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REFORMED  THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY  
GLOBAL

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LEADERSHIP & DISCIPLESHIP  
DR. CHARLES M. WINGARD

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# Course Overview

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## Course Description:

00PT5275 Leadership & Discipleship, 2 hour  
Lecturing Professor and Professor of Record:  
Dr. Charles M. Wingard

This course is a study of leadership philosophy, principles, and skills through which a pastor can lead a session and a congregation in fostering a culture of discipleship in order to fulfill the church's mission in its life and witness. A variety of leadership, discipleship, Christian education, and philosophy of ministry topics will be discussed.

## Course Objectives:

- Church administration
- The calling and equipping of church officers
- Developing a strategy for Christian education
- Managing a Christian school
- Handling conflict and criticism
- Understanding budgets and financial reports
- Capital campaigns
- Denominational duties
- Developing and implementing a plan for your first year of ministry
- Addressing the pastor's self-care, piety, devotional life, self-care, and time management

## Required Textbooks:

*The Bible* (especially 1 Thessalonians, 1 and 2 Timothy, and Titus)

Beeke, Joel R. and Nick Thompson. *Pastors and Their Critics: A Guide to Coping with Criticism in the Ministry*. Phillipsburg, NJ: P&R, 2010.

Murray, David P. *Reset: Living a Grace-Paced Life in a Burnout Culture*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2017.

Packer, J.I. and Gary A. Parrett. *Grounded in the Gospel: Building Believers the Old-Fashioned Way*. Grand Rapids: BakerBooks, 2010.

Witmer, Timothy. *The Shepherd Leader: Achieving Effective Shepherding in Your Church*. Phillipsburg, NJ: P&R, 2010.

[These books may also be available in ebook format through various retailers]

**Reference:**

*The Book of Church Order for the PCA*

*Westminster Confession of Faith*

*Westminster Larger and Shorter Catechisms*

**Online Student Handbook:**

The Online Student Handbook (can be [downloaded here](#)) has been designed to assist you in successfully navigating the Distance Education experience, whether you are taking a single course or pursuing a certificate or degree program. In it you will find valuable information, step-by-step instructions, study helps, and essential forms to guide you through every aspect of your distance education opportunity from registration to graduation. Please use this resource as your first-stop reference manual.

**Summary of Requirements:**

1. Listen to all recorded Lectures
2. Complete all Readings
3. Participate in Forum Discussions (with other students and the professor)
4. Submit Memorization Assignment
5. Submit Course Paper
6. Submit Budget and Financial Report Assignment
7. Take Final Exam
8. Submit Reading Report
9. Submit Mentor Report/Course Application Paper
10. Submit Course Complete Form

# Meet the Professor

*Lecturing Professor and Professor of Record:*



**Charlie Wingard** serves as Professor of Pastoral Theology and Dean of Students. Prior to joining the RTS Jackson faculty in 2014, he spent 28 years as an ordained pastor in the PCA and OPC, serving congregations in North Carolina, Massachusetts, and Alabama. He received his B.A. in political science from the University of the South (1980), his MDiv from Vanderbilt Divinity School (1984), and his D.Min. from Greenville Presbyterian Theological Seminary (1992).

Since February 2016, Charlie also serves as Senior Pastor at First Presbyterian Church in Yazoo City, Mississippi.

Charlie and his wife, Lynne, love the ministry of hospitality and consider it an essential component of pastoral care in both church and seminary.

# Grades

## *Forum Discussion (15%):*

The student is required to interact in two (2) forums:

1. Student-Professor Posts (15 total posts)
  - A. Personal Introduction Forum: The student is required to post a brief personal introduction to the professor/class. Suggested details include your vocation, where you live, your church background, why you chose RTS, and what you hope to gain through the course (1 required post).
  - B. 5 Topical Discussion Q&A Forums: The student is required to answer each topical discussion question with one (1) response. The professor will acknowledge the student's answer and will follow up with a subsequent question to which the student must also answer with one (1) response. Each topical discussion question, therefore, requires two (2) total posts/responses from the student (Total of 5 forums x 2 posts = 10 total posts).
  - C. Student-Professor Forum: The student is required to post four (4) times in this forum. Posts in this forum should focus on course-related content such as research paper topics, lectures and reading assignments, or other academic issues related to the course.
2. Student-Student Forum (5 total posts)

A post may be either a new topic or a response to an already existing topic.

## *Examinations (Final 20%):*

The exam for this course is to be taken online in the Learning Management System (LMS). After clicking on the exam link you, will be given detailed instructions about the exam. Please read these instructions carefully before entering the exam. Please note that you are required to have a proctor for all exams. Please see the proctor policy in the Global Student Handbook.

## *Reflective Paper (25%):*

You will write a reflection paper (550-600 words each) on the following books: *Reset*, *The Shepherd Leader*, and *Pastors and Their Critics*. No title page is necessary. Papers should be 1.5 spaced, one-inch margins on all sides, Times New Roman 12-point font, with name and date in the upper right-hand corner. Include the word count at the end of your paper. I will not accept papers that exceed the word count.

## *Reading Report (15%):*

All reading materials should be read in their entirety. Since these readings are an essential part of your seminary preparation for gospel ministry, skimming is forbidden. You will indicate the percentage of the reading completed by completing the "Reading Report" assignment in Canvas. The assignment consists of one question asking you to indicate the total percentage of reading completed. See the due date extension policy below. The texts listed as reference texts are not part of your reading report but needed for select references in the course.

## *Memorization (10%):*

You will complete this as a single quiz on Canvas. You will be required to reproduce both the scripture passage and WSC answers in the same quiz and indicate which translation you have memorized. You will complete this as a quiz on Canvas.

***Budget and Financial Report (10%):***

You will meet with the treasurer of your church to review your organization's budget and financial reports. After doing so, you will upload this completed form, answering all questions, including attesting to having met with your treasurer or financial officer.

***Mentor Report OR Course Application Paper (5%):***

If you are enrolled in an **RTS Global** degree or certificate program submit a mentor report. Every portion of the form (goals, summaries, assessments, and signatures) should be filled out completely by both the student and the mentor to receive full credit. You can download the Mentor Report form in your Canvas classroom. See specific instructions for this assignment in Canvas.

If you are receiving your degree through another **RTS campus** (Orlando, Jackson, Charlotte, et. al.), or special student (e.g. from another seminary), submit a 250-word summary of how you perceive what you have learned in this course will fit into the objectives you have for your ministry, your educational goals, or other objectives you wish to achieve in life. Course Application Papers (CAP) that fall well-short of 250 words will receive a grade deduction. See specific instructions for this assignment in Canvas.

***Assignments:***

Best practice for your time management is for you to submit all assignments at the end of the week in which they fall, using the upload links provided in the LMS. All work must be submitted by midnight of the course end date, per your course start letter. You are responsible for turning in all assignments on time; no late submissions are permitted. Any student who needs an extension must get approval from the Registrar prior to that time.

***Contact Information:***

Reformed Theological Seminary, Global Education  
2101 Carmel Road  
Charlotte, NC 28226  
(704) 900-1257  
1-855-854-6920  
FAX: (704) 366-9295  
E-mail: [dessa@rts.edu](mailto:dess@rts.edu)  
Web site: [rts.edu/campuses/online/](http://rts.edu/campuses/online/)



# Lessons

## Lesson One

What is Christian Leadership?

## Lesson Two

What do Christian Leaders do?

## Lesson Three

The Leader's Cultural Challenges

## Lesson Four

The Leader's Character

## Lesson Five

The Leader's Self-Care, Family Care, and Accountability

## Lesson Six

The Leader and Organizational Administration

## Lesson Seven

The Leader and His Fellow Church Officers and Leaders

## Lesson Eight

Developing a Shepherding Strategy

## Lesson Nine

The Leader in Conflict

## Lesson Ten

The Leader and Christian Education

## Lesson Eleven

The Habits of Effective Ministers

## Lesson Twelve

Listening to History and Keeping Your Promises

**Course Objectives Related to Student Learning Outcomes**

Course: Leadership & Discipleship

Professor: Dr. Charles M. Wingard

<b>MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes</b> <i>In order to measure the success of the MDiv curriculum, RTS has defined the following as the intended outcomes of the student learning process. Each course contributes to these overall outcomes. This rubric shows the contribution of this course to the MDiv outcomes. *As the MDiv is the core degree at RTS, the MDiv rubric will be used in this syllabus</i>		<b>Rubric</b>	<b>Mini-Justification</b>
<b>Articulation (oral &amp; written)</b>	Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both oral and written, of essential biblical, theological, historical, and cultural/global information, including details, concepts, and frameworks.	Strong	By participation in class and through written reports, students will demonstrate their ability to present biblical principles of pastoral leadership and will be equipped to take that to their congregations in ministry.
<b>Scripture</b>	Significant knowledge of the original meaning of Scripture. Also, the concepts for and skill to research further into the original meaning of Scripture and to apply Scripture to a variety of modern circumstances. (Includes appropriate use of original languages and hermeneutics; and integrates theological, historical, and cultural/global perspectives.)	Moderate	Students will learn the basics of pastoral leadership through a careful study of 1 Thessalonians and the Pastoral Epistles.
<b>Reformed Theology</b>	Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.	Strong	Course is practical in focus, but the study of the Bible and Reformed theology are indispensable to shaping faithful ministry in the Reformed tradition. Students are expected to articulate the relationship between catechetical instruction and discipleship formation.
<b>Sanctification</b>	Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student's sanctification.	Strong	Holiness of life is indispensable to godly ministry. The nature and practice of pastoral piety will be explored.
<b>Desire for Worldview</b>	Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God.	Moderate	Students will be able to distinguish between unbiblical and biblical principles of leadership
<b>Winsomely Reformed/ Evangelistic</b>	Embraces a winsomely Reformed ethos. (Includes an appropriate ecumenical spirit with other Christians, especially Evangelicals; a concern to present the Gospel in a God-honoring manner to non-Christians; and a truth-in-love attitude in disagreements.)	Strong	The ability to lead God's church with grace, as well as biblical conviction is essential
<b>Preach</b>	Ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.	Strong	Pastors must provide a church leadership structure that gathers and nourishes God's people, and that systematically and winsomely commends the faith to unbelievers.
<b>Worship</b>	Knowledgeable of historic and modern Christian-worship forms; and ability to construct and skill to lead a worship service.	Strong	Focuses significantly on the role of the means of grace in the Christian life, notably on prayer.
<b>Shepherd</b>	Ability to shepherd the local congregation: aiding in spiritual maturity; promoting use of gifts and callings; and encouraging a concern for non-Christians, both in America and worldwide.	Moderate	The formation of a lived understanding of discipleship is a major focus of readings, lectures, and exercises.
<b>Church/World</b>	Ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues.	Moderate	Comparison of the Biblical, Reformed Theology with other systems. Significant focus upon spiritual implications of Reformed worldview.