

CL7521 The Missional Church

This seminar assists students in developing an understanding of the church in relation to the mission of the triune God in and to all of creation. Resources from the fields of both ecclesiology and missiology are brought to bear on helping students formulate a working theology of the missional church within their congregation and context. The diverse literature in the fields of church renewal, church growth, and church effectiveness are critically evaluated from this developing understanding of the missional church.

Full course

CL7522 The Missional Leader

This seminar helps students develop an understanding of the role of Christian leadership in faith communities in relation to the mission of the triune God in and to all creation. Literature on leadership from secular and Christian sources is used to help students formulate a theologically informed perspective on leadership.

Full course

CL7531 Theological Foundations for Congregational Vitalization — Part I

This seminar begins a two-seminar process that helps students develop a theological framework for leading a congregation through a missional process of vitalization. Students interact with the extensive literatures regarding vitalization, strategic planning and organizational development. Each student focuses on his/her particular congregation and context in beginning the first phases of a process of vitalization — readiness for change, analysis of congregation and context and formulation of values, purpose and vision.

Full course

CL7532 Theological Foundations for Congregational Vitalization — Part II

This seminar builds on the previous seminar in helping students utilize the theological framework for leading a congregation through a missional process of vitalization that was developed in that seminar. Students continue to interact with the extensive literatures regarding vitalization, strategic planning and organizational development. Each student focuses on his/her particular congregation and context in beginning the latter phases of a process of vitalization — confirming values, purpose, vision, identifying core missional practices, setting missional priorities, developing infrastructure and anticipating issues of change and conflict.

Full course

CL7541 Introduction to Research Methods

This seminar introduces participants to the use of social science research with this approach being framed biblically and theologically. Participants learn to utilize a variety of methodologies in designing and implementing specific research strategies, and also learn to analyze and interpret the results of their data. Particular attention is given to helping participants understand an action research design that employs mixed-method strategies in leading a congregation through a change process.

Full course

CL7542 Program Review and Thesis Proposal

This seminar helps students review their entire program and to formulate a comprehensive understanding of congregational mission and leadership from the perspective of a missional ecclesiology. Each student also develops a specific thesis proposal that will be implemented during the fifth and final year of the program.

Full course

CL7551 Thesis Project

This year long seminar provides students with a structured process to implement the research design of their approved research proposal and to incorporate their findings into their final thesis. The seminar meets during the year for three two-day work sessions in helping all participants finalize the chapters of their theses.

Full course (Course will be registered as a half course in both CL terms.)

CL7598 Guided Reading and Research in Congregational Leadership

An independent study for Doctor of Ministry students. Consult faculty within the division and Associate Dean – Graduate Theological Education.