ThM Seminar  
P2HT821—Puritans and the Westminster Assembly  
REFORMED THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY  
ORLANDO, FLORIDA  

PROFESSOR: Dr. Frank E. Farrell  
DATES: 8-12 JANUARY 2007  
PLACE: RTS Seminar Room—9am-3pm

Course Objectives  
This seminar will include tutorials, lectures, and student reports. It will cover English Puritanism of the 16th and 17th centuries, including its impact on early America. Developments in theology, ecclesiology, and worship are emphasized, with special attention to those of continuing interest in our day.

Required Textbooks  


Westminster Confession of Faith (any version)

Course Requirements  
A. Reading  
1. Read the assigned textbooks in their entirety before the seminar.

2. An additional 1350 pages will be required. This will come from the attached bibliography or other sources cleared with the instructor.

3. A final reading report is due on 26 March, which will constitute a statement that you have read the author, book, and pages indicated during the semester.
B. **Papers**

There will be **one major research paper** (20-25 pages) on a topic approved by the instructor. Topics will be suggested but others may be chosen, if approved. The complete first draft is due **5 March**. The final draft is due **9 April**.

There are also **two response papers** (6-10 pages) on the reading of the textbooks. One is to be a response to any two chapters of Packer and the other is a response to any 40 pages of Bunyan—for a total of three papers. These are formal papers with footnotes, analysis and critical response.

Both response papers are to be completed before the seminar and will be presented informally in the morning sessions followed by class discussion. The student is to provide the instructor with a copy of each paper on the first day of the session so that copies may be given to the class. The major research paper is 80% of the final grade, and each response paper is 10% of the final grade.

**Seminar Schedule:**  Lecture and Presentations (9 am – Noon)

8 JAN.................................................Introduction to Puritan Historiography
9 JAN.................................................Origins of Puritanism
10 JAN..............................................Early Puritanism
11 JAN..............................................Westminster Assembly and Puritans
12 JAN..............................................American Puritanism

**Tutorials:**  1pm – 3pm in Professor’s office
Post-Seminar (On-line) Schedule for January Session

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week of 15 JAN</th>
<th>Travel Week</th>
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<tr>
<td>Week of 22 JAN</td>
<td>3-5 page draft to Professor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week of 29 JAN</td>
<td>Professor responds to Student Papers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week of 5 FEB</td>
<td>5-7 pages to Professor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week of 12 FEB</td>
<td>Professor responds to Student Papers</td>
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<td>Week of 19 FEB</td>
<td>10-13 pages to Professor</td>
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**Please Note:** Each student should also send a copy of this draft to all seminar participants for feedback.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week of 26 FEB</th>
<th>All seminar participants provide feedback for student paper.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Week of 5 MAR</td>
<td>First draft to Professor</td>
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**Please Note:** Each student should also send a copy of this draft to all seminar participants for feedback.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week of 12 MAR</th>
<th>All seminar participants provide feedback for student paper.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Week of 19 MAR</td>
<td>Final touches on Final Draft</td>
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**Final Draft due 9 April 2007**

**Please Note:** All preliminary drafts will be via email. The final draft should be a hard copy of the paper and two copies should be mailed to RTS by the due date. Send to:

Dr. Frank E. Farrell  
Reformed Theological Seminary  
1231 Reformation Drive  
Oviedo, FL 32765

11/7/2006
Criteria for Evaluation of ThM Papers

I. Grammar and Style (25%)
   - Is the text clean of spelling mistakes?
   - Is the text punctuated correctly?
   - Does the sentence structure consistently adhere to basic rules of good grammar?
   - Does the footnote/bibliographic apparatus follow Turabian consistently? (Turabian, A Manual for Writers).
   - Is the paper written in clear, straight-forward style of academic prose (e.g., the guidelines in Strunk and White, The Elements of Style)?

II. Organization (25%)
   - Is the subject of the paper clearly delimited? Is it significant, but still manageable?
   - Does the subject correspond to what was assigned in the syllabus?
   - Does the paper have a well-designed thesis statement and outline?
   - Does the running text of the paper adhere to the outline, and are the larger divisions of the paper clearly signposted?
   - Are the sentences and paragraphs of the text linked together clearly and in such a way that the thought of the students builds throughout the paper with continuity and coherence?

III. Clarity and Force of Argument (25%)
   - Is a convincing case made to support the thesis statement?
   - Is the evidence marshaled to support the argument used judiciously?
   - Where the student provides exposition or summary, does she/he do so succinctly and objectively?
   - Are opposing viewpoints treated fairly?
   - Is there evidence of mature Christian reflection on the subject matter?

IV. Research (25%)
   - Does the paper draw on primary sources for its main evidence?
   - Are the secondary sources selected and used judiciously?
   - Does the paper demonstrate sufficient depth and breadth of research, given the nature and level of the assignment?

Recommended Resources


A FIRST BIBLIOGRAPHY

ENGLISH PURITAN THEOLOGY

This is a list of books with which to start if one aims at a comprehensive understanding of this complex theological and spiritual movement. No claim is made to completeness at any point. Articles are not included, and little notice is taken of the parallel movements in Reformed theology and spirituality in Scotland, Ireland, New England, France, and the Netherlands.

I. Aspects of the Historical Background

A. Contemporary sources and extracts:


B. Modern books: