



Nazarene Theological Seminary

1700 E Meyer Blvd • Kansas City, MO 64131 • 816/268-5400

PTH510a – Theology of Church and Ministry
4:35-5:30 pm, Mondays
Fall 2010

Essential Information

Please refer to the following resources for information essential for the successful completion of courses and degree programs at Nazarene Theological Seminary. Links to these resources are available at http://support.nts.edu/index.php/Essential_Information. Additional technical support information can be found at <http://support.nts.edu>.

- NTS Mission Statement & Purpose and Master of Divinity Objectives
- Tips for online learning success
- NTS library services
- NTS bookstore procedures
- Online technical requirements and Moodle support information
- NTS Student Handbook including statements on quality of work, plagiarism, and academic probation
- *A Handbook for Inclusive Language*

Instructor Information

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Please do not call between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m.

Catalog Description

This course develops a pastoral theology of the church based on biblical, historical, and theological reflection. From this foundation a structure for contemporary practice of ministry will be developed. The course introduces the model of integration of biblical, historical, theological, and pastoral concerns to which NTS is committed.

Course Narrative & Rationale

This course assumes that one's practice of ministry accurately reflects one's theology of ministry which is dependent upon one's theology of church. As a result the course intends to influence the present and future practice of ministry by students through engagement with theologies of ministry and a theology of the church. This particular course exists as a one hour credit course to assist students who have taken PTH500, Personal and Spiritual Development of the Ministry, but have not taken PTH510, Theology of Church and Ministry (for 3 credits), to meet the new MDiv curriculum requirement of PTH505, Core Relationships for Ministry, a 3 credit course.

Course Outcomes

On successful completion of PTH510a, students will be able to:

1. Identify and explain the significance of a variety of biblical images and understandings of the people of God, the church, (Assignments 1 and 2)

2. Identify the primary understandings of the church that have developed and shaped the Church through the major periods of Church History, (Assignments 1 and 2)
3. Identify and explain the significance of the most influential theological models of the Church that are operative today, (Assignments 1 and 2)
4. Describe the patterns of ministry that have arisen from the biblical sources, the development of Church's history, and theological reflection on ministry, (Assignments 1 and 2)
5. Describe the way(s) in which ministry flows theologically from one's theology of the Church and, (Assignments 3 and 4)
6. Write an integrative theology of ministry that describes "why one ministers the way he or she ministers when he or she ministers" based on the content of this class. (Assignments 3 and 4)

Required Texts & Course Materials

- Gelder, Craig Van. *The Essence of the Church: A Community Created by the Spirit*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 2000.
- Thompson, James W. *Pastoral Ministry according to Paul: A Biblical Vision*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2006.
- Wilson, Jonathan R. *Why Church Matters: Worship, Ministry, and Mission in Practice*. Grand Rapids, MI: Brazos Press, 2006.

Course Outline

- I. Prolegomena
- II. Biblical Resources for Understanding Church and Ministry
 - A. Biblical Models of the Church
 - B. Biblical Patterns of Ministry
- III. Historical Resources for Understanding Church and Ministry
 - A. Major Models of the Church that Emerged in Church History
 - B. Patterns of Ministry that Developed in Church History
- IV. Theological Reflections on Church and Ministry
 - A. The Significance of Theological Reflection on the Church for Today
 - B. Theological Concerns Regarding Major Aspects of Ministry Today
- V. Integration and Conclusion

Course Assignments & Requirements

1. Attendance and Participation - Part of the design of this course is not simply to disseminate information about the Church and Ministry but to think integratively about and to experience in part the truths of which we speak, consistent attendance is necessary. Students should arrive at class with the reading assigned for the day completed and with sufficient notes to enable them to participate in integrative discussion of the material. (Addresses Course Outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5)
2. Textbook Reading - The Course Calendar below identifies the schedule by which the various chapters of the textbooks should be read. The material listed for each class day should be read carefully in advance and sufficient notes taken on the reading to allow the student to participate fully in the integrative discussion of the material that will take place in class. (Addresses Course Outcomes 1, 2, 3,4, 5, and 6)
3. Outside Reading - 150 pages of material from the Bibliography or approved by the instructor must also be read. A report of at least 500 words listing the pertinent bibliographical information, summarizing the content of your reading, and *discussing how it "fits" with the content of the class will be required. It would be best to coordinate this reading with Course Outline/Calendar and be prepared to offer observations from the reading that fit

into the class discussion on the day related to its content. The written report may be turned in (via Moodle) at any time, but it must be submitted by 11:55 p.m. CST, on December 6, 2010. (Addresses Course Outcomes 5 and 6 and other depending on the reading chosen)

4. Theology of Ministry Paper - On December 13, 2010, a Theology of Ministry Paper of 1200-2000 words will be due. This essay should integrate the material you have learned about Church and Ministry throughout the class. In particular it should articulate the understanding of Church that you intend to guide your ministry using biblical, historical, and theological models and reflection and your understanding of Ministry as expressed through the biblical, historical, and theological lens that you have developed. The essay should be about your understanding of *ministry* so it needs to connect to a specific context in which you could carry out your understanding of ministry. After you have written your essay, you will be required to produce a 500 word synopsis of it. This synopsis will be placed in your NTS portfolio for future reference. The full essay and the synopsis must be posted to Moodle no later than 11:55 pm, CST, December 13, 2010. (Addresses Course Outcomes 5 and 6)

Distribution of Student Learning Hours

	hours
Face-to-face Class Sessions	13
Online Participation in forums, groups, etc.	0
Reading – Textbook	19
Reading – Outside	6
Writing – Outside Reading Report	3
Writing – Theology of Ministry Paper and Synopsis	8
TOTAL	49

Method for Submitting Assignments

The Outside Reading Report, the Theology of Ministry Paper, and the Theology of Ministry Paper Synopsis should be submitted via the appropriate Moodle Assignment buttons for this course.

Form and Style Expectations

The Outside Reading Report should include the appropriate bibliographical information at the top. References to the material may be done in the body of the report simply by putting the page number in parentheses. The Theology of Ministry Paper should provide a complete bibliography at the end. References to these resources may be incorporated in the body of the paper with the author's name and the appropriate page number(s) in parentheses. If you have more than one bibliographical entry by the same author distinguish them by author's name, year of publication, and page number in the parentheses. The Synopsis of the Theology of Ministry Paper should not include footnotes or bibliography.

Inclusive Language

NTS is committed to the equality of women and men. Recognizing that people have often used the English language in ways that imply the exclusion or inferiority of women, NTS urges students, faculty, and staff to avoid sexist language in public discourse, in classroom discussions, and in their writings. All written work presented to meet course requirements must use gender inclusive language.

Policy Regarding Late Work & Missed Exams

Half credit for a missed attendance/discussion may be granted if the student turns in a 500 words essay synthesizing the required reading for the day and reflecting on how it relates to the purposes of the course. The Outside Reading Report grade and the Theology of Ministry Papers grades will be lowered one letter grade (10 points) if it is turned in during the week following the due date. After two weeks no credit will be given.

Additional Costs

There are no financial costs required for successful completion of this course beyond the textbooks and tuition.

Course Grading

The grades for the various requirements will be assigned as follows:

Attendance	13%
Class Discussion	39% - Reflecting mastery of textbook material
Outside Reading Report	18%
Theology of Ministry Paper	25%
TOM Synopsis	5%

In accordance with the provisions of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, NTS is committed to providing students with disabilities the opportunity to participate and benefit from its programs and activities, Accordingly NTS will make reasonable modifications to its programs and activities to accommodate otherwise qualified students with disabilities, unless such modifications would impose an undue burden on the operation of the particular program or activity or would fundamentally alter the nature or purpose of the program or activity. Students needing accommodations should contact the Office of the Registrar. They also should contact the instructor no later than the end of the first class session to discuss learning needs and adaptive strategies which have been beneficial for the student in the past.

Course Calendar

Date	Week	Course Coverage/Assignment
Sept. 13	1	Syllabus/Orientation/Introduction to Biblical Understandings of the Church
Sept. 20	2	Biblical Models of the Church - Read Van Gelder, Chapter 5
Sept. 27	3	Biblical Models of the Church - Read Van Gelder, Chapter 4
Oct. 4	4	Biblical Reflections on Ministry - Read Thompson, Chapters 1-3
Oct. 11	5	Biblical Reflections on Ministry - Read Thompson, Chapter 4-5 and Conclusion
Oct. 18	6	Reading and Research Week - no class activities
Oct. 25	7	Historical Understanding of the Church - Read Van Gelder, Chapter 3
Nov. 1	8	Integrative Reflections on Ministry - Guest Speaker
Nov. 8	9	Historical Understanding of Church and Ministry
Nov. 15	10	Historical Understandings of Ministry
Nov. 22	11	Theological Reflections on the Church - Read Van Gelder, chapters 1, 2, and 6
Nov. 29	12	Theological Reflections on Ministry - Read Wilson, chapters 1-7
Dec. 6	13	Theological Reflections on Ministry - Read Wilson, chapter 8-10, Outside Reading Report is due
Dec. 13	14	Summation and Integration - Theology of Ministry Paper is due; Theology of Ministry Paper Synopsis is due

Bibliography

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- Barrett, C.K. *Church, Ministry, & Sacraments in the New Testament*. Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1985.
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- Clapp, Rodney. *A Peculiar People: The Church as Culture in a Post-Christian Society*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1996.
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