

DF980

Vocational Renewal in Pastoral Ministry

MEDCOM MAY 18-22, 2015

9AM to 5PM

Professor: Michael A. Milton, Ph.D.

Adjunct Professor of Divinity

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**FAQ’s**

1. **Attendance Policy:** Daily student participation and response in this course is considered a necessary factor in the learning process, part of which is community building. Students are held responsible for all academic work required during their absence regardless of the reasons.
2. All assignments must be submitted per classroom instructions; please use Microsoft Word when submitting assignments electronically.
3. All assignments should be clearly marked with the student’s name.
4. In order to meet the online components of this course, you will need:

* A computer (or access to a computer)
* High speed access to the Internet

5. Students are encouraged to make use of the Write Here Center for improved writing skills.

6. Students may find the [Erskine Theological Seminary Writing Rubric](https://drive.google.com/folderview?id=0B4KvXxOvWAEBSzJyR0YwWmVsM1k&usp=sharing#list) helpful. Scroll down to the Writing Assessment Rubric and download.

***Course Description***

This course will lead Doctor of Ministry students through a study of the Pastoral Epistles as a way to think theologically and Biblically about the vocation of the parish pastor. *Three credit hours*

***Course Learning Outcomes***

1. To familiarize the students with the biblical-theological issues facing ministers of the Gospel in their vocations.
2. To understand the unique vocational stresses and dangers of pastoral ministry.
3. To analyze the theological reflections and insights of other pastoral practitioners and to apply those insights, where appropriate, to their own lives and ministries.

***Course Learning Structure and Format***

**Include content here**

***Required Reading***

Students are expected to secure their own copies of all required materials. As a convenience, the seminary has a bookstore portal of the website at <http://seminary.erskine.edu/resources/bookstore/>. There you will find links to familiar vendors (CBD, Amazon) and can check availability of texts, compare prices, and place orders. A portion of the sales at Amazon will be credited to the Student Body Association on all orders placed with Amazon through the Erskine bookstore portal.

Barnes, M. Craig. *The Pastor as Minor Poet: Texts and Subtexts in the Ministerial Life*. Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans Pub., 2009.

Milton, Michael A. *A Pastoral Theology: Shepherding by the Book*. Fearn, Tain Ross-shire, Scotland, UK: Christian Focus Publications, 2015.

\_\_\_\_\_. *The Secret Life of the Pastor: And Other Intimate Letters on Ministry*. Fearn, Tain Ross-shire, Scotland, UK: Christian Focus Publications, 2015. (awaiting publication; if not published by class, the author will provide selected portions of the book in PDF form on the Erskine Theological Seminary website)

***Recommended websites***

* Grant, George. "Grantian Florilegium.” Thomas Chalmers and the Recovery of the Parish. March 17, 2014. Accessed February 20, 2015. <http://grantian.blogspot.com/2014/03/thomas-chalmers-and-recovery-of-parish.html>.
* "Oremus: Daily Prayer Liturgy, Hymns, Prayer Resources.” Accessed February 20, 2015. <http://oremus.org/>.
* "Martin Thornton." Akenside Press/Martin Thornton. Accessed February 20, 2015. <http://akensidepress.com/thornton/>.
* "Alban at Duke Divinity School." Alban at Duke Divinity School. Accessed February 20, 2015. <https://alban.org/>.
* Milton, Michael A. "A Brief Guide for Writing Theological Reflection Papers." Michael Milton: The Official Website of Faith for Living, Inc. August 13, 2014. Accessed February 20, 2015. <http://michaelmilton.org/2014/08/13/a-brief-guide-for-writing-theological-reflection-papers/>.
* Milton, Michael A. "A Pastoral Life Cycle: Based upon the Biblical Record of St. Paul’s Ministry." Faithforliving.org. May 21, 2015. Accessed March 21, 2016. http://michaelmilton.org/2015/05/21/a-pastoral-life-cycle-based-upon-the-biblical-record-of-st-pauls-ministry/.

Online students have access to the Erskine Library. You can access online services at <http://www.erskine.edu/library/>. Though you may wish to check out books via interlibrary loan, the online database has a number of articles and resources available for download. As an Erskine Seminary student, you have access to the ATLA Religion database which has 500,000 citations of articles and books. Subjects covered include: Biblical Studies, Theology, Church History, Pastoral Care, Ethics, etc. About 150,000 of these records have full-text articles attached. You can access the online database by logging into your account using your student identification number.

***General Institutional Information About Assignments***

All written work must conform to the latest edition of the Turabian manual of style and typed in twelve point type, normally single-spaced, with one-inch margins. Additional guidelines may be found in the “ETS Style and Form Standards” found on the Seminary’s web site; see Resources/Documents (Google Drive).

Turabian, Kate L., et. al. *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*. Eighth ed. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2013. (464 pp., ISBN 978-0226816388)

Click [here](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0NdT4Y620nE) for a video tutorial on formatting a document in Turabian style.

All written work presented is expected to be the students’ own unless credit for the ideas, words, etc. of others is clearly identified. Plagiarism in sermons costs pastors their jobs. Plagiarism in class will not be tolerated and penalties will be assigned in keeping with the Seminary’s Catalog.

Students are strongly encouraged to review the provisions of the Seminary’s Catalog, particularly those governing registration for and withdrawal from classes, class attendance, grades (including incompletes), academic conduct, and expectations for written assignments.

***Grading***

The following grading scale, from the Seminary catalog is used to assign a numeric value to each completed assignment. All scores are weighted equally. Your final grade is the average of each grade received. A letter grade will be computed on the basis of your average raw score using the following grade scale recently adopted by the Seminary faculty:

The following grading scale, from the Seminary catalog assigns a numeric value to each completed assignment. All scores receive equal weighting. Your final grade is the average of each grade received.

 A Level Work = Exemplary ability to differentiate constituent parts; assess and critique theories, thoughts, ideas, concepts, proposals, and relevant literature; and the ability to reason in a logical and compelling manner.

B Level Work = Reflects above average grasp of the subject matter; displays a superior ability to use new knowledge in a creative manner; and can demonstrate an above average ability to discriminate among alternative viewpoints.

C Level Work = Adequate but not exceptional ability to think cogently and clearly; sufficient ability to understand and comprehend subject matter; and a satisfactory ability to integrate and organize course concepts in a logical and coherent manner.

D Level Work = Inadequate mastery of basic facts and information presented in the course; insufficient or inappropriate use of common terms and language indicating an inadequate grasp of the material; and an inferior ability to analyze and judge proposals, ideas or concepts.

This course will use the following methods of assessments:

Readings 200 points x 2 400 points

Participation 100 100 points

Final paper 500 points

**Total Points 1,000 points**

Each assessment will be more clearly defined in the course material sessions.

Grading Scale

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| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Average** | **Total Course Points** |
| **A** | 95 - 100 | 950 - 1000 |
| **A-** | 93 - 94 | 930 - 949 |
| **B+** | 91 - 92 | 910 - 929 |
| **B** | 88 - 90 | 880 - 909 |
| **B-** | 86 - 87 | 860 - 879 |
| **C+** | 84 - 85 | 840 - 859 |
| **C** | 80 - 83 | 800 - 839 |
| **C-** | 78 - 79 | 780 - 790 |
| **D+** | 76 - 77 | 760 - 779 |
| **D** | 72 - 75 | 720 - 759 |
| **D-** | 70 - 71 | 700 - 719 |
| **F** | 0 - 69 | 0 - 699 |

***Learning Tasks***

* Read Barnes *The Pastor as Minor Poet* before the class meets. Read daily sections in M.A. Milton’s pastoral theology texts.
* Engage in small group discussion after lectures.
* Read 1 and 2 Timothy and Titus during class and demonstrate ability to interact with the text on the subject of the pastor’s vocation.
* Demonstrate research skills and critical thinking through selection of and presentation (15 minutes) of material related to the renewal of vocation (students will present on Friday with follow-up, interactive d
* Read one of the following (student’s choice):
  + Barth, Karl. *The Theology of John Calvin*. Grand Rapids, MI: W.B. Eerdmans Pub., 1995.
  + Culbertson, Philip Leroy, and Arthur Bradford Shippee. *The Pastor: Readings from the Patristic Period*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1990.
  + Garretson, James M. *Princeton and Preaching: Archibald Alexander and the Christian Ministry*. Carlisle, PA: Banner of Truth Trust, 2005.
  + Hendricks, William. *The Person Called You: Why You're Here, Why You Matter & What You Should Do with Your Life*. Chicago: Moody, 2014.
  + Johnson, Terry L. *The Pastor's Public Ministry*. Greenville, SC: Reformed Academic Press, 2001.
  + Milton, Michael A. *Hit by Friendly Fire: What to Do When Fellow Believers Hurt You*. Darlington, England: EP Books, 2011.
  + Monod, Adolphe, and Constance K. Walker. *Living in the Hope of Glory: A New Translation of a Spiritual Classic*. Phillipsburg, NJ: P & R Pub., 2002.
  + Nevin, John Williamson, and Sam Hamstra. *The Reformed Pastor: Lectures on Pastoral Theology*. Eugene, Or.: Pickwick Publications, 2006.
  + Quayle, William A., and Warren W. Wiersbe. *The Pastor-Preacher*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1979.
  + Ryle, J. C. *Charges and Addresses*. Edinburgh: Banner of Truth Trust, 1978.
  + Walker, Constance K. *Adolphe Monod: The Voice of the Awakening*. Darlington: Evangelical Press, 2013.
* Write a final theological reflection paper (of not less than 3,500 words and not more than 5,000) based upon your reading and demonstrating critical and reflective thinking about a biblical-theological vocation of ministry.
  + Final papers are due on the date required by the DMIN director and DMIN handbook; otherwise due 01 August 2015
  + Reference: Milton, Michael A. "A Brief Guide for Writing Theological Reflection Papers." Michael Milton: The Official Website of Faith for Living, Inc. August 13, 2014. Accessed February 20, 2015. <http://michaelmilton.org/2014/08/13/a-brief-guide-for-writing-theological-reflection-papers/>.

***Course schedule***

DAY ONE:

0830 Morning Prayer devotions by DMIN student (choose a reading from the lectionary readings for the day; see <http://oremus.org/olect.html>)

00845 Introductions (instructor and colleagues)

0930 Break

0945 Orientation to course

1000 Lecture

1045 Break

1100 Small Group breakout with case study assignments

1130 Lunch break

1300 Small Group report back and discussion

1345 Break

1400 Lecture

1445 Break

1500 Small Group breakout with practical case study assignments

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DAY TWO

0830 Morning Prayer devotions by DMIN student (choose a reading from the lectionary readings for the day; see <http://oremus.org/olect.html>)

00845 Discussion of readings (Barnes, Milton)

0900 Lecture

0945 Break

1000 Small group assignments and break out

1030 Report backs and discussion

1130 Lunch

1300 Lecture

1350 Break

1400 Small Group discussion with practical exercises

1500 Report back and discussion of topics

1550 Assignment review

1600 Break for day

DAY THREE

0830 Morning Prayer devotions by DMIN student (choose a reading from the lectionary readings for the day; see <http://oremus.org/olect.html>)

00845 Discussion of readings (Barnes, Milton)

0900 Lecture

0945 Break

1000 Small group assignments and break out

1030 Report backs and discussion

1130 Lunch

1300 Lecture

1350 Break

1400 Small Group discussion with practical exercises

1500 Report back and discussion of topics

1550 Assignment review

1600 Break for day

DAY FOUR

0830 Morning Prayer devotions by DMIN student (choose a reading from the lectionary readings for the day; see <http://oremus.org/olect.html>)

00845 Discussion of readings (Barnes, Milton)

0900 Lecture

0945 Break

1000 Small group assignments and break out

1030 Report backs and discussion

1130 Lunch

1300 Lecture

1350 Break

1400 Small Group discussion with practical exercises

1500 Report back and discussion of topics

1550 Assignment review

1600 Break for day

DAY FIVE

0830 Morning Prayer devotions by DMIN student (choose a reading from the lectionary readings for the day; see <http://oremus.org/olect.html>)

00845 Discussion of readings (Barnes, Milton)

0900 Lecture

0945 Break

1000 Small group assignments and break out

1030 Report backs and discussion

1130 Class Lunch with Professor

1300 Field Education Requirements instruction

1400 Begin Field Education and close