

**Campus Ministry**  
*Summer 2023, Reformed Theological Seminary (RTS), Washington, DC*  
Syllabus

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**Course Description**

This class is a general introduction to campus ministry. When we do ministry to a particular demographic and place, it can be frustrating to figure out how to minister most effectively. Ministry can sometimes feel like we are walking in the dark, hands outstretched, trying to figure out what to do in order to see our people know Jesus and grow in him. We need to build a philosophy of ministry to help us do ministry on purpose, with our eyes wide open. In this course, we will build a philosophy of ministry for a campus ministry, and we will gain the information and tools needed to not only survive but also thrive during your first year on the college campus, serving students.

**Required Texts**

Everts, Don and Schaupp, Doug. *I Once Was Lost: What Postmodern Skeptics Taught Us About Their Path to Jesus*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2008.

Keller, Tim. *Center Church: Doing Balanced, Gospel-Centered Ministry in Your City*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2012.

Shadrach, Steve. *The God Ask: A Fresh, Biblical Approach to Fundraising*. Fayetteville: CMM Press, 2017.

Smith, James K.A. *On the Road with Saint Augustine: A Real-World Spirituality for Restless Hearts*. Grand Rapids: Brazos Press, 2019.

**Evaluation**

Reading: 35%

Each required text has a page of discussion questions that will be provided to the student and must be satisfactorily completed for this portion of the course.

Final Paper: 50%

A no-less-than 8 page (not including bibliography), properly formatted paper will be written by each student detailing their research on how they would proceed as a first-year campus leader on a particular campus of their own choosing. The university you choose must not be one that you have attended as a student. As you detail how you would

proceed in your first year, explicitly show how your approach would be the foundation for the fulfillment of a five-year vision for your particular campus.

Research for this paper should be gathered from online sources (academic calendars, course catalogs, marketing highlights), present campus-ministry leader interviews (with any campus staff presently staffed at that school), and traditional library sources including demographic data for that school.

Your paper should reflect the approach we have learned in class and should show thoughtful engagement with class content.

#### Class Participation: 15%

Most days, the class will be asked to divide into small groups (2-3) in order to work through case studies. The conclusions reached from these groups must be presented to the rest of the class during class time in a thoughtful way. Since there are only four days to complete class time, attendance is mandatory at all sessions unless “providentially hindered.” (These must be approved by the instructor to qualify for full credit for this portion of the course.)

#### **Course Outline**

All course readings are to be completed before that particular day of class.

Day One: The Need for Campus Ministry, Building a Philosophy of Ministry, and Theology

Reading: *Center Church* pgs. 13-25, 89-132

Day Two: Understanding Ministry Dynamics

Reading: *On the Road* pgs. 1-92; *The God Ask* pgs. 19-53

Day Three: Ministry Ethos and Posture

Reading: *Center Church* pgs. 154-178; *I Once Was Lost* pgs. 11-83

Day Four: Crafting Ministry Methods

Reading: *Center Church* pgs. 181-243; *I Once Was Lost* pgs. 84-134

<b><u>MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes</u></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.</i> <i>*As the MDiv is the core degree at RTS, the MDiv rubric will be used in this syllabus.</i>		<b><u>Rubric</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Strong</li> <li>● Moderate</li> <li>● Minimal</li> <li>● None</li> </ul>	<b><u>Mini-Justification</u></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. Also includes ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.	Strong	Students will be required to present on paper their processing of a philosophy of ministry for a campus of their choosing.
<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	Scriptural principles for campus ministry rest at the heart of this class' curriculum.
<b>Reformed Theology</b>	Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.	Strong	A thoroughgoing approach to a Reformed campus ministry will be considered.
<b>Sanctification</b>	Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student's sanctification.	Moderate	Maturity is defined as closing the gap between our actions and our stated beliefs. This is heart of a Biblical philosophy of ministry.
<b>Worldview</b>	Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God. Includes ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues.	Strong	Much will be made of interactions with rival worldviews on the college campus.
<b>Winsomely Reformed</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	How do the doctrines of grace and God's sovereignty create unity in my practice on campus?
<b>Pastoral Ministry</b>	Ability to minister the Word of God to hearts and lives of both church and unchurched, to include preaching, teaching, leading in worship, leading and shepherding the local congregation, aiding in spiritual maturity, concern for non-Christians.	Strong	The principles considered here have application in local church work as well as on college campuses.