



SHORT SYLLABUS

CM501 Foundations of Christian Ministry

Instructor: Lance McKinnon, D. Min.

(Instructor may be contacted through GCS course website)

Course description

This course seeks to integrate a biblical, Christ-centered, and historically orthodox theology (grounded on Jesus' birth, life, death, resurrection, ascension and return), with Christian ministry (including worship, fellowship, discipleship, service, and witness). Through this integration a foundational understanding of the identity and purpose of the church will be explored along with ministerial implications for pastoral leaders and lay members.

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

Anderson, Ray S. *The Soul of Ministry: Forming Leaders for God's People*. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox, 1997. ISBN: 0664257445. 223 pages. \$25.

Rodin, R. Scott. *The Steward Leader: Transforming People, Organizations and Communities*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2010. ISBN: 0830838783. 182 pages. \$25.

Vanhoozer, Kevin J. *Hearers & Doers: A Pastor's Guide to Making Disciples Through Scripture and Doctrine*. Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press, 2019. ISBN: 1683591348. 245 pages. \$15.

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.

Recommended textbooks

Anderson, Ray S. *Theological Foundations for Ministry*. Edinburgh: T&T Clark, 1979. ISBN: 0567223558. 776 pages. \$120. (Used copies in good condition can be found for around \$20-\$40 on Amazon.)

Requirements and assignments (General Description)

See a detailed description of all assignments in the separate *Assignment List Handout* provided on the course page.

- 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 647 pages, or about 65 pages each week. Students should allow around 3 hours a week to read.
- 3) **Read articles, essays, and view videos assigned each week.** These total 28 hours of viewing/reading over ten weeks. Some weeks will be heavier than others.
- 4) **Keep a reading log.** Students will fill out the reading report list provided to account for all reading.
- 5) **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 25 percent of the final grade.
- 6) **Midterm reflection paper.** Write a 1500–2000-word reflection paper (double-spaced in 12point, Times New Roman font, not including footnotes or bibliography). This counts for 15 percent of the final grade.
- 7) **Book reflection paper.** Write a 1500–2000-word book reflection paper. This counts for 15 percent of the final grade.
- 8) **Final integrative paper.** Write a 3000-3600-word paper. This assignment will count for 30 percent of the final grade.