



ERSKINE
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

For Christ and His Church

HT 560 - Reformed Spirituality

Fall Semester, 2011

Dale Walden Johnson, Ph.D.

Class meets: Wednesday morning, 8:00-11:00 AM

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Course Description:

This course examines the Biblical foundations, history, and theology of Reformed spirituality (also called the doctrine of the Christian life, or sanctification). Students will read spiritual classics such as Calvin's *Golden Booklet of the Christian Life*, Richard Baxter's *Reformed Pastor*, *The Heidelberg Catechism*, and others. Students also consider contributions from other Christian traditions such as the Holiness Movement and the Charismatic renewal, as well as from the history of Christian thinking about the contemplative life.

Course Purpose:

The purpose of this course is to develop the knowledge and skills introduced in church history, Bible and theology classes and thus build a theology of Reformed Spirituality.

Course Objectives:

The mission of Erskine Theological Seminary is to educate persons for ministry in the Christian Church. We thus encourage students to take classes such as Reformed Spirituality that contribute to the personal, devotional and theological life of the seminary student.

It is the instructor's goal that each student will be able to:

1. Identify key developments regarding spirituality in the History of Christianity
2. Identify key features of Spirituality, Christian devotion, sanctification and Reformed Spirituality
3. State the contributions of the Protestant reformers regarding spirituality
4. Explain key elements and characteristics of Reformed Spirituality
5. Explain the relationship between Pietism and Reformed Spirituality
6. **Most importantly, it is the goal of this instructor that each student cultivates spiritual disciplines resulting in a deeper love for our Savior and Redeemer.**

Course Methods:

The purpose and objectives of this course are achieved through three learning components and measurements. The first requires the completion of assigned reading and the mastery of lecture content measured by essay exams. The second is classroom participation. Each class will include lecture and the opportunity for discussion. Each student is expected to complete the assigned readings and offer informed opinions at the appropriate time. Thirdly, each student will write a paper related to Reformed Spirituality. The professor reserves the right to approve all paper topics.

Required Texts:

Students are expected to secure their own copies of all required textbooks. As a convenience, the seminary has a bookstore portal of the website at <http://www.erskineseminary.org/bookstore.html>. There you will find links to familiar vendors (CBD, Amazon, B&N, and Books-A-Million) and can check availability of texts, compare prices and place orders. The ETS Student Body Association will receive a modest percentage of the profits from purchases through this portal. The Erskine Bookstore will carry a limited number of copies of every required text and orders for books can be placed through the Campus Bookstore.

John H. Armstrong, *True Revival*, Harvest House Publishers, 2001.

ISBN-13: 978-0736905992

Michael Haykin, *The God Who Draws Near: An Introduction to Biblical Spirituality*.

Evangelical Press. ISBN-13: 9780852346389

Erroll Hulse, *The Doctrine and Practice of Holiness*, Faverdale North, Darlington, England: Evangelical Books, 2011. ISBN -13:978-085234-739-3

Recommended Texts:

John H. Armstrong, *True Revival, What Happens When God's Spirit Moves?*

Eugene, Oregon: Harvest House Publishers, 2001.

Joel Beeke, *Puritan Reformed Spirituality*. Darlington, England: Evangelical Press, 2006.

L. Bouyer, *Orthodox Spirituality and Protestant and Anglican Spirituality*, 1965 vol. 3 of *A History of Christian Spirituality*.

P. N. Brooks, ed., *Christian Spirituality: Essays in Honour of Gordon Rupp*, SCM, 1975.

John Bunyan, *The Pilgrim's Progress*. London: Penguin Books, 1987.

L. Dupre and D.E. Saliers, eds., *Christian Spirituality: Post-Reformation and Modern*, 1989.

David Cornick, *Let God be God: The Reformed Tradition*. Marynoll, NY: Orbis Books. ISBN-13: 978-1-57075-779-2

Alister E. McGrath, *Spirituality in an Age of Change...* Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1994. ISBN-13: 978-0310429210

C.E. Hambrick-Stowe, *The Practice of Piety: Puritan Devotional Disciplines in 17th Century New England*, 1982.

John H. Leith, *Calvin's Doctrine of the Christian Life*, John Knox/Westminster, 1989.

- Richard Lovelace, *Dynamics of Spiritual Life: An Evangelical Theology of Renewal*. IVP, 1979, ISBN 087784626X
 _____ .Renewal as a Way of Life. Downers Grove, IL: IVP, 1985
 ISBN 0-87784-594-8
- James I. Packer, *A Quest for Godliness: The Puritan Vision of the Christian Life*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 1990.
 _____ .*Keeping in Step with the Spirit: Finding Fulness In Our Walk with God*. Grand Rapids, Baker Books, revised ed., 2005. ISBN-13: 978-0801065583
- Joseph A. Pipa, Jr., and A. Andrew Wortman, eds., *Reformed Spirituality: Communion With Our Glorious God*. Taylors, SC: Southern Presbyterian Press, 2003.
- Lucien Joseph Richard, *The Spirituality of the Christian Life*, John Knox Press, 1974.
 Jill Raitt, et al., eds., *Christian Spirituality: High Middle Ages and Reformation*, 1987.
 L.E. Schmidt, *Holy Fairs: Scottish Communion and American Revivals in the Early Modern Period*, 1989.
- Richard Stauffer, *The Humanity of John Calvin*, Abingdon, 1971.
 James Tanis, *Dutch Calvinistic Pietism in the Middle Colonies...*, 1967.
 D.D. Wallace, Jr. ed., *The Spirituality of the Latter English Puritans*, 1987.
 _____ . *Calvin's Doctrine of the Christian Life*, Eerdmans, 1952 and Oliver & Boyd, 1959
- M. J. Westerkamp, *Triumph of the Laity: Scots- Irish Piety and the Great Awakening, 1625-176*, 1988.

Course Requirements:

Attendance at each class is vital to the success of each student.

The purpose and objectives of this class are achieved through lectures, and class discussion, assessed through two exams a research paper and an oral presentation on the paper. The research paper will be 10-12 pages of text. Specific details will follow.

Criteria for Grading Research Papers:

Adherence to instructions

A clear thesis statement/historiographical issue as appropriate

Strong defense of the thesis

Convincing solution or resolution of the issues

Depth, analysis and use of sources including primary source and journal article

Proper use of English

Full and proper documentation of sources

Grading Scale:

See the current on-line seminary catalog

Style and Bibliographic Formatting Requirements:

All written work must conform to the latest edition of the Turabian manual of style. All papers must be typed/processed (twelve point type, double spaced, one-inch margins) and fully documented following the standards in the "Style and Form Standards for all masters Level Programs (Erskine Seminary). In most courses, footnotes (or endnotes)

and a bibliography are required in each paper. The paper's cover page and bibliography are not counted toward the page requirements.

Official Seminary Policies are found at the following link:

http://seminary.erskine.edu/content_policies/SeminaryPoliciesforETSSStudents.pdf

Course Outline: Lecture and Reading Schedule

Topics for September:

Distribute syllabus, explanations, etc.
 Defining Spirituality: A Historical Overview
 Monastic Spirituality in the Middle Ages
 Continental Spirituality: The *Devotio Moderna*
 Lutheran Spirituality and the 3rd Use of the Law

Read by the end of the month/complete the following:

On Reserve in the Library, TBA
 John Armstrong, *True Revival*, TBA
 Erroll Hulse, *Holiness*, Chap. 1-4
 Michael Haykin, *The God who Draws Near*
 Hughes Oliphant Old, *What is Reformed Spirituality?*
 (Professor will distribute this essay to students)

Topics for October:

Lutheran Spirituality, (contin.)
 Defining Reformed Spirituality
 John Calvin and the Christian Life, Part I and II
 Heidelberg, Reformed Confessions and Spirituality
 John Knox, Scotland and the Practice of Fasting
 Spiritualism and the Anabaptists

ESSAY EXAM #1- October 12

Read by the end of the month/complete the following:

Armstrong, *True Revival*, TBA
 Hulse, *Holiness*, Chap's 5 – 11

Topics for November:

The Crisis of Reformed Scholasticism
 Defining Puritanism
 Pietism: Spener, Francke and Halle
 Reformed and Puritan Spirituality

NO CLASSES – Week of Thanksgiving, Nov. 21-27

Read by the end of the month/complete the following:

Armstrong, *True Revival*, TBA

Hulse, *Holiness*, Chap's 12-18

Topics for December:

Mercersberg Theology/Piety (guest speaker, ?)
Scottish Sacramental Seasons
(NOTE: We will address these topics as time allows)

Brief Oral Presentations on Research Paper

Read by the end of the month: Finish both books

FINAL EXAMINATIONS: Dec. 5-9

Research Paper Due one week before Final Exam

Course Evaluations-End of course survey