Spiritual Autobiographies and Biographies
Hamilton Campus

CH670/Seminar Instructor: Dr. Garth Rosell
Thursday Afternoons Spring Semester 2013

A seminar designed to enable the student to read, analyze and discuss some of the major spiritual autobiographies of Christian history. One autobiography or biography will be examined during each class session.

Course requirements: A careful reading of the books to be discussed and preparation of a three page analysis for each of the volumes (page one: a brief summary and timeline of the individual’s life; page two: an outline of the book’s major themes; and page three: an identification of at least five significant implications for ministry--whether positive or negative--that you drew from the reading). The analysis papers will be due on the day that individual is being discussed. Students will also be asked to write their own spiritual autobiography (twenty to twenty-five page reflections on their own spiritual pilgrimage). These will be due at the time of the final class meeting on April 18th.

Classroom Presentations: During the first class meeting, each student will be assigned one individual whose autobiography we will be discussing in class. At the time of that class session, they will be asked to make a fifteen minute oral presentation introducing the historical and biographical context of the individual we are discussing. To prepare these presentations, students should consult at least one major biography of the individual they are presenting.

January 31: Introduction to the Course

February 7: St. Augustine of Hippo

February 14: John Bunyan

Reading Week: February 18-22, 2013 (No class)

February 28: Charles Haddon Spurgeon

March 7: William Wilberforce

March 14: Dietrich Bonhoeffer

March 21: C. S. Lewis

Reading Week: March 25-29, 2013 (No class)

April 4: Billy Graham

April 11: Ann and Adoniram Judson

April 18: Jonathan and Sarah Edwards

Suggested readings


