

**Assemblies of God Theological Seminary**  
**Doctor of Ministry Core Course 2**  
PTH 902 Biblical Theology in Ministry  
February 27-March 2, 2012  
Course given by: Doug Oss, Ph.D.

**Course Description:**

This course gives special attention to developing the skills and methods of biblical theology for the study of Scripture and equips the student to successfully prepare for the biblical-theological component of the D. Min. Project. The course also explores the role of biblical-theological reflection in leadership, ministry development, and preaching.

(NOTE: If possible, it would benefit the student to establish a direction for his/her D. Min. project prior to this seminar. The seminar paper for this course *may* be used to meet *some* of the requirements for Chapter 2 of the project rubric, although it is *not mandatory* that this course paper be *directly related* to the D.Min. project.)

**Course Objectives:**

Upon successful completion of this seminar the participant will be able to:

1. Define biblical theology as a method.
2. Explain the structure of biblical theology.
3. Explain and evaluate the major presuppositions of biblical theology.
4. Apply the methods of biblical theology to the Scriptures.
5. Incorporate insights from biblical theology into sermon content.
6. Synthesize biblical teaching on a motif or type.
7. Incorporate biblical-theological insights into the core values and development of ministries in the local church.
8. Formulate core values for leadership and vision in the light of biblical-theological reflection.

**Required Textbooks:**

Clowney, Edmund P. *Preaching and Biblical Theology*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1961.  
(Book available at: [http://www.prpbooks.com/inventory.html?target=indiv\\_title&id=1084](http://www.prpbooks.com/inventory.html?target=indiv_title&id=1084))

———. *Unfolding Mystery: Discovering Christ in the Old Testament*. Phillipsburg, NJ: P&R, 1991.

Dumbrell, Walter. *Covenant and Creation: A Theology of Old Testament Covenants*. Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1986.

———. *End of the Beginning*. Eugene, OR: Wipf & Stock Publishers, 2001.

Goppelt, Leonhard. *Typos: The Typological Interpretation of the Old Testament in the New*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1982.

Herman Ridderbos. *Redemptive History and the New Testament Scriptures*. 2nd Rev. ed. Phillipsburg, NJ: P&R, 1988.

## **COURSE OUTLINE**

The purpose of this seminar is to enable the participants to acquire the methods and skills for doing biblical theology. Along the way, the participants will give attention to: constructing a personal, contextualized, and meaningful biblical theology of ministry; developing the vision and core values for leadership that incorporate the major leadership principles of Scripture; examining his/her own preaching ministry and the most effective ways to incorporate biblical theology into preaching.

### **Monday, Feb 27**

1:00 – 5:00 p.m.

- Biblical Theology: Definition and Methods

### **Tuesday, Feb 28**

8:00am - 5:00p.m.

- Biblical Theology: Methods (cont'd)
- Organizing, Researching, and Constructing a Foundation for Ministry Intervention

### **Wednesday, Feb 29**

8:00 a.m. - 5:00p.m.

- Organizing, Researching, and Constructing a Paradigm of Ministry Core Values

### **Thursday, Mar 1**

8:00 a.m. - 5:00p.m.

- Organizing, Researching, and Constructing a Biblico-Spiritual DNA for a Healthy Church
- Biblical Theology and Leadership
- Biblical Theology and Preaching

### **Friday, Mar 2**

8:00 a.m. - Noon

- Finishing up and De-Briefing

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS & PROCEDURES**

### **A. Pre-session (Raising the issues)**

#### *1. Complete assigned reading*

Prior to coming to the course, participants should read each book from the textbook list in its entirety. The purpose of the pre-session reading is to acquaint

the participant with the major motifs and paradigms for doing biblical theology. *Participants must complete the reading no later than the last day of the course. Completion of the reading is required to receive a passing grade.*

**Note:** It is a violation of academic policy to include in the required reading any books previously read for credit. If you have read any of the required texts for credit, please substitute another book from the course bibliography.

2. *Write a 5 page critical reflection essay on the readings.*  
Write a reflective essay describing how various aspects of the reading can help you define New Testament ministry. The paper should capture your overall response to the readings, highlighting 3-5 major concepts which had the greatest impact on your thinking. (The essay does not require a book-by-book discussion.)

#### **B. Session (Wrestling with the issues)**

1. Submit a statement of completion for the required reading to the professor by the last day of class. Partial credit will not be given.
2. Attend all class sessions, and take an active role in classroom interaction.
3. Turn in your critical reflection essay by the last day of class.
4. Be prepared to provide a brief (3-5 minutes) oral summary of this paper in class.

#### **C. Post-Session (Biblical-Theological Research Project)**

1. Write a 25-30 page research paper constructing and explaining the unfolding of a motif in the progress of revelation (If this vocabulary usage is new to you, it will become familiar through the readings and course content on the first day of class.). The paper will draw on the readings, class sessions, and the participant's own research. The finished paper should reflect a high level of academic excellence in research, exegesis, and biblical-theological method.
2. Write a separate 10 page paper using this biblical-theological construct in support of a ministry intervention you have implemented or are contemplating.

All written work is to be formatted according to the *Turabian* style manual 7<sup>th</sup> edition, [http://www.amazon.com/Manual-Writers-Research-Dissertations-Seventh/dp/0226823377/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1263911618&sr=1-1](http://www.amazon.com/Manual-Writers-Research-Dissertations-Seventh/dp/0226823377/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1263911618&sr=1-1). Writing from previous academic work may not be recycled. The D. Min office can recommend a *Turabian* editor, as well as a writing coach.

*Post-session project due date:*

\*A **hardcopy** of the post-session paper must be delivered to the D. Min Office postmarked no later than May 7, 2012.

\*Please do not use email.

\*All papers should include a cover sheet with title, course information, name, address, and email.

## LATE WORK

Any participant may have a two-week extension for the paper simply by requesting it. After that, the maximum paper grade will decline by one letter grade for each week beyond the extended due date.

## POST-SESSION PROJECT GRADING

1. *Cogency*  
Are the major assertions clear, specific, adequately supported, and well organized? **20 points**
  2. *Creativity*  
Do the major ideas represent original and insightful formulation? **20 points**
  3. *Depth*  
Are the ideas in the paper important and substantial, reflecting significant research and high-quality, formulative thinking? **20 points**
  4. *Quality*  
Is the writing clear, compelling, professional, and consistent with *Turabian* standard? **10 points**
- Total: 70 points**

## COURSE GRADING

An “A” is awarded for outstanding achievement in a paper of publishable quality worthy of a reputable, peer-reviewed, academic journal; a “B” for a good effort; a “C” is marginal, etc. Grading is a composite of points earned in each phase of the course:

Pre-Session Reading	20 points*	92+ points =	A
Session Involvement	10 points	82+ points =	B
Post-Session Projects	70 points	72+ points =	C, etc.
Total	100 points		

*\*Completion of the reading is required to receive a passing grade. No partial credit will be given.*

## Suggested Substitute Textbook List

Anderson, Ray. *The Soul of Ministry: Forming Leaders for God’s People*. Westminster John Knox, 1997. (280 pages)

Fee, Gordon D. *Paul, the Spirit, and the People of God*. Peabody, Massachusetts: Hendrickson Publishers, Inc., 1996. (203 pages)

Glasser, Arthur. *Announcing The Kingdom: The Story of God’s Mission in the Bible*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker Book House, 2003. (400 pages)

Kirk, J. Andrew. *The Mission of Theology and Theology as Mission*. Valley Forge, Pennsylvania: Trinity Press International, 1997. (67 pages)

Oss, Douglas A. "Pentecostal/Charismatic View," in *Are Miraculous Gifts for Today*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1996. Edited by Wayne Grudem, with R. Gaffin, R. Saucy, and S. Storms.

Roxburgh, Alan J. *The Missionary Congregation, Leadership, and Liminality*. Valley Forge, PA: Trinity Press International, 1997. (69 pages)

Stronstad, Roger. *The Prophethood of all Believers: A Study in Luke's Charismatic Theology*. Sheffield, UK: Sheffield Academic Press, 1999. (224 pages)

\_\_\_\_\_. *The Charismatic Theology of St. Luke*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, Inc., 1984. ((91 pages)

Van Gelder, Craig. *The Essence of the Church: A Community Created by the Spirit*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2000. (200 pages)

White, James Emery. *Rethinking the Church: A Challenge to Creative Redesign in an Age of Transition*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker Books, 2003. (181 pages)

### **Recommended Further Reading**

Anderson, Ray. *The Shape of Practical Theology: Empowering Ministry with Theological Praxis*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 2001. (342 pages)

\_\_\_\_\_. *Ministry on the Fireline: A Practical Theology for an Empowered Church*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 1993. (235 pages)

Chan, Simon. *Pentecostal Theology and the Christian Spiritual Tradition*. Sheffield, UK: Sheffield Academic Press, 2000. (120 pages)

Dunn, James. *The Theology of Paul the Apostle*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Eerdmans, 1998. (165 pages)

Ellis, E. Earle. *Pauline Theology: Ministry and Society*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1989.

Goldsworthy, Graeme. *Preaching the Whole Bible as Christian Scripture*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2000. (287 pages)

Grudem, Wayne A., ed. *Are Miraculous Gifts for Today?: Four Views*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1996. [especially Douglas A. Oss, "A Pentecostal/Charismatic View," 239-283.]

Guder, Darrell L. *The Continuing Conversion of the Church*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 2000. (208 pages)

Jacobsen, Douglas. *Thinking in the Spirit: Theologies of the Early Pentecostal Movement*.  
Bloomington, Indiana: Indiana University Press, 2003. (364 pages)

Keener, Craig S. *Gift & Giver: The Holy Spirit for Today [expands on 3 Crucial Question]*.  
Grand Rapids: Baker, 2001.

Poloma, Margaret M. *The Assemblies of God at the Crossroads: Charisma and Institutional  
Dilemmas*. Knoxville, Tennessee: The University of Tennessee Press, 1989. (289 pages)

Schatzmann, Siegfried. *A Pauline Theology of Charismata*. Peabody, Massachusetts:  
Hendrickson Publishers, Inc., 1987.

Van Eagon, Charels. *Mission on the Way*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker Book House, 1996.  
(262 pages)

### **Online Bibliography**

A bibliography for the course is available at <http://www.agts.edu/faculty/oss.html>.  
Look for the “Bibliographies” sub-folder within the “Resources” folder.