

# DN958 CHURCH AND SACRAMENTS

*Summer 2016*

**3 Semester Credit Hours**

**Professor: R.J. Gore, Jr., Ph.D.**

Due West: 9AM -5 PM

Fridays: 4 June, 18 June, 2 July, 16 July, 13 August (plus Online Video)

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This course examines foundational issues, such as the nature and centrality of the sacraments, the priesthood of the believer, and the mission of the Church in the modern world. Students explore historical and contemporary attributes and marks of the Church. Special attention is given to the Biblical foundations of the Church in light of sociological reflections and theological constructs. Each student will produce a personal theology of Church and Sacrament, making use of Biblical, confessional, and ecclesial resources.

**COURSE PURPOSE:** To facilitate the student's development of an advanced theology of church and sacrament.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:** The mission of Erskine Theological Seminary is to educate persons for ministry in the Christian Church. As a part of that mission, one goal is to teach students to **do theology**, including the development of the student's own approach to the doctrine of Church and Sacraments. In this course conventional theological language and various approaches to ecclesiology are emphasized.

Specific objectives for this course are that, by the end of the course, students will:

1. Identify significant issues in the doctrine of Church and Sacraments.

**MDIVSLO1a,b**

2. Understand the changing face of the Church in the post-modern world and critique current practices in light of Scripture and the Christian mission. **MDIVSLO1c**

3. Examine the nature of Sacraments and their role in the worship and life of the church. **MDIVSLO2c**

4. Employ Biblical truth, confessional integrity, and pastoral concerns in the classroom discussions. **MDIVSLO1b,2a,4**

5. Develop a personal theology of Church and Sacrament in conjunction with an optional focus of the student's own selection. **MDIVSLO1b,3**

## **COURSE TEXTBOOKS:**

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) and can check availability of texts, compare prices, and place orders. The ETS SBA will receive a modest percentage of the profits from students' and professors' purchases through this portal. The Erskine Campus Bookstore will carry a limited number of copies of every required text and orders for books can be placed through the Campus Bookstore.

## **REQUIRED FOR ALL STUDENTS**

Clowney, Ed. *The Church*. Downers Grove: IVP, 1995. ISBN 978-0830815340  
 Malphurs, Aubrey. *A New Kind of Church*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2007. ISBN 978-080109189-6  
 Sweet, Leonard, ed. *The Church of the Perfect Storm*. Nashville: Abingdon, 2008. ISBN 978-0687650897

## **DOCTORAL STUDENTS WILL SELECT TWO OF THE FOLLOWING OPTIONS:**

**OPTION ONE: MISSIONAL CHURCH-** for students who are interested in focusing their reading on evangelism, mission, and renewal.

McNeal, Reggie. *Missional Renaissance*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2008. ISBN 978-0470243442

Rainer, Thom S. *Surprising Insights from the Unchurched*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan. 2008. 978-0310286134

Rainer, Thom S and Jess W. Rainer. *The Millennials*. Nashville: B&H Publishing, 2011. 978-1433670039

Rainer, Thom S and Sam S. Rainer III. *Essential Church*. Nashville: B&H Publishing, 2008. 978-0805443929

**OPTION TWO: EMERGING CHURCH-** for students who are interested in the emerging church, disillusioned Christians, and new forms of Christian experience

Belcher, Jim. *Deep Church*. Downers Grove: IVP, 2009. ISBN 978-0830837168

Cunningham, Sarah. *Dear Church*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2006. ISBN 978-0310269588

Lyons, Gabe. *The Next Christians*. New York: Doubleday, 2010. ISBN 978-0385529846

Webber, Robert, ed. *Listening to the Beliefs of Emerging Churches*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2007. ISBN 978-0310271352

**OPTION THREE: WORSHIP-** for students who are interested in exploring more deeply issues related to the nature of worship and the role of worship in the life of the church

Gore Jr., R. J. *Covenantal Worship*. Phillipsburg: P&R, 2002. ISBN 978-0875525624

Glick, Robert P. *With All Thy Mind*. Herndon, VA: The Alban Institute, 2006. ISBN 978-1566993241

Webber, Robert E. *Blended Worship*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 1994. ISBN 978-1565632455

Willimon, William H. *Worship as Pastoral Care*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1979. ISBN 978-0687463886

**OPTION FOUR: SACRAMENTS-** for students who are interested in exploring baptism, covenant, and the Lord's Supper in more detail

Letham, Robert. *The Lord's Supper*. Phillipsburg: P&R, 2001. ISBN 978-0875522029

Nevin, John Williamson. *The Mystical Presence*. Eugene, OR: Wipf and Stock, 2000. ISBN 978-1579103484.

Schenk, Lewis Bevens. *The Presbyterian Doctrine of Children in the Covenant*. reprint; Phillipsburg: P&R, 2003. ISBN 978-0875525235

Wright, David F., ed. *Baptism: Three Views*. Downers Grove, IVP, 2009. ISBN 978-0830838561

**Students who have already read one of the focused texts may arrange with the professor for a substitute text.**

#### **RECOMMENDED TEXTS:**

Jay Adams, *The Meaning and Mode of Baptism*

James Bannerman, *The Church of Christ*

C. K. Barrett, *Church, Ministry, and Sacraments in the New Testament*

David Bridge and David Phipps, *Communion: The Meal That Unites?*

Geoffrey Bromiley, *Children of Promise*

Alexander Carson, *Baptism in Its Modes and Subjects*

James M. Chaney, *William the Baptist*

Oscar Cullmann, *Baptism in the New Testament*

Avery Dulles, *Models of the Church*

Eric Jay, *The Church: Its Changing Image Through Twenty Centuries*

Paul K. Jewett, *Infant Baptism and Covenant of Grace*

Hans Kung, *The Church*

Pierre Marcel, *Baptism: Sacrament of the Covenant of Grace*

I. Howard Marshall, *Last Supper and Lord's Supper*

Keith Mathison, *Given for You*

Hughes O. Old, *The Shaping of the Reformed Baptismal Rite in the 16<sup>th</sup> Century*

Geoffrey Preston, *Faces of the Church*

John Riggs, *Baptism in the Reformed Tradition*

David Smith, *All God's People*

Gregg Strawbridge, *The Case for Covenantal Infant Baptism*

Leonard Sweet, *The Church of the Perfect Storm*

\_\_\_\_\_. *The One Bread*

William H. Willimon, *Word, Water, Wine and Bread*

Thomas Witherow, *The Apostolic Church*

Guy P. Waters, *How Jesus Runs the Church*

## **COURSE METHOD:**

The purpose and objectives of this course will be achieved through four learning components. The first is the **Content Component**, the student's own mastery of material, accomplished by completing the required readings. The ability to apply biblical and theological principles effectively to the doctrine of Church and Sacrament is determined largely by the student's familiarity with and mastery of the reading material and the lecture material. **CLO1** The video portion of the lectures will be available on the EVC site as a hybrid course: <http://ets.mrooms3.net/>. The videos will be viewed in preparation for class as follows:

### **2.5 Hours online lectures in preparation for class 4 Jun**

Lecture 14- Perseverance, Covenant, Church; Intro to Church/Sacraments, app 52 min

Lecture 15- Generational value systems, app 56 min

Lecture 16- Church from below, app 35 min

Read the on-line article from the Barna Group located at this site: [Are Christians More Like Jesus or the Pharisees](#)

### **1.5 Hours online lectures in preparation for class 18 June**

Lecture 17- Church and Culture, Definition of Church, Christ and Church, app 30 min

Lecture 18- Christ and Church, Images of Church, app 50 min

### **1.5 Hours online lectures in preparation for class 2 July**

Lecture 19- Kingdom and Church, Confessionalism, Attributes of Church, app 48 min

Lecture 20- Attributes of Church, Purpose of Church, app 42 min

### **3.5 Hours online lectures in preparation for class 16 July**

Lecture 25- Intro to Baptism and Use of Baptism in NT, app 50 min

Lecture 26- Meaning and Significance of Baptism, app 30 min

Lecture 27- Meaning and Mode of Baptism, app 36 min

Lecture 28- Meaning and Subjects of Baptism, app 40 min

Lecture 29- Lord's Supper, app 50 Min

The second is the **Reflection Component**. Each student will develop a formal research paper on some aspect of Church and Sacraments. The document will be due on 7 August. Students will draw from all sources including: in-class lectures, video lectures, required and optional focus readings, and discussions (in class and extra-curricular) as they prepare this formal research paper. **CLO3,5**

The third is the **Discussion Component**. Each class will incorporate discussion and lecture. A vital exchange of ideas is essential to the process of exploration. Students will build on their classroom preparation (the Content Component) and outside preparation (Reflection Component) by participating in the discussion of issues raised. **CLO 2,4**

The fourth is the **Project Component**. **CLO4** As a joint project, the class will function as a steering committee for a new church development. The committee will address the task of developing Core Values, Mission, and Vision Statement for their notional church. The **Project** provides the students with opportunity to experience some key processes involved in strategic planning. Students make use the materials found on this strategic planning website:

<http://acad.erskine.edu/facultyweb/gore/stratplan.pdf>

These four learning components will provide a well-rounded learning experience for the thoughtful student.

### **COURSE EXPECTATIONS:**

#### **Grading Scale:**

100-95	A	83-80	C
94-93	A-	79-78	C-
92-91	B+	77-76	D+
90-88	B	75-72	D
87-86	B-	71-70	D-
85-84	C+	69-65	F

**Attendance: No absences are excused.** However, you may miss three (3) hours of class without being required to do make-up work. I will not try to assess reasons for absences in order to grant excuses. You decide if you want to or need to miss a portion of the class. If you miss more than three (3) hours, you will be required to do extra work in the areas missed. **IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO KEEP TRACK OF YOUR ABSENCES AND CONSULT WITH ME IMMEDIATELY** (before the missed class if possible) **TO HAVE THE EXTRA WORK and "DUE DATE" ASSIGNED.** Any student who misses an entire day will be dismissed (withdrawn) from the course. The "rule of thumb" for extra work is nine (9) hours of work for each three (3) hours class period missed. This is based on the idea that each class period requires three hours in class and six hours outside for fulfilling the work of the course.

**Requirement One:** Attend class regularly and participate in the classroom dialog. **No absences are excused.** Students who miss **more than a total of three hours** will be assigned additional work at the rate of 3 hours of work for every hour missed. Students who miss an entire day will not be allowed to continue in the course. Students will be expected to complete the required readings prior to each class. **Class Participation** will constitute 5% of your final grade. **CLO4**

**Requirement Two:** All students will **read** completely the required volumes and complete the Reading Reflection Paper. Each paper will be 500 (plus or minus 10%) words in length, single-spaced, and without footnotes. **Note that there are three reading assignments due: Sweet, by Class Meeting 2; Malphurs, by Class**

**Meeting 3; and in Clowney, by Class Meeting 4.** For each Reading Reflection Paper, the students will answer the question: What is the most important thought/concept I have gained through reading this book. The reading and Reading Reflection Paper will be completed by the beginning of the class period noted. **CLO1**

The Reading Reflection Papers will constitute 35% of your final grade (Sweet 10%; Malphurs, 10%; and Clowney, 15%). Email all Reflection Papers as WORD attachments to [inaliam@gmail.com](mailto:inaliam@gmail.com) prior to class. Have a digital or hard copy available for your use during class discussion.

**Requirement Three: All DOCTORAL students** will write a research paper on some area of interest within the scope of this course, Church and Sacraments. The research paper will be 4000 words in length (plus or minus 10%, excluding footnotes) and will be on some topic discussed in this course or addressed by the reading assignments. The paper will be double-spaced and proper footnote form will be followed (using 8<sup>th</sup> ed. Kate Turabian, *Manual for Writers*). Bibliography is not required. Scripture quotations will be referenced in the body of the text, not in the footnote apparatus (John 3:16). The paper will be graded (among other considerations) according to the following **key criteria**: use of Scripture and confessional documents of the Church; use of standard reference works, journal articles, internet research, etc.; ability to incorporate pastoral concerns in the discussion of theological issues. This paper will count 40% of your grade and should be sent as a WORD attachment by email to [inaliam@gmail.com](mailto:inaliam@gmail.com) by 7 August. **CLO5**

**All Students: research papers will include, as a minimum**

- \*Scripture references
- \*Conventional theological language
- \*Reference to textbooks where appropriate
- \*Reference to other required works in the optional focus
- \*Reference to any relevant Reformation/Post-Reformation confessions
- \*Reference to key secondary sources

**PAPERS THAT DO NOT MEET THESE MINIMUM STANDARDS WILL BE GRADED DOWN ACCORDINGLY.**

**Requirement Four: All students** will participate in the mid-day “committee” work and produce the strategic planning documents for “your” church. Follow the instructional materials that are located on this website and be sure to review the sample documents for ideas. <http://acad.erskine.edu/facultyweb/gore/stratplan.pdf> This project will count 20% of your grade and will be presented on the last day of class. The class will determine a strategy for completing this assignment, including collaborative work during the lunch break, a reasonable division of labor, individual responsibilities, and plans for email communications between classes. **CLO2,4**

**LATE WORK: Work turned in after the due date will be accepted, but you will not receive full credit.**

**IMPORTANT LINKS FOR THIS COURSE Use these early as they may go down this summer**

**[STRATEGIC PLANNING WEBSITE](#)**  
**[POWERPOINT PRESENTATIONS](#)**  
**[CHURCH AND SACRAMENTS NOTES](#)**  
**[SAMPLE PAPER CHURCH](#)**  
**[SAMPLE CHURCH/MINISTRY PAPER](#)**  
**[SAMPLE FOOTNOTES](#)**  
**[INTERNET RESOURCES](#)**

The style guide adopted by the seminary is that of Kate Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations* currently 8<sup>th</sup> edition). The seminary encourages making use of inclusive language. It is the mark of a good communicator to build bridges rather than barriers; therefore, such language should be used in all written work and oral presentations. The Seminary Catalog stands as an example of recommended usage. See also ["Writing Theological Papers"](#) for additional guidance.

Students are encouraged to make use of the [Write Here Center](#) (Click Here) for improved writing skills.

Click Here for the [Erskine Theological Seminary Writing Rubric and Sample Papers](#). Scroll down to the Sample Papers and Writing Aids Folder.