

## **PT601 Foundations of Christian Ministry**

### **Goal**

The goal of this course is threefold: to assist students in 1) developing a sense of the history of Christian ministry and how that history was shaped by biblical, theological, spiritual, and sociological factors; 2) gaining a better understanding of the concept of ministry (lay and ordained) in their own denominations and in denominations not their own; and 3) better appreciating their call to ministry, including gifts and “growing edges” for that vocation.

### **Reading Requirements**

Students should expect to read at most 800 pages from the required texts (below) and from additional articles still being selected.

### **Writing Requirements**

Students should expect to write at most 21 – 30 double-spaced pages. This will be comprised of the following:

1. Reflection paper (2-4 pages) on one’s call to ministry (15% of final grade)
2. Faith development paper (5-7 pages) on a particular age group from your congregation. (20% of final grade)
3. Research paper (7-10 pages) on one’s own denomination’s understanding of ministry (30% of final grade)
4. Paper (7-9 pages) describing an interview of a minister of a denomination not one’s own and direct observation of that minister in the practice of ministry (25% of final grade)

### **Other**

In addition to the above, active class participation is required at all classes with timely reading of all assignments (10% of final grade).

### **Required Texts**

1. Aleshire, Daniel. *Faith Care*. W/JK Press, 1988. ISBN: 978-0664240547
2. Johnson, Ben Campbell. *Beyond the Ordinary – Spirituality for Church Leaders*. Eerdmans, 2001. ISBN: 0-8028-4773-0
3. Osmer, Richard. *Practical Theology*. Eerdmans, 2008. ISBN: 978-0802817655
4. Brown, Daniel. *When Ministry Is Messy*. St. Anthony Messenger Press, 2006. ISBN: 978-0867167771