



SHORT SYLLABUS

CM504 Practice of Ministry

Instructor: Ted Johnston

(Instructor may be contacted through GCS course website)

Course description

This course helps students develop an incarnational Trinitarian theological approach to several common elements of pastoral ministry including administration of baptism and the Lord's Supper, worship planning, preaching, pastoral care, evangelism, discipleship, church administration, and family ministry.

Estimated workload: For a student to do well in this course, the student will need to invest a total of 145 hours, or about 12-15 hours per week of reading, participating on the website, and writing papers.

Required textbooks

Purves, Andrew, *Reconstructing Pastoral Theology, a Christological Foundation*.

Louisville: John Knox, 2004. ISBN 0-664-22733-3 (about \$33; digital edition available).

Root, Andrew. (2013). *The Relational Pastor, Sharing in Christ by Sharing Ourselves*. Downers

Grove, IL: InterVarsity. ISBN 978-0-8308-4102- 8 (about \$14.00; digital edition available).

Anthony, Michael and Estep, James, eds. *Management Essentials for Christian Ministries*.

Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 2005. ISBN 0- 805-43123-3 (about \$26).

Please obtain these books before the class begins. To find the lowest prices on these books, you may find it helpful to use www.bookfinder.com.

Requirements and assignments (General Description)

- 1) **Read the lectures.** Lectures will be posted each Monday for the first ten weeks. This will take 1-2 hours per week.
- 2) **Read the textbooks.** They total about 850 pages, or about 85 pages each week. Students should allow around 6.5 hours a week to read.
- 3) **Listen to videos and podcasts.** Throughout the course, various videos and podcasts will be posted. (Approximately 4 hours total throughout the course.)
- 4) **Participate in online forum discussions.** In most courses, part of the learning that occurs comes through discussion and interaction with the instructor and other students. In an online class, this is done through comments posted on a discussion forum. This counts for 40 percent of the final grade.
- 5) **Midterm reflection paper.** Write a three-page paper on the learning in the course to date. This assignment will count for 15 percent of the final grade.
- 6) **Final integrative paper.** Write a ten-to-twelve-page final paper that addresses material presented in the course, demonstrating critical thinking grounded in an incarnational Trinitarian worldview. This assignment will count for 45 percent of the final grade.