

PRTH 70970-050
Special Topics in Practical Theology: Presbyterian Polity
Fall 2021
2 semester hours

Instructor: Warner M. Bailey

Prerequisites: None

Description of Content: The purposes of this course are (1) to gain a working knowledge of the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) or the Confession of Faith of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, (2) to practice the application of its principles of worship and its polity in case studies and discussion, and (3) to deepen your understanding and sense of appreciation for the Presbyterian ethos of church order and discipline.

Class Procedures: Lecture, plenary discussions, guest presenters, readings as assigned, brief papers and one class presentation on given assignment. Final paper (5-7 pages).

Requirements: As a required course in the PCUSA and CPC ordination tracks, this course offers vital information and resources to any person preparing for professional leadership in the church. *It will be especially helpful to those contemplating passing polity examinations for ordination/certification.* Consequently, regular attendance and conscientious participation are expected along with a demonstrated command of assigned reading and completion of final paper.

Texts: *The Book of Confessions*. \$10 and *The Book of Order, 2017-2019*. \$10 (PCUSA). Steven P. Eason and E. Von Clemans, *Making Disciples, Making Leaders*, 2nd Edition, Participant Workbook, (Louisville: Geneva Press, 2016) ISBN-13: 978-0664503499, ISBN-10:0664503497 Aprox \$12.00
Joseph D. Small, *To Be Reformed, Living the Tradition* (Louisville: Witherspoon Press, 2010) ISBN 978-1571532107. Aprox. \$20.00
Confession of Faith For Cumberland Presbyterians, August 2001. Order directly from denomination HQ. \$10.
Humanity of God, Karl Barth, (Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 1996) ISBN 6-8641-8613-0 Aprox \$17. Amazon

<u>Grading Procedures:</u>	Attendance and participation in class	50%
	Paper	25%
	Presentation	25%