

#351 Westminster Standards
Western Reformed Seminary
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Spring 2012

COURSE INFORMATION

Purpose of the course

This course is designed to lead you into an appreciation of the Westminster Standards—their background and history, their particular teachings, and their importance for the teaching ministry of Presbyterian and Reformed churches. Particular attention will be paid to the Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms, with your reading a commentary on the Confession and detailed discussion in class. You will also read a harmony of the major Reformed standards and will memorize the Westminster Shorter Catechism, as an aid to future teaching and, for ministerial candidates, to possible ordination.

Required reading

- The *Westminster Confession of Faith*, the *Larger Catechism*, and the *Shorter Catechism*, with Scripture proofs
- Joel R. Beeke, and Sinclair B. Ferguson, eds., *Reformed Confessions Harmonized*
- A. A. Hodge, *The Confession of Faith* (if this book has not been read already)

Catechism memory

Use the Catechism Worksheet to keep track of your memory work. You may recite or write the answers to the questions to any qualified (and careful) listener. Have the listener initial your sheet when recitations are completed. Do shorter questions in batches of 3-5; longer questions may be recited singly. A suggested catechism memory schedule is included.

Grading

Reading	40%
Catechism	40%
Attendance and Class Participation	20%

Course schedule

		<u>Confession & Hodge</u>	<u>Catechism Memory</u>
Jan.	23	Introduction, pp. 1-24	
	30	Ch. 1-2, pp. 25-62	1-11
Feb.	6	Ch. 3-4, pp. 63-90	12-21
	13	Ch. 5-6, pp. 91-119 (Prof. Lensch instructing)	22-31
	20	Ch. 7-8, pp. 120-158	32-41
	27	Ch. 9-10, pp.159-178	42-50
Mar.	5	(no class)	
	12	(no class)	
	19	Ch. 11-13, pp. 179-201	51-59
	26	(Spring Recess)	
Apr.	2	Ch. 14-17, pp. 202-237	60-69
	9	Ch. 18-20, pp. 238-69	70-81
	16	Ch. 21-23, pp. 270-300	82-90
	23	Ch. 24-27, pp. 301-337	91-98
	30	Ch. 28-29, pp. 338-365	99-107
May	7	Ch. 30-33, pp. 366-397	READING ASSIGNMENT DUE; CATECHISM DUE