to the Art of Spiritual Direction* (Wm. B. Eerdmans Company, 1993).
9780802801145

Stott, John R.W., *The Preacher's Portrait: Some New Testament Word Studies*, (Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1964).
9780802811914

Milton, Michael A., *Cooperation Without Compromise: Faithful Gospel Witness in a Pluralistic Setting*, (Wipf & Stock Publishers, 2007).
9781556353901

Milton, Michael A., *Leaving a Career to Follow a Call: A Vocational Guide to the Ordained Ministry*, (Wipf & Stock Publishers, 2000).
9781579103472

Purves, Andrew, *Pastoral Theology in the Classical Tradition*, (Westminster John Knox Press, 2001).
9780664222413

On Reserve:

Barth, Karl, *The Theology of John Calvin*. Trans. Geoffrey W. Bromiley, (Wm. B. Eerdmans Company, 1995). Read pp. 243-383
9780802806963

Bridges, Charles, *Christian Ministry*, (Carlisle, PA: Banner of Truth Trust, 1958).
Selections Only.
9780851510873

Fairbairn, Patrick, *Pastoral Theology: A treatise on the office and duties of the Christian pastor*, (Old Paths Publications, 1992). *Selections Only*.
9780963255703

Garretson, James M., *Princeton and Preaching: Archibald Alexander and the Christian Ministry* (Carlisle, PA: Banner of Truth Trust, 2006). *Selections Only*. Pp. 31-79, 177-211
9780851518930

London, H.B., *Refresh, Renew, Revive*, (Focus on the Family Publishing, 1996), *Selections Only*.
9781561794678

Packer, J.I., *A Quest for Godliness: The Puritan Vision of the Christian Life*, (Crossway Books, 1994). *Selections Only*.
9780891078193

Spurgeon, Charles, *Lectures To My Students*, (Carlisle, PA: Banner of Truth Trust, 2008).
Selections Only.
9780851519660

Thornton, Martin, *Pastoral Theology: A Reorientation* (SPCK, 1954). *Selections Only*.
ASIN: B0018EK9WG (No ISBN Available). Read pp. 3-7; 8-12; 13-17; and 18-21.

Recommended Reading:

Dallimore, Arnold A., *George Whitefield: God's Anointed Servant in the Great Revival of the Eighteenth Century*, (Crossway Books, 1990).
9780891075534

Dallimore, Arnold A., *Spurgeon: A New Biography*, (Carlisle, PA: Banner of Truth Trust, 1985).
9780851514512

Marsden, George M., *Jonathan Edwards: A Life*, (Yale University Press, 2004).
9780300105964

Murray, Iain H., *David Martyn Lloyd-Jones: The First Forty Years 1899-1939*, (Carlisle, PA: Banner of Truth Trust, 1982).
9780851513539

Murray, Iain H., *David Martyn Lloyd-Jones: The Fight of Faith 1939-1981*, (Carlisle, PA: Banner of Truth Trust, 1990).
9780851515649

Peterson, Eugene H., *Five Smooth Stones for Pastoral Work*, (Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1992).
9780802806600

Ryle, John Charles, *Light From Old Times or Protestant Facts and Men*, (Kessinger Publishing, 2008).
9781436596688

Schaeffer, Francis A., *No Little People*, (Crossway Books, 2003).
9781581345186