Reformed Theological Seminary - Houston  
Summer 2021

PT5375  Personal Sanctification  1 Hour  
6:00 PM – 9:15 PM  
June 7 – June 10, 2021

Rev. Fred Greco  
Visiting Lecturer  
Senior Pastor, Christ Church PCA  
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Office Phone: (281) 281-0002  
Cell Phone: (832) 922-7060

Course Description
This course explores the theology and methodology of personal growth in Christ. It focuses on sanctification and the means of grace as set forth in the Bible. The goal of the course is not only to provide the student with a better understanding of sanctification, but to give the student tools to help with personal sanctification.

Course Objectives
1. To cultivate the student’s personal holiness.
2. To examine the Reformed doctrine of sanctification.
3. To understand the use of the means of grace in sanctification.
4. To memorize scriptures and catechism answers concerning sanctification.

Required Texts (total 514 pages)  
(These texts may be in an electronic format (e.g. Kindle), or audio format if available)
1. The Holy Bible, preferably in a recent translation (the instructor will use the ESV).
2. The Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms

Recommended Texts  
(These texts are not required reading for the examination)
Assignments & Requirements

(1) Completion of the Assigned Reading. The student will complete all of the Required Reading above, approximately 514 pages. The student must indicate to the instructor in writing at the time the Final Exam is turned in how much of the reading has been completed (partial credit will be given). 30% of Final Grade

(2) Attendance and participation. Class attendance is mandatory. This is an intensive class, so each missed class represents ¼ of the total instruction time. Students are expected to participate in class discussion. 30% of Final Grade

(3) Memorization. Students will memorize Westminster Shorter Catechism answers to questions 35-42. Students will also memorize Ephesians 4:20-24 and Romans 6:5-7 in the English Standard Version. Students will be asked to recite their memorization to a proctor approved by the instructor. 10% of Final Grade

(3) Reflection Paper. The student will submit a 5-6 page paper (typed, double-spaced using 12 pt. font) reflecting on a topic or book covered in the course. The paper is not a compilation of research, but is rather an articulation by the student of the main theme of the book chosen, or a summary of the salient point of the topic/issue chosen. Topics for this paper include:
   • The importance of family worship and the challenges to it
   • The use of the means of grace in sanctification
   • What is the nature of true repentance?
   • What is the power of sin and how does one combat it?

The paper is due at on Thursday, July 8, 2021. Late Papers will be penalized. 30% of Final Grade

Attendance
Because of the condensed nature of this course, class attendance is required for PT 5375. If a student anticipates an unavoidable absence, he should notify the instructor in advance.

Grading Scale
The grading scale for this course is the seminary’s grading scale. You may find it listed in the RTS Catalog.

Plagiarism
Please review the seminary’s policy on plagiarism. Plagiarized work will subject the student to failure in the course and possible disciplinary action.
In-Class Computer Use
Students are expected to conduct themselves as mature believers in Christ. Classroom manners should reflect this maturity. Please silence all cell phones and other electronic devices, and plan to return calls during breaks. Please refrain from surfing the internet, playing games, or chatting during class time.

Approximate Class Schedule
Please note that this schedule is approximate and subject to change at any time. The instructor’s announced changes in class will be the final word on the nature and date of assignments. They are the student’s sole responsibility to note and to implement.
Class will meet from **6:00 PM until 9:15 PM** on June 7-10:

| June 7 | **In-Class Topic**: Introduction to Sanctification  
|        | *A study of what sanctification is and its relationship to the ordo salutis.* |
| June 8 | **In-Class Topic**: Sanctification and the Means of Grace  
|        | *The use of the means of grace (the Word, sacraments, and prayer) in cultivating sanctification in ourselves and others.* |
| June 9 | **In-Class Topic**: Sanctification – mortification and vivification  
|        | *A study of the importance of putting sin to death and living to righteousness, with an emphasis on practical matters.* |
| June 10| **In-Class Topic**: Sanctification – grace and law  
|        | *The relationship of the law as a means of sanctification and a rule of life and principles of grace. Attention will be given to errors with respect to sanctification.* |

July 8 Reflection Paper Due

Instructor’s Background
Rev. Greco is a teaching elder (pastor) in the Presbyterian Church in America. He has served as the Senior Pastor of Christ Church in Katy, TX ([www.cckpca.org](http://www.cckpca.org)) for the past eight years. He currently serves as the Chairman of the PCA’s Standing Judicial Commission, which serves as the highest court in the PCA. Prior to entering the pastorate, Rev. Greco was a ruling elder and Clerk of Session at Grace PCA in Hudson, Ohio. He was an attorney specializing in corporate governance, commercial finance, and real estate. He earned his law degree (J.D.) from the University of Michigan (1996), his graduate degree (M.A. in Classical Languages and Literature) from the University of Chicago (1993), and his undergraduate degree (B.A.) from the State University of New York at Buffalo (1991). He is a graduate of Reformed Theological Seminary, Jackson (2003).
### 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rubric</th>
<th>Mini-Justification</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Students will have to write a paper and participate in classroom discussions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>Scripture is the basis for the course.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimal</td>
<td>The Westminster standards will be the basis for the course and memorization of catechism answers will be required.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td>Course is dealing with sanctification.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Course will touch on worldview issues.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The importance of working alongside others on matters of practical living will be emphasized.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Students will consider the implications of sanctification within the wider context of ministry.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The use of the means of grace in sanctification will be considered.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Articulation (oral &amp; written)</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>Moderate</th>
<th>Students will have to write a paper and participate in classroom discussions.</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scripture</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>Strong</td>
<td>Scripture is the basis for the course.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reformed Theology</td>
<td>Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>The Westminster standards will be the basis for the course and memorization of catechism answers will be required.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sanctification</td>
<td>Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student’s sanctification.</td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Course is dealing with sanctification.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desire for Worldview</td>
<td>Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God.</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>Course will touch on worldview issues.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winsomely Reformed</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>
<td>The importance of working alongside others on matters of practical living will be emphasized.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preach</td>
<td>Ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.</td>
<td>Minimal</td>
<td>Students will consider the implications of sanctification within the wider context of ministry.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Worship</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>
<td>The use of the means of grace in sanctification will be considered.</td>
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**Course Objectives Related to MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes**

Course: Personal Sanctification (PT5375)
Professor: Fred Greco
Campus: Houston
Date: Summer 2021
| **Shepherd** | 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. | Strong | Sanctification is the foundation of shepherding. |
| **Church/World** | Ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues. | Minimal | Course will touch on the differences between Christian and non-Christian worldviews. |