CH675: Readings in English Puritanism  

Hamilton Campus

CH675:  Readings in English Puritanism   
Spring Semester 2011

Dr. Garth M. Rosell, Instructor    
Mondays from 9:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

This course will explore the life and work of seven English Puritans (John Bunyan, Richard Baxter, Thomas Watson, John Owen, Richard Sibbes, William Perkins and Thomas Boston). Each student in the class will be asked to select one of these representative figures for specialized study. We will all, however, share in the common reading, analysis and discussion of one significant writing from each individual we will be studying. Class sessions will focus largely on a close reading, discussion and analysis (within the historical contexts) of each of the texts. Since the class is designed to be a seminar, it is limited to 16 students.

Course requirements:  Students who are taking the course for credit will be asked to read carefully and critically all of the assigned textbooks; to participate actively in the class discussions; to make oral presentations in class as assigned; to make daily devotional use of the collection of puritan prayers; and to write a 20-25 page research paper on the life and significance of one of our representative puritan figures. The paper is due by the time of the class meeting on April 11th. There will be no examinations.

Textbooks: In addition to the general reading, each student will be asked to read:

Kelly M. Kapic and Randall C. Gleason, eds., *The Devoted Life: An Invitation to the Puritan Classics* (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2004), and


Class Sessions:

January 31:  Introduction to the Study of English Puritanism

February 7:  John Bunyan (1628-1688)  

February 14:  Thomas Watson (d1686)  

February 28:  William Perkins (1558-1602)  

March 7:  Richard Baxter (1615-1691)  

March 14:  John Owen (1616-1683)  

March 28:  Richard Sibbes (1577-1635)  

April 4:  Thomas Boston (1676-1732)  

April 11:  Some Concluding Reflections on English Puritanism  
(including presentations and discussions of student research papers)