

Urbana Theological Seminary

Fall 2015 Courses | Classes start August 24, 2015

BIBLICAL STUDIES

BI 501 - 100 Old Testament Survey Wednesday 6:00PM - 9:00PM	K. Cuffey 3 Hrs
BI 510-200 Inductive Bible Study Methods Tuesday 6:00PM - 8:00PM	K. Cuffey 2 Hrs
BL 551 - 100 Classical Hebrew 1 Monday and Thursday 4:00PM - 5:45PM	Staff 3 Hrs
BL 605 - 130 Biblical Book Study: James Tuesday 4:00PM - 5:45PM	P. Spychalla 2 or 3 Hrs

CHRISTIAN HISTORY & THOUGHT

CH 501 - 100 History of World Christianity I Thursday - Bourbonnais Campus Classroom and Online 6:00PM - 9:00PM	J. Thomas 3 Hrs
CT 501 - 100 Theology I Monday 6:00PM - 9:00PM	T. Daly 3 Hrs
CT 600 - 100 Theology and Contemporary Issues Modular: (Fri Sept 11, 6PM - 9PM) (Sat Sept 12, 9AM - 4PM) (Fri Oct 16, 6PM - 9PM) (Sat Oct 17, 9AM - 4PM) (Fri Nov 7, 6PM - 9PM) (Sat Nov 8, 9AM - 4PM)	T. Daly 3 Hrs
CT 740 - 340 "Bigger on the Inside": Christianity and Doctor Who Thursday 6:00PM - 9:00PM	M. Green 2 Hrs

PRACTICAL MINISTRY

MN 740 - 300 The Bible, Culture and Sexuality Wednesday 6:00PM - 9:00PM	M. McQueen 3 Hrs
FM 502 - 100 Spiritual Formation and Discipleship Tuesday 6:00PM - 8:30PM	P. Spychalla 3 Hrs
PM 605 - 100 Forgiveness and Reconciliation Modular: (Fri Sept 25, 6PM - 9PM) (Sat Sept 26, 9AM - 4PM) (Fri Oct 23, 6PM - 9PM) (Sat Oct 24, 9AM - 4PM) (Fri Dec 4, 6PM - 9PM) (Sat Dec 5, 9AM - 4PM)	D. Green 3 Hrs
FE 101, 102, 103 - 100 Field Education I, II, III	B. Smith 0 Hrs
FE 500, 501 - 100 Field Education IV, V	B. Smith .5 Hrs

INTERDISCIPLINARY

GN 500 - 100 Introduction to Graduate Research Saturday October 10, 2015	Staff 0 Hrs
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UNDERGRADUATE

REL 104 - 100 The Bible: The Hebrew Scriptures (The OT) Wednesday 6:00PM - 9:00PM	K. Cuffey 3 Hrs
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TUITION

Graduate: \$325 / semester hour
Semester Fee: \$115
Audit Fee: \$325 / Class

Last day to register for class or change enrollment: 9/14/15

REGISTRATION

To register for classes and for more info visit our website at:
www.urbanaseminary.org
... click on "ONLINE REGISTRATION"

Fall 2015 Is Coming... Are you registered?

On Monday August 24 the Fall semester of 2015 at Urbana Theological Seminary will begin. We will be welcoming new students--both those entering programs and Visiting Students from the community, as well as undergrads transferring credit into U of I. A few interesting classes to note: Dr. Joe Thomas will offer the Church History course in the Kankakee area, the 2nd occasional course offered there as we test the waters for a possible ongoing cohort. There will be the usual array of solid introductory surveys (Theology 1; Old Testament; Spiritual Formation). We will also be offering some very creative courses, and we hope these will bring advanced theological education to a whole new cross-section of people : these include a course on the relationship between the long-running BBC TV series Dr Who and Christian themes (there is a relation!); a course on developing a Biblical view of sexuality, and a counseling course on Forgiveness.

Save the Date!

Urbana Seminary has two upcoming events that you will be hearing more about soon!

August 22

Back to school picnic. All students, alumni, and friends of the seminary are invited to a potluck! More details coming soon, or contact mgreen@urbanaseminary.org for more information.

November 7

Dr. Todd Daly will be giving a lecture about the ethical aspects of some issues that are currently being debated in our contemporary society. More details to come.

Pulled Apart or Pulled Together?

Family Life for People in Ministry

Ever felt the tug from both your commitments to family and to serve the Lord pulling you in opposite directions? What do you do? How do you maintain a healthy thriving family life at the same time as tending responsibly to the ministry God has called you to do? Urbana Seminary's Provisions for Pastors Initiative will present a day seminar on Monday October 5th, from 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM for people in ministry and their spouses. Dr. Bob Smart (Pastor of Christ Church in Normal, IL) will share from Scripture, from personal observing and counseling, and wisdom from his own life experiences to help other people in ministry and their spouses address the unique pressures of their calling.

Date: Monday, October 5, 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM

Location: TBA

Cost: \$25 per individual; \$35 per couple

For more information or to register, contact mgreen@urbanaseminary.org

Recent Publications:

Dr. Todd Daly's essay "Diagnosing Death in the Christian and Transhumanism Traditions" was published in *Religion and Transhumanism: The Unknown Future of Human Enhancement*, which was edited by Calvin Mercer and Tracy J. Trothen for Praeger press, 2014

Dr. Melody Green's essay "Story" was published in *Bigger on the Inside: Christianity and Doctor Who*, edited by Matt Thornbury and Ned Bustard for Square Halo press, 2015.



The Hearth: A New Name for the Urbana Seminary Newsletter

Remember that contest we announced last fall? The one to come up with a new name for the newsletter? Well, it succeeded! With this issue of the newsletter we have adopted a new name! From this point on it will be called The Hearth (The winner who suggested the name wishes to remain anonymous.)

The earlier name, The Flame, had picked up on our Seminary logo, the twin entwined flames. This logo reminds us of at least two important Biblical truths:

- The light of truth brightly burning in Scripture and God's very character that we reflect and teach as a Seminary
- The strength of our passion to know our Savior and to follow and love God through obedient lives

The new designation, The Hearth, adds an added sense of warmth and family characteristic of the center of a household to those twin themes, which are still evoked well through the logo. It seems so appropriate since we are known for the bonds and relationship connections formed within the Urbana Seminary community.

Ensuring the Future One Step at a Time

In 2015 Urbana Seminary will welcome a new crop of well-qualified and deeply earnest students enrolling in programs for the fall semester. We are also drawing near the completion of an exciting Strategic Plan to map out the next several years, while progressing on making a significantly higher number of library resources available to students and the broader community. These are some major steps forward, and we are delighted to be part of what God is doing. But we can't do this all without you! The support of a Prayer Team and of financial donors helps the fruit be lasting and significant in lives.

There's a number of those who read this newsletter whom God may be prompting to join the Seminary anew in either of these ways.

Would you pray?

If you would like to make a commitment to pray at regular intervals focusing on particular needs that the Seminary will notify you of via e-mail, please respond to office@urbanaseminary.org and we will add you to the list.

Would you give?

Would you consider joining the Seminary in a mission of building and equipping leaders and servants for the church and world? We need to raise \$2000 per month of new regular monthly donations before the year is over.

If you would like to make a commitment to be a part of our financial support team by giving regularly to the Seminary, you will help us reach our goal for Founders Fund Campaign 2015. You will also be engaged in a real ministry to God's glory, impacting students, and helping keep their tuition affordable.

Pray about this! And join us as God leads . . . send back the enclosed card to let us know. Yes, you can send a check each month, but we're finding that a number of our supporters prefer doing this through automatic withdrawal (fill in the appropriate details on the card before sending). And yes, any amount per month is a building block towards completing the goal. Or any other frequency of gift is appreciated too. Thank you!

Student Spotlight

Our Student Spotlight for this issue is Rodney Miller, who is working toward a Graduate Certificate in Christian Studies, and who is spearheading our Kankakee Cohort. Rod also engages in Civil War Living History events, where he often serves as Regimental Chaplain or as Preacher. Rod leads groups of reenactors in church services that reflect what as service during the Civil War would have been like. In this setting he is able to share the message of Hope that we have in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ with many folks who do not regularly attend a church, but are willing to sit through one of his services and listen because faith was such a significant part of the story that they have gathered together to act out.

Here is what Rod has to say about his experience here at Urbana Theological Seminary:

"I chose to start taking classes to get biblical training to equip me for ministry. I worked for 20 years in education and believe that the lord is calling me to work in a more direct or fulltime ministry at this point in my life. I have ministry experience, but I desperately need Seminary training to continue.

I appreciate the fact that each of the instructors that I have worked with here at the seminary are fully devoted followers of Christ Jesus. They speak and teach out of this passionate relationship. They also have a passion for the authority of scripture and to build up the body through equipping church leaders. Taking classes here, I have gained in knowledge of the Bible in depth, and I feel like I know what I knew before better. I have gained an appreciation for the study of God's Word. I have also built relationships with staff and fellow students that have served as an encouragement to me in my faith walk."



Besides preaching at Civil War reenactments, and heading up the Kankakee cohort, Rod is currently an elder at Calvary Bible Church in Bourbonnais, IL.

Rodney Miller preaching at a Civil War reenactment, where even the photographs look authentic to the era.

Check it Out at the Library

A lot of exciting things are happening at the Urbana Theological Seminary Library! First, we would like to thank several recent donors who have helped the library grow considerably in the last few months. This includes Richard Miller, U. Milo Kaufmann, Bob and Mary Sievers, Rick Snyder, Eugene Hall, Mark Stroughtman, and Kenneth Cuffey. The library is always accepting donations, and books that we cannot use in our collection are added to the booksale. The library booksale is one of the ways that we serve our community by making a wide variety of Christian materials available to not only our students, but anyone in the community for a very low cost. And not only the local community—people from as far away as Kentucky and Arkansas attended our last booksale, and left with boxes of books. This is one deal you do not want to miss! The next booksale will be held from 9-3 on Saturday, Oct 31, so be sure to put it on your calendar. Also, if you like books, are looking for something to do in your spare time, and/or are looking for something to do in your spare time, the library is always looking for volunteers. For more information about this or anything else listed above, contact mgreen@urbanaseminary.org

Celebrating the Class of 2015

On May 15th, Urbana Seminary observed its 11th Annual Commencement with a beautiful ceremony held at the Chapel of St John the Divine Episcopal near the university campus in Champaign. Two new graduates were added to the alumni association:



Bonnie Arends and Teresa Pratt, each of whom received the Graduate Certificate of Christian Studies. Dr Peter Spychalla delivered the commencement address. Both Bonnie and Teresa were exemplary students in their love for learning and a delight to have in classes. Both will continue their significant commitments to ministry in their local churches for the immediate future—Gibson City Bible Church for Bonnie and New Horizons UMC for Teresa. We will be excited to see how God will use these two in so many ways in the future.

Too much, too little, or just right? Announcing a Continuing Education in Ministry program

This fall Urbana Seminary announces a brand new option for training. Some people don't want a degree, but wish they had more accountability to learn than what an audit provides. When auditing, you sign up to come to class and soak up the lectures, discussions, and enjoy the other students and building relationships. But you do no homework and get no grade and no credit. Starting this fall, in all Seminary classes there will be a new option. Students who want something more than an audit but less than a class, as well as a certificate proving that they took the class, will want to consider taking their learning to the next level. To sign up to take a class in this program, you register at the low audit rate, then contact the office to let them know you intend to do this for a certificate of completion. You will then pay an additional \$100, and discuss with the professor what work needs to be done. The assigned reading and reflection is designed to ensure that you gain much more than you would by simply sitting and listening passively. At the end of each course for which this is fulfilled, you will receive an official Certificate of Completion from the Seminary. Call or e-mail the office to find out more about this outstanding new option to help people come in at just the right level . . . to maximize their benefit from Seminary training. (217-365-9005 or office@urbanaseminary.org)

Visiting Instructor Spotlight

This fall we have the pleasure of hosting Christian Psychologist Dr. Daniel Green as he teaches a modular class on Forgiveness and Reconciliation that will take place during three weekends over the course of the semester. Dr. Green has taught this class at the Evangelical Theological Seminary in Prague, where he has taught various Christian Counseling classes every summer for the last 17 years. He has also taught this class for Trinity International University, Elmbrook Christian Study Center, and the Wisconsin Center for Christian Studies. For the last 27 years Dr. Green has been the Clinical Director of New Life Resources, Inc, a Christian Counseling Center in a suburb of Milwaukee. He has written or co-written six books, including "Why Do I Feel Like Hiding?", *Overcoming Guilt and Shame*, *Overcoming Grief and Trauma*, and *Encountering Shame and Guilt*," all of which were co-written with Dr. Mel Lawrenz, retired pastor of Elmbrook Church. In the class he will be teaching for us, Dr. Green will work through various ways of understanding how forgiveness and reconciliation work, bringing together the two fields of psychology and theology. This counseling class will be helpful not only for pastors and people involved in various ministries, but will also be good for those who want to work through the ways that forgiveness and reconciliation can work in their own lives.



*Dr. Daniel Green
Clinical Director at
New Life Resources, Inc.*

Tolkien Conference

Urbana Theological Seminary is pleased to announce its fourth Annual Tolkien Conference! This year's conference will be held at Hessel Park Christian Reformed Church, on Saturday Sept 19, beginning at 9:00 a.m. and ending mid-afternoon. Five speakers will take turns speaking on various aspects of Tolkien's work. This includes Rick Williams of Judah Christian School speaking on Tolkien's little-known children's story about a dog, called "Roverandom." Michael Rassmussen from Trinity will be presenting on the topic of his master's thesis, Tolkien and medieval theology. Billie Jarvis-Freeman, who teaches part time at Lincoln Christian University, will speak on the role art plays in our perception of Tolkien's characters. Our own Melody Green will be exploring Tolkien's popular poem "The Riddle of Strider," looking at how the metaphors at work in it make it applicable not only to a specific character in The Lord of the Rings, but to our own lives, as well. Finally, our Keynote Speaker, Dr. Charlie Starr, author of *Light: C. S. Lewis's First and Final Short Story* and popular speaker at Tolkien conferences, will be speaking on how writers such as George MacDonald, G. K. Chesterton and C. S. Lewis influenced Tolkien. Each of our conferences has had an excellent mix of scholarship and fandom, while exploring some specific aspects of the relationship between the imagination and the Christian faith. Cost: \$25. Does include lunch. To register or for more information: contact Dr. Melody Green at mgreen@urbanaseminary.org

Israel in the Ancient Near East in Chicago

On Saturday May 30th an intrepid group from Champaign-Urbana headed north to visit the Oriental Institute Museum on the campus of the University of Chicago. There Dr. Ken Cuffey conducted the mix of students and seminary friends on a tour of artifacts from ancient Israel, Assyria, Babylon, and Egypt that correlate with the history and culture of the Old Testament. The collection of ancient near Eastern items at the Institute is outstanding, and the fellowship was delightful. Seeing an ancient stone relief of a king of Israel mentioned in the Bible (Jehu), decor from the palaces of Israel's nemesis the Assyrians, along with ancient altars for sacrifice truly give a richer understanding and more vivid set of "mind pictures" as you read the Bible. We will run this tour again, at the latest next summer. Why not join us for our next foray into the world of the Bible? If you're interested in joining our next tour, send an e-mail to office@urbanaseminary.org so you can receive notice once the trip is scheduled.

Interested in Counseling as a Ministry? Announcing the Formation of a Brand New Cohort

We receive requests frequently from people who want to pursue counseling as a ministry and desire training from a Christian perspective. This fall we are offering a counseling course on forgiveness, the first in a series of classes we plan to offer in an enriched counseling curriculum. One of our goals with this is to gather a group of people who are interested in pursuing this curriculum together and have them enroll in these courses semester by semester as a cohort, building deeper relationships with people of similar heart desires as you get equipped together. This would eventually lead to an Urbana Seminary certificate in counseling ministry, which could also easily be incorporated into a degree in a Master of Arts in Religion.

Would you like to get in on the ground floor of the new Counseling as Ministry cohort? For any questions, and to let us know of your interest, give the office a call (217-365-9005, ask to speak to either our Dean, Dr. Melody Green, or Dr. Ken Cuffey about the cohort), or send an e-mail inquiry for more information (mgreen@urbanaseminary.org).

New Online Store

Do you wish that you could wear an Urbana Theological Seminary T-shirt, to show off your school pride? Have you ever wanted a travel mug advertising our school? Well, now you can have those very items, and more! We are pleased to announce the opening of our own online gift store, where you can purchase all sorts of items displaying your affiliation with Urbana Theological Seminary. Each item in the store was hand selected and displays the Flame logo in black, with the school's name under it. While the link from the website is under construction, you can be among the first to check out the new store here: <http://www.cafepress.com/urbanatheologicalseminarygiftstore>