



ERSKINE

THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

SPRING TERM 2025 (DMin LEVEL)



Richard Winston, Associate Professor of New Testament

Email: winston@erskine.edu

DR 900 (DW & Online) Advanced Research & Writing for Ministry

Tuesday - Thursday (Intensive): 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.: January 21-23,
Tuesday: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.: April 8

This course provides advanced guidance on the task of writing professional papers that integrate theological reflection with ministry experience. Attention is given to the process of choosing a theological/ministerial topic, conducting research, using technology in research, analyzing and articulating one's findings, and writing advanced papers. Student research and writing is approached from a Christian perspective. Students are also given an overview of the DMin program.



R.J. Gore, Professor of Systematic Theology

Email: rgore@erskine.edu

DR 901 (Online) Theological Foundations for Ministry

Full Semester: asynchronous, with some live video conference discussion sessions required

This seminar is designed to help students clarify and articulate a theology of ministry in light of their own theological tradition, in conversation with a wide range of theological perspectives. Students read and discuss significant theological thinkers on the doctrine of the Church and its ministry. The course culminates with a final Theology of Ministry paper, in which students describe their own theological perspective on ministry.



Loyd Melton, Distinguished Professor of New Testament Emeritus

Email: melton@erskine.edu

DR 902 (DW) Ministry in Context

Monday - Friday (week long intensive): 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.: January 13-17

In this seminar, students examine the practice of ministry through the Church in the world, in light of the theological foundations of ministry. Special emphasis is given to the careful study of one's ministry context, planning and implementing ministry, conducting research in ministry, and evaluating effectiveness in ministry.



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Dale Johnson, Distinguished Professor of Church History
Email: djohnson@erskine.edu

DC 985 (Online) Past Christians, Contemporary Lessons
Mondays: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m: 1/13, 2/10, 3/3, 4/14;
live video conference only

In this course, students examine the lives of prominent men and women who have influenced the life and ministry of the Christian Church during the past 20 centuries. Students consider the important issues confronted by Christians in the past which are still faced in the Church today. Particular attention is given to the relevance and impact of these past Christians for today's Church.



Jim Belcher, Research Professor of Historical and Pastoral Theology
Email: belcher@erskine.edu

DC 914 (G'ville & Online) The Social & Political Philosophy of John Calvin
Mondays: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m: 2/3, 2/24, 3/17, 4/28; in-person and live video conference for distance students

This course investigates the political and social philosophy of John Calvin. Students will explore how Calvin's thought provides wisdom for deeper community building, for discipling believers toward maturity in Christ, and for a robust world-and-life-view, one capable of taking on the challenges of ministry in a post-Christian world. In the end, students will uncover the enduring relevance of Calvin's ideas, gaining valuable insights for contemporary ministry and societal engagement, empowering their own leadership and ministry callings.



George M. Schwab, Professor of Old Testament
Email: schwab@erskine.edu

DN 917 (Online) Isaiah
Mondays: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m: 1/27, 2/17, 3/10, 4/7; live video conference only

This course uses a study of Isaiah to illustrate current academic issues in the Old Testament. These include the relationship between the Old Testament and the use of mythological language and concepts over against a strictly scientific outlook, the problem of the formation of the biblical books over time, the difference between the theology of a particular book and our systematized creeds and confessions, and how the New Testament uses the Old. The course orients the student to central issues in contemporary Old Testament studies as they are discovered in Isaiah.



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Mark Ross, Professor of Systematic Theology
Email: ross@erskine.edu

DC 925 (COL & Online) Presbyterianism Through the Ages Saturdays: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m: 1/11, 2/8, 3/8, 4/5; in-person and live video conference for distance students

This course will examine the historical origins and subsequent developments of the presbyterian form of church government from its biblical roots to the present day. Students will do advanced research in some aspect of Presbyterianism and consider its relevance for churches and ministry today.



Adrian Smith, Adjunct Professor of Biblical Studies
Email: adrian.smith@erskine.edu

DF 912 (Online) Spiritual Growth & Christian Practices Saturdays: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m: 1/18, 2/15, 3/15, 4/12; live video conference only

This course engages spiritual growth as a process of being shaped by the story of Scripture that centers on the incarnation, crucifixion, and resurrection of Christ. Numerous traditional Christian practices are explored as “scripts” which empower our participation in the drama of redemption. Within this framework, the course highlights the shaping power of several practices inherited from the ancient Church, including liturgical worship, the Christian calendar, praying the Psalter, and lectio divina. Students will develop their own philosophy of spiritual growth, integrated with appropriate Christian practices to promote individual and communal maturity in Christ.