DMIN 816 CRAFTING A CONGREGATIONAL WORLDVIEW FOR EVANGELISM, WITNESS AND APOPLECTICS
Reformed Theological Seminary
Jackson, MS 39209
July 8-12, 2013
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An exploration of worldview and its implications for pastoral ministry. Church leaders will learn how worldviews have shaped our culture; how Scripture offers a mindset to counter alien ways of thinking and guide Christians into fruitful witness regardless of their callings; and how all members of congregations can benefit from a full-orbed worldview in their everyday life.

OBJECTIVES
1. To acquaint pastors with elements comprising a worldview.
2. To introduce prominent religious/philosophical worldviews that have shaped western civilization from the ancient period to the present.
3. To explore the Biblical worldview in all its dimensions with the goal of preparing pastors to equip congregations with a robust worldview.
4. To introduce students to the most prominent thinkers and movements who have powerfully influenced western civilization.
5. To acquaint students with how Christians and contemporary atheists have interacted with each other in their attempts to capture and shape the western mind.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS
TEXTS:

PRECIS: A two page precis of each of the above texts is due by the end of the course. (Submit these summaries as soon as possible. It is recommended that as much of the reading as possible be completed prior to class meetings in June.

PAPER: In consultation with the professor, students will write a 20-25pp paper on a subject of their choice. The paper should explore some aspect of the course as it relates to pastoral ministry. It may focus on integrating worldview into the church’s ministry, the implications of worldview for evangelism, missions or youth ministry, etc.

COMPLETION OF ASSIGNMENTS: All work for the course must be finished within three months of the conclusion of class (September 8, 2013).
WORLDVIEW: SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY


Alston, William, *Perceiving God: The Epistemology of Religious Experience*

Arrington, Lael F., *Worldproofing Your Kids*


_________, *Dutch Calvinism in Modern America: A History of a Conservative Subculture* (Eerdmans: Grand Rapids, 1984)


_________, *Christianity and Western Thought*, vol. I (Inter Varsity Press: Downers Grove, IL, 1990)


Carroll, Vincent and David Shiflett, *Christianity on Trial* (Encounter Books: San Francisco, 2002)


Crouch, Andy, *Culture Making: Recovering our Creative Calling* (Inter Varsity: Downers Grove, IL, 2008)


Dooyeweerd, Herman, *In the Twilight of Western Thought: Studies in the Pretended Autonomy of Philosophical Thought* (Craig Press: Nutley, NJ, 1972)


Frey, Bradshaw, et. al., *All of Life Redeemed* (Paideia Press: Ontario, 1983)


Guinnes, Os, *Dining with the Devil: The Megachurch Movement Flirts with Modernity* (Baker: Grand Rapids, MI, 1993)


Kuyper, Abraham, *Lectures on Calvinism* (Eerdmans: Grand Rapids, MI, 1943)


Marsden, George and Roberts, Frank, eds., *A Christian View of History?* (Eerdmans: Grand Rapids, MI, 1975)


Middleton, J. Richard and Brian J. Walsh, *Truth is Stranger than it Used to Be: Biblical Faith in a Postmodern Age* (Downers Grove: IVP, 1995)

Mouw, Richard J., *He Shines in All That’s Fair* (Eerdmans: Grand Rapids, MI, 2001)

__________, *Politics and the Biblical Drama* (Eerdmans: Grand Rapids, MI, 1976)


__________, *Life’s Ultimate Questions: An Introduction to Philosophy* (Zondervan, Grand Rapids, MI, 1992)


Olasky, Susan and Marvin Olasky, *More than Kindness*


Plantinga, Alvin and Nicholas Wolterstorff, eds., *Faith and Rationality* (Univ of Notre Dame: 1984)


__________, *The Tacit Dimension* (Doubleday, Garden City, New York, 1966)


__________, *How Should We Then Live?* (Revel: Old Tappan, NJ, 1976)


__________, and Marvin Olasky, *Turning Point: A Christian Worldview Declaration* (Crossway Books, Wheaton, IL, )

Schmidt, Alvin, J., *Under the Influence* (Zondervan: Grand Rapids, MI, 2001)


___________, *The Universe Next Door: A Basic World View Catalogue* (Inter Varsity Press: Downers Grove, IL, 1975)


___________, *Modern Fascism: Liquidating the Judean Christian Worldview* (Concordia, St. Louis, 1993)


___________, *State of the Arts* 

Van Leeuwen, Mary Stuart, *Christianity and Psychology* 


___________, *Truth is Stranger Than it Used to Be: Biblical Faith in a Postmodern Age* (Inter Varsity Press: Downers Grove, IL, 1995)


___________, Review of H. Bavinck’s *De zekerheid des geloofs* in *Princeton Theological Review* 1 (1903): 138-43


Wells, David, *No Place for Truth* (Eerdmans: Grand Rapids, 1993)

_______, *God in the Wasteland: The Reality of Truth in a World of Fading Dreams* (Eerdmans: Grand Rapids, 1994)

___________, *Losing Our Virtue* (Eerdmans: Grand Rapids, MI, 1997)


Wilkens, Steve and Alan Padgett, *Christianity and Western Thought*, vol 2 (Inter Varsity Press: Downers Grove, IL, 2000)

Wilson, Douglas, *Recovering the Lost Tools of Learning* (Crossway Books: Wheaton IL, )


___________, *Christianity and Art* 

___________, *Educating for Responsible Action* (Eerdmans: Grand Rapids, MI, 1980)

__________, *Reason within the Bounds of Religion* 2nd ed. (Eerdmans: Grand Rapids, MI, 1984)

__________, *Until Justice and Peace Embrace* (Eerdmans: Grand Rapids, MI, 1983)