



**COVENANT BAPTIST
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**

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INFORMED SCHOLARSHIP • PASTORAL HEART

PT11 • Pastoral Theology I

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Senior Fellow, IRBS

2 Credit Hours

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Course Description

PT11 is the first of a two-part course on the pastoral ministry, each part has 2 hours credit. The first part is designed to study the pastoral calling, the man God calls, and the specific call to the gospel ministry. The second part, PT12 (2 hrs.) will cover the practical duties of the pastor such as preaching, shepherding, worship, counseling, ruling (whether with other elders or not), funerals, weddings, church discipline, etc. It will be understood that both courses will be taught from the position of confessional reformed baptists (2LBC). Pastoral Theology must be based upon a complete systematic theology in order to perform adequately the duties required by God. All actions and activities of the gospel minister are theologically based. Therefore, sound theology must be included in both courses to show not only what a pastor must do but also how he should think biblically and theologically in his work.

Required reading (approximately 350 pages):

1. *London Baptist Confession of 1689* (For reference purposes)
2. Charles Bridges. *The Christian Ministry* (London: The Banner of Truth Trust, reprint, 1976), 1-183.
3. Patrick Fairbairn. *Pastoral Theology* (Aububon, New Jersey: Old Paths Publications, reprint, 1992), 1-78.
4. D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones. *Preaching and Preachers* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1972), 100-120.
5. C. H. Spurgeon. *Lectures to My Students*, 3 series in 1 volume (Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1978), I:1-40, 167-180; II:179-192. Various editions may have different page numbers. The three chapters are entitled “The Minister’s Self-Watch,” “The Call to the Ministry” and “On Conversion as Our Aim.”

Additional reading (student’s selection of approximately 350 pages):

1. Stephen H. Tyng. *The Christian Pastor* (Birmingham, Alabama: Solid Ground Christian Books, reprint, 2006), 1-42.

2. Derek J. Prime & Alistair Begg. *On Being a Pastor* (Chicago: Mooky Publishers, 2004), 13-61.
3. Richard Baxter. *The Reformed Pastor* (Carlisle, Pennsylvania: The Banner of Truth Trust, reprint, 2012), 53-86.
4. Paul David Tripp. *Dangerous Calling* (Wheaton: Crossway Publishers, 2012), 11-224.
5. William Still. *The Work of the Pastor* (Scotland: Christian Focus, 2006), 7-127.
6. Document further pages read in the required reading list.

Taking the course for credit:

Regular attendance. Excessive absences may require grade adjustment.

Class participation: It is expected that all students will participate in class discussions.

Examinations: There will be one final exam taken for credit. It will be taken with a proctor no later than 60 days after the completion of the course; 50% of the final grade.

Reading: As noted above; 25% of the final grade.

Class project: All students will complete a class project as described following. A paper of 5-10 pages, single-spaced, surveying the Pastoral Epistles to summarize the pastoral calling (elder, overseer), the gifts necessary for that work, the content of his teaching/preaching, the character necessary, the relationship to different groups in a church, the personal manner of his ministry to others, the evidence for financial support, the handling of opposition, etc. This is not to be considered a formal paper surveying the scholarship available. This is to be a personal confession of what the student understands the Pastoral Epistles to teach about the Calling itself, the Man, and the Call of the Man. It will compose 25% of the final grade for credit.

Academic Performance

No student will be deemed to have successfully completed the work in any course who does not achieve a cumulative grade of 75 or above for his course work. No individual test, project, or paper will be accepted which does not achieve a score of 71 or above. The deadline for all credit work will be 60 days after the completion of the class. The letter equivalents for the percentile grades assigned are as follows:

A 96-100	B+ 88-90	C+ 78-80
A- 91-95	B 85-87	C 75-77
	B- 81-84	C- 71-74

Course Outline:

I. Theological Foundations for the Pastoral Ministry

- A. Hermeneutical Concerns and Biblical Theology
- B. Systematic Theology
- C. Covenant Theology
- D. Anthropology and Soteriology
- E. Ecclesiology
- F. The Goal of the Pastoral Ministry

II. The Pastoral Calling Itself

- A. The Gifts of the Calling
- B. The Titles of the Pastor
- C. The Priority of the Work
- D. The Content of the Work
- E. The Hindrances and Difficulties of the Work
- F. The Temptations of the Work

III. The Personal Qualifications of the Man

- A. A Christian Man
- B. A Faithful Churchman
- C. Personal Character
- D. Consistent Testimony with All
- E. Mental and Physical Abilities
- F. Self-Discipline and Self-Denial

IV. The Personal Call of God

- A. Internal
- B. External
- C. Providence

V. An Earnest Appeal for an Earnest Ministry