Reformed Theological Seminary, Orlando Campus

Spring Semester 2015

Class meets on Wednesdays 3:00-4:00pm

February 4th to May 6th

Course Syllabus:

Instructor: Rev. Kevin R. Collins, D.Min

E-mail address: kcollins@rts.edu

Phone Number: W: (407) 278-8824 C: (407) 760-2424

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00-5:00

Course Purpose:

The purpose of this seminar is to facilitate the student's reflection on their Field Education Experience. Emphasis will be given to what they have learned, how they have grown spiritually, and the effect it may have on future ministry opportunities.

Course Objectives:

During this seminar, you will process your field education experience:

- **Biblically and Theologically** with the goal of seeking to understand better how God’s word intersects with the reality of ministry.
- **Corporately** through class interaction about the field education experience.
- **Inwardly** through a process of self-reflection and evaluation.
Course Prerequisite:

Students must have completed their 400 hours of approved field experience while they are attending RTS (previous ministry experience cannot be allowed). Both the Student’s and Field Supervisor’s evaluations of this experience must be reviewed and approved by the Director of Field Education before registration.

Course Requirements:

1. **Required Reading & Reflection Paper:** *The Conviction to Lead* by Dr. Albert Mohler or *Dangerous Calling* by Dr. Paul David Tripp. Write a 2-4 page paper reflecting on how you will implement the principles you learned from the reading into your future ministry. Use Calisto MT 14 Font with 1.5 spacing. Insert a header with the course name and number and a footer with your name and page numbers. *Due during Spring Reading Week.*

2. **Resume:** It should include Career Objective, Educational and Academic background, Ministry any relevant employment history, other areas of service, teaching and research experience, publications, presentations, awards, honors, affiliations, and other pertinent details. In addition a one paragraph personal summary will be required. Details will be covered in the seminar. *Due during Spring Reading Week.* *(Not to exceed two pages)*

3. **Class Attendance and Participation:** In order to fully benefit from this seminar, you must both attend all the classes and be an active participant.

4. **Presentation:** Each student is required to make an oral presentation to the class on your Field Education experience. A general guideline of what to include is as follows:

   4.1. **Ministry Situation and Overall Environment:** This is to be a comprehensive but gracious description of the setting and people to whom you ministered.
4.2. **Personal Strength and Weaknesses:** This is to be a candid self-evaluation of your strengths and weaknesses in ministry and the factors which contributed to each. Strengths should not be viewed as boasts nor should weaknesses be viewed as self-deprecation. Please include not only self-realized strengths and weaknesses but any areas you have become aware of through your ministry experience and time at RTS Orlando. How do you plan to work on both areas?

4.3. **Challenging Personal Relationships:** This should be a forthright analysis and assessment of your relationship with someone with whom you had difficulties or conflicts during your field education experience. Describe the atmosphere that existed because of this conflict and how you responded. Also, describe what affect it had on your ministry and you. How will this experience affect your future ministry?

4.4. **Positive Personal Relationships:** This is analysis of a positive relationship and the reasons you consider it to have been beneficial. Describe why this was a positive relationship and how it affected you and your ministry experience. How will this affect your future ministry?

4.5. **Seminary Preparation and Related Participation:**

4.5.1. Describe the relationship you had with the field education supervisor. How could this relationship have developed into greater helpfulness?

4.5.2. How did your seminary experience best prepare you for this field education experience?

4.5.3. What specific educational “tools” do you think you needed to learn or be equipped with to have made your field education experience more effective?

4.5.4. How do you believe your seminary experienced missed the mark in preparing you for full-time vocational ministry? What do you think you needed to learn to have made your field education experience more effective?

4.5.5. What has been the overall effect of your seminary experience and the field education internship with regards to your walk with the Lord?
4.5.6. How might you approach the seminary experience differently if you could go through all of this again and what advice would you give to students preparing for seminary academics and field education experience?

5. **Experiential-educational acquisitions:** Provide a summary of the fundamental lessons you learned about God, about yourself and about others during and because of your field educational experience. How did your field education harmonize with or alter your current theology of ministry?

6. **Future Faith Living Expectations and Implementation:** This is where you take the lessons learned and implement a strategy of spiritual, personal and ministry growth and development. Please plan to incorporate ideas gained from your readings to demonstrate a grasp of the materials read and an ability to implement fresh ideas into your theology of ministry.

**Course Grading:**

Grading Scale: This seminar is Pass (P) or Fail (F). A grade of Fail (F) will result from unexcused absences, failure to complete the class presentation, or a significant lack of participation in class discussion.

Late Assignments Policy: All late assignments will automatically be penalized. If you have truly been providentially hindered from completing an assignment on time (such as a death in the immediate family) please turn in a written request.
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.

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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Rubric</th>
<th>Mini-Justification</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Articulation (oral &amp; written)</strong></td>
<td>Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both oral and written, of essential biblical, theological, historical, and cultural/global information, including details, concepts, and frameworks.</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
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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>
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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>Minimal</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sanctification</strong></td>
<td>Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student’s sanctification.</td>
<td>Strong</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>
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<tr>
<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>Moderate</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>Minimal</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>Minimal</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>Moderate</td>
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<tr>
<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>Moderate</td>
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Personal Student Information

Please complete & email to kcollins@rts.edu before the first class.

Name:

Email:

Spouse name:

Children, name(s) and age(s):

Years at RTS Orlando:

Church presently attending:

Denomination background:

Desired future ministry role:

What are your expectations of the course? What would you like to learn?

What are some requests that you would like the professor to pray for you this semester?