Reformed Pastors (02HT620)
Reformed Theological Seminary, Orlando

Dr. Don Sweeting
Phone: 407-278-4406
Elective, 1 hour
Tuesdays, 9-9.55am
Office Hours: Make an Appointment with Cristi Mansfield
Aug. 27-Nov. 26, 2013
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Teaching Assistant: Andrew Lightner
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Course Description
The Reformed tradition has a rich lineage of pastors who have endeavored to faithfully shepherd
the flock and preach the Word of God. In this one hour class, which combines the areas of
church history, biography and practical theology, we will study the lives, works and ministries of
some of these individuals (such as Augustine, Calvin, Baxter, Bunyan, Edwards, Spurgeon,
Lloyd-Jones, Piper and others) and what it means to be a reformed pastor today. It will be a kind
of Reformed “walking with the giants” course.

This class gets its name from Richard Baxter’s classic on pastoral ministry called The Reformed
Pastor. But its focus will be on certain noted Reformed pastors from different eras of the church
whose lives, ministries, and gifts, though very different, we dare not forget.

The people we look at in this course embodied their theology. Their faith was/is Calvinistic.
They were/are shepherds of people, and passionate about truth. The gave themselves to
pastoring, proclaiming, and ultimately pointing to Christ.

This class embodies the thrust of Hebrews 13.7-8, which says, “Remember your leaders who
spoke the Word of God to you, consider the outcome of their life and imitate their faith. And
remember, Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever.”

Course Instructor
I serve as the president of Reformed Theological Seminary’s Orlando campus, and as the James
Woodrow Hassell Professor of Church History. Prior to this I served as the senior pastor of an
EPC church for 12 years in Denver, and before that I planted a non-denominational church in
Northern Illinois for 10 years. Prior to coming to Orlando, I taught church history at Denver
Seminary as an adjunct professor.

Pastoring is a joyful vocation, but it is not easy. You will need friends, models and encouragers
along the way. This course will introduce you to some of them.
**Class Time:** Each class will include a 30-35 minute overview and 20 minutes of discussion

**Tentative Outline**
1. August 27  Introduction to the Reformed Tradition and Class,
   Overview of the History of Pastoral Ministry
2. September 3  The Life and Ministry of Augustine
3. September 10  The Life and Ministry of John Calvin
4. September 17  The Life and Ministry of Richard Baxter
5. September 24  The Life and Ministry of William Perkins
6. October 1  The Life and Ministry of John Bunyan
7. October 8  Reading Week
8. October 15  The Life and Ministry of George Whitefield
9. October 22  The Life and Ministry of Jonathan Edwards
10. October 29  The Life and Ministry of C.H. Spurgeon
11. November 5  The Life and Ministry of Abraham Kuyper
12. November 12  Guest
13. November 19  The Life and Ministry of Martyn Lloyd-Jones, Ian Murray
14. November 26  The Life and Ministry of John Piper and Summary
   A Conversation with Justin Taylor on Piper

**Course Requirements**
1. Attendance  20%
2. Reading  60%
3. Practicum Project 20%
   4-5 page paper (bottom of page)
4. No Tests

**Reading**
You are required to read some combination of 1000 pages of careful reading. By careful, I mean that you do not skim, but you read the entire text.

**Required**
*The Reformed Pastor*, Richard Baxter, 252
*Calvin: Pilgrim and Pastor*, Robert Godfrey, 200

**Choice**
*The Art of Prophesying*, William Perkins, 191
*Jonathan Edwards*, Ian Murray, 472, or *A Short Life of Jonathan Edwards*, George M. Marsden, 145
*George Whitfield*, Arnold Dallimore, 224
*Spurgeon*, Arnold Dallimore, 247
*Martin Lloyd-Jones*, Ian Murray, 496, or *Dr. D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones*, Eryl Davies, 128

**Practicum Project**
As you are listening, reading, discussing and reflecting, you are to be thinking about what are the marks of ministry that characterize a Reformed Pastorate in the 21st century. 4 to 5 pages in length.
# MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes

In order to measure the success of the MDiv curriculum, RTS has defined the following as the intended outcomes of the student learning process. Each course contributes to these overall outcomes. This rubric shows the contribution of this course to the MDiv outcomes.

*As the MDiv is the core degree at RTS, the MDiv rubric will be used in this syllabus.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rubric</th>
<th>Mini-Justification</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strong</td>
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<tr>
<td>Moderate</td>
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<td>Minimal</td>
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<td>None</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Articulation (oral &amp; written)</strong></th>
<th>Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both oral and written, of essential biblical, theological, historical, and cultural/global information, including details, concepts, and frameworks.</th>
<th>Minimal</th>
<th>This is a one hour class that seeks to expose students to various Reformed pastors</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Scripture</strong></td>
<td>Significant knowledge of the original meaning of Scripture. Also, the concepts for and skill to research further into the original meaning of Scripture and to apply Scripture to a variety of modern circumstances. (Includes appropriate use of original languages and hermeneutics; and integrates theological, historical, and cultural/global perspectives.)</td>
<td>Minimal</td>
<td>This class will measure various pastoral ministries by Scripture</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Reformed Theology</strong></td>
<td>Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Students will be exposed to pastors who clearly articulated Reformed theology.</td>
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<td><strong>Sanctification</strong></td>
<td>Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student’s sanctification.</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>This class will be based on the conviction that a pastor’s godliness is extremely important.</td>
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<td><strong>Desire for Worldview</strong></td>
<td>Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God.</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>It will promote the desire to conform all pastoral ministry to the Word.</td>
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<td><strong>Winsomely Reformed</strong></td>
<td>Embraces a winsomely Reformed ethos. (Includes an appropriate ecumenical spirit with other Christians, especially Evangelicals; a concern to present the Gospel in a God-honoring manner to non-Christians; and a truth-in-love attitude in disagreements.)</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>It will look at the different kinds of Reformed pastors and personalities that God uses.</td>
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<td><strong>Preach</strong></td>
<td>Ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>It will review the preaching ministry of many pastors</td>
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<td><strong>Worship</strong></td>
<td>Knowledgeable of historic and modern Christian-worship forms; and ability to construct and skill to lead a worship service.</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>It will examine the approach to worship of many pastors</td>
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<td><strong>Shepherd</strong></td>
<td>Ability to shepherd the local congregation: aiding in spiritual maturity; promoting use of gifts and callings; and encouraging a concern for non-Christians, both in America and worldwide.</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>This class is all about shepherding and helping current and future pastors think through their ministries.</td>
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<td><strong>Church/World</strong></td>
<td>Ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues.</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>This class will look at various kinds of Reformed traditions: French, Dutch, English, American</td>
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