

RYM CHURCH INTERNSHIP

Four-Year Master of Divinity Track* RYM & Covenant Theological Seminary**

Reading/Course Plan

I. Intern-Applicant Reading

A. To be completed prior to beginning internship

1. Engaging the Soul of the Youth Culture by Walt Mueller
2. Discipline of Grace, by Jerry Bridges
3. What Is Reformed Theology?, by R.C. Sproul
4. The Christian Life, by Sinclair Ferguson
5. The Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms with Proof Texts (Hardcover)
6. A Faith to Live By, by Donald Macleod
7. A Call to Prayer – by JC Ryle

II. Year One

A. Year One Bible Reading Plan (to be completed by May 30, 2009)

Every Day in the Word (ESV) – <http://www.gnpcb.org/esv/devotions/every.day.in.the.word/>

This plan features a reading from the Old Testament, New Testament, Psalms, and Proverbs each day. In one year, you read the Old Testament, New Testament, and Proverbs once, and the Psalms twice.

B. Year One Reading/Course Plan

1. To be completed by August 30, 2008

- a. Instruments in the Redeemer's Hand, by Paul David Tripp
- b. Hurt: Inside the World of Today's Teenagers – by Chap Clark
- c. Putting Amazing Back into Grace, by Michael S. Horton
- d. The Enemy Within: Straight Talk About the Power and Defeat of Sin – by Kris Lundgaard
- e. Evangelism and the Sovereignty of God, by JI Packer
- f. Chosen by God – by RC Sproul
- g. The Valley of Vision, by Arthur Bennet

2. To be completed by December 30, 2008 via distance education

- a. **CH310 Ancient and Medieval Church History** – Christianity from the Early Church to the dawn of the Reformation, with source material readings. Emphasis on the uses and applications of church history to life and ministry – 3 hours
- b. **CC310 Apologetics and Outreach** – An analysis of the philosophical, religious, and scientific beliefs and ideas (deism, humanism, existentialism, Marxism, mysticism, and Christianity) which have shaped different cultures and which are now reshaping our multicultural and pluralistic society. Differences in attitudes to the value and purpose of life, sexual identity and roles, racial and cultural differences, God, good, and evil, superstition, etc. are discussed – 3 hours

3. **To be completed by January 30, 2009 on site for one week in January term**
 - a. **CO310 Introduction to Counseling** - Survey of the main emotional and behavioral problems encountered in counseling. Theoretical frameworks for counseling. Principles of care and counseling, with strong emphasis on basic counseling skills and the ability to relate to others. Concentration on areas such as assertiveness and anger, guilt, forgiveness, perfectionism, depression, sexual orientation, pastoral care, etc. Lecture, role play, video, and discussion – 3 hours
 - b. 7 Habits of Highly Effective People – by Stephen Covey
 - c. Sanctification of the Heart – by John Cox (Tape Series)
4. **To be completed by May 30, 2009 via distance education**
 - a. **CH320 Reformation and Modern Church History** – Christianity from the Reformation to the present, with source material readings; Emphasis on the uses and applications of church history to life and ministry – 3 hours
 - b. **NT220 Life and Teachings of Jesus**—A study of the life and teachings of Jesus, focusing on the work He accomplished in salvation. Examines the historical setting of His ministry and the special emphasis of each Gospel – 3 hours (additional work will be required to upgrade this to an MDIV level course after the intern has completed Greek)

III. Year Two

A. Year Two Bible Reading Plan (to be completed by May 30, 2010)

Daily Chronological Bible Reading Plan (ESV) - <http://www.bibleplan.org/c2/esv/>

Read the events of the Bible as they occurred chronologically. For example, the Book of Job is integrated with Genesis because Job lived before Abraham. This reading plan is a copyright of Back to the Bible.

B. Year Two Reading/Course Plan

1. **To be completed by August 30, 2009**
 - a. The Contemplative Pastor – Eugene Peterson
 - b. Family Based Youth Ministry – by Mark Devries
 - c. Desiring God – by John Piper
 - d. Leading Bible Discussions – Nyquist & Kuhatschek (IVP)
 - e. The Quest for Godliness – by JI Packer
 - f. The Heart of Evangelism, by Jerram Barrs
 - g. Westminster Shorter Catechism in Modern English – Douglas Kelly
 - h. Westminster Shorter Catechism Study Guide – GI Williamson
2. **To be completed by December 30, 2009 via distance education**
 - a. **PT330 Christian Worship** - Public worship and the administration of the Sacraments. The pastor's personal responsibilities in community and denomination – 2 hours
 - b. **ST586 Christian Ethics** - An audiotape course (lectures by James M. Grier) taken by independent study under a supervising professor – 3 hours

3. **To be completed by January 30, 2010 on site for one week in January term**
 - a. **PT310 Spiritual and Ministry Formation** - Seminar instruction designed to help students understand, develop, and assess personal ministerial gifts, skills, and character. Focus on identifying strengths, weaknesses, and means of growth in the areas of being a disciple, servant/leader, and proclaimer of the Gospel of grace. Couples are encouraged to attend together – 2 hours
 - b. The Safest Place on Earth by Larry Crabb
4. **To be completed by May 30, 2010 via distance education**
 - a. **WM310 God's World Mission** - Biblical, theological, and historical consideration of God's redemption of His world, including integration with other coursework and unavoidable personal involvement – 2 hours
 - b. **NT319 New Testament History** – Intertestamental period and the New Testament's Greek, Roman, and Jewish backgrounds. Survey of Christ's life. Study of Acts and reading of New Testament epistles in their historical settings – 3 hours

IV. Year Three

A. To be completed by August 30, 2010

1. The Enduring Community (2nd Edition) – Brian Habig & Les Newsome
2. Disconnected: Prenting Teens in a MySpace World – by Chap Clark
3. Tell the Truth – by Will Metzger
4. Relationships: A Mess Worth Making – Ted Tripp & Tim Lane
5. The Pilgrim's Progress in Modern English, Updated Edition by John Bunyan, Edited by Edward Hazelbaker
6. **NT301 and NT302 – Beginning Greek** - Grammatical study of biblical Greek. Prescribed for entering MDiv and MAE.T. students without previous Greek knowledge. Students seeking to complete the MDiv in three years or the MAE.T. in two years must take these courses in the summer session prior to beginning their regular program in the fall semester – 6 hours

B. To be completed by December 30, 2010 in residence at Covenant Seminary

1. **ST300 Covenant Theology I** – Biblical-theological study of God's self-revelation in the history of redemption, culminating in Christ and the Scriptures; Emphasis on the thematic unity of kingdom, covenant, and mediator; the inspiration and perfection of Holy Scripture; basic principles of biblical interpretation. Prerequisite: NT301 in progress – 3 hours
2. **CM310 Preparation and Delivery of Sermons** – Basic principles of homiletics; structure of various sermon types; practice in composition, delivery, and voice methods – 3 hours
3. **NT303 Greek in Exegesis** – Rapid review of grammar and reading; further study of morphology and syntax principles. Prerequisite: NT302 – 3 hours
4. **CC506 Epistemology Elective** - Examination of the fundamental epistemological questions whose proposed solutions affect every area of life, especially theological studies, apologetics and spiritual experience. Includes an historical overview and analysis, biblical exploration, and an evaluation of current philosophical and theological proposals, in order to develop and appropriate a basic working approach - 3 hours
5. **ST350 Ecclesiology and Eschatology** - The nature and purpose of the church; the means of grace, especially the sacraments of baptism and the Lord's Supper; biblical-theological study of

the kingdom of God; the second coming of Christ and the complex of events associated with it, including the resurrection of the dead, the consummation of the kingdom, and the final judgment. Prerequisite: NT303 in progress – 3 hours

C. To be completed by January 30, 2011 in residence at Covenant Seminary

1. **CO320 – Marriage and Family Counseling—Taught by Zink** - Designed to equip pastors for marriage and family counseling in the local church, this course surveys biblical, conceptual, and practical issues involved. Importance of a healthy marriage relationship is stressed. Prerequisite: CO310 – 2 hours
2. Boundaries in Dating by Henry Cloud

D. To be completed by May 30, 2011 in residence at Covenant Seminary

1. **ST301 Covenant Theology II** - Biblical-theological study of God's self-revelation in the history of redemption, culminating in Christ and the Scriptures. Emphasis on the thematic unity of kingdom, covenant, and mediator; the inspiration and perfection of Holy Scripture; basic principles of biblical interpretation. Prerequisite: NT301 in progress – 2 hours
2. **NT320 Gospels** – The four Gospels' form and content as a distinct body of literature with exegesis of key passages. Prerequisite: NT303 in progress – 3 hours
3. **ST310 God and Humanity** – Doctrines of the Triune God and His relation to the created order; the divine decrees; the creation and fall of man; and sin. Prerequisite: NT303 in progress – 3 hours
4. **CM320 Elementary Homiletics Practicum** - Laboratory course in which students practice homiletical principles taught in CM310 as they preach two sermons. Prerequisite: CM310 – 2 hours
5. **NT330 Acts and Paul** - Purpose, theology and chronology of Acts; exegetical study of Paul's theology and major epistles, with exegesis of key passages. Prerequisite: NT303 in progress – 4 hours
6. **CC549 Movies and Theology Elective** – Film has become the premier story-telling medium of our postmodern culture, so, like Paul in the Athenian culture, Christians must develop discernment at the movies. While watching and discussing several films together, this course will explore ways in which film can be used as a window of insight into those who do not share Christian convictions and values, and as a point of contact to begin conversations about the Gospel – 2 hours

V. Year Four

A. To be completed by August 30, 2011 in residence at Covenant Seminary

1. **OT482 Pentateuch** – An audiotape course (lectures by Dr. R. Laird Harris) taken by independent study under a supervising professor. Credit, two units. – 2 hours
2. **PT340 Pastoral Theology** - A theological and practical study of the duties of the minister with special emphasis on the development and duties of the pastor as shepherd, and the personal care of the church and its people – 2 hours
3. **CC572 C.S. Lewis** A study of the life and writings of C.S. Lewis, aimed at critical appreciation of his work in literature, apologetics, and theology, and appropriating his contributions in these areas. Requirements include extensive reading of his best works – 3 hours

4. **CC544 Tolkien and Middle Earth** The Oxford professor and medievalist, J. R. R. Tolkien, is recognized as one of the greatest writers of the 20th century for his masterpiece, Lord of the Rings. This course will examine the background, major themes, and worldview of this literary classic – 3 hours

B. To be completed by December 30, 2011 in residence at Covenant Seminary

1. **CM330 Christ-Centered Preaching** - Preaching practicum with special emphasis on the place and uniqueness of the atonement in Christian preaching. Student will preach two sermons. Prerequisite: CM320 – 2 hours
1. **OT301 Hebrew** - Grammar fundamentals of biblical Hebrew – 4 hours
2. **ST330 Christ and Salvation** - The person and work of Christ, the mediator of the covenant of grace, with emphasis on the doctrine of substitutionary atonement. Doctrine of election and union with Christ, with special attention to effectual calling, regeneration, justification by faith, and sanctification. Prerequisite: NT303 in progress – 3 hours
4. **CE501 Educational Ministries of the Church** - An overview of the educational and training ministries of the local church, including biblical, theological and psychological foundations, the aims, methods, curriculum, organization, leadership, and evaluation of the teaching/learning process for various settings and age groups. (Previously PT520) - 2 hours
5. **NT350 Pastoral and General Epistles** - Continued study of Pauline corpus, through the Pastoral Epistles; exegetical study of general epistles and Revelation, emphasizing the contribution each makes to the New Testament canon. Prerequisite: NT303 in progress – 3 hours
6. **PT341 Ministry Leadership** - This course seeks to help students discern the mission of the church and develop appropriate ministries and programs to fulfill that mission. Topics include: leadership of self (personal management), church (developing lay leadership), staff (organization, management, working with volunteers), and finances (budgets) – 2 hours

C. To be completed by January 30, 2012 in residence at Covenant Seminary

1. **OT301 Hebrew** - Grammar fundamentals of biblical Hebrew – 2 hours
2. Bold Love – by Dan Allender
3. Sanctification of the Heart – by John Cox (Tape Series)

D. To be completed by May 30, 2012

1. **OT303 Hebrew in Exegesis** - Extensive reading, with grammar review; further study of Hebrew philology and syntax with a goal of greater accuracy in Old Testament exegesis. Prerequisite: OT302 in progress – 3 hours
2. **OT330 Old Testament Historical Books** - Survey and analysis of the historical books of the Old Testament in light of ancient Near Eastern history and historiography. Prerequisite: OT303 in progress. – 3 hours
5. **OT350 Prophetic Books** - Content and themes of the prophetic books of the Old Testament, with a focus on sound principles of interpretation. Includes detailed exegesis of key texts. Prerequisite: OT303 – 3 hours

6. **PT411 Preparation for Licensure and Ordination** - Designed to assist students in preparing for presbytery licensure and ordination exams. Review, memorization, and drill on commonly asked questions and answers. Fundamentals of PCA polity. Especially recommended for students seeking ministry opportunities in the PCA – 1 hour

7. **OT340 Psalms and Wisdom Books** Orientation to the nature of Hebrew poetry. Introduction to each poetic book within its ancient Near Eastern and biblical context. Survey and content sampling of each book. Prerequisite: OT303 – 3 hours

*Note: RYM is also pursuing a partnering relationship with other Reformed Seminaries; as these relationships are formalized RYM will add additional reading/course lists to the RYM Church Intern Manual as course offerings will be slightly different according to seminary.

**Subject to minor revisions by RYM and Covenant Theological Seminary.