



DAVENANT HALL

Course Catalog

2022-2023 ACADEMIC YEAR



REIMAGINING THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION

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About Davenant Hall

Davenant Hall is reimagining Christian education.

The digital age, aided by the coronavirus pandemic, has totally disrupted established relationships between teachers, institutions, and students across the educational landscape, with theological education being no exception. Many well-established institutions have been slow to adapt to these radical changes, and have been left exposed as inefficient and overpriced. For motivated self-learners with a hunger to learn from expert teachers, a new educational landscape has opened up.

Davenant Hall is seeking to form this exciting new landscape. It combines the rich theological and moral vision of Reformed Catholic orthodoxy with a self-conscious desire to create unique modern expressions of the “Republic of Letters,” the dynamic intellectual community which characterized the Reformation era of learning.

We advance and renew Christian wisdom for the digital age, harnessing the new powers of the internet to offer effective and flexible online instruction, and the old practices of community and mentorship to seek wisdom together through discipleship retreats and residential intensives at our Davenant House property.

Taking these together, Davenant Hall allows students to engage the great tradition in order to mature and grow into whatever vocation God has given them. This curriculum affords students the opportunity to work through texts with guides who can enable students to more deeply know God’s two books, and themselves, in a way that moves them toward the mastery of wisdom: the effective grasp of Word and world, and the ability to see all things in the radiance the eternal Logos whose light enlightens all men and who can be found by those who seek Him.

We offer courses in Theology and Ethics, Bible, Philosophy, Christian History, Languages, and Literature. Courses run for 10 weeks¹, and are taught in 2hr weekly Zoom sessions, usually in a mixture of lecture and discussion. Students are assigned reading before class, and invited to participate in discussion outside of class in our Davenant Common Room Discord server. If students cannot make any sessions, recordings are available.

¹ Except in the Summer Term, which runs for 8 weeks. See “Term Structure” for more info.

Course and Degree Options

AUDITING

\$225 PER COURSE

Auditing a course gives students full access to classes, discussions, and readings, but no assignments are required and no assessment is given.

FULL COURSE

\$399 PER COURSE

Students enrolling for a full course will undertake graded assignments and receive a grade for participation. These classes are for-credit, so can be applied toward one of our degree programs.

FULL-TIME FULL-COURSE

\$275 PER COURSE
FULL-TIME DISCOUNT

For-credit students enrolled in at least four courses per term are eligible for a full-time discount. They will undertake graded assignments and receive a grade for participation. These classes are for-credit, so can be applied toward one of our degree programs. Full-time students also have the option to pay tuition for each year in advance at the rate of \$4,150 per year (residential courses paid separately), which represents an additional 18% discount off of the regular full-time discount.

CERTIFICATE IN CLASSICAL PROTESTANTISM

\$4,999 PER STUDENT
36 CREDITS
ONE YEAR
WITH DIRECTED READING
OR RESIDENTIAL

Our Certificate program is a one-year, 36-credit course of study* that could serve as a post-college gap year program, a qualification for Christian secondary-school or adult education teachers, or a strong launch-pad into graduate study. Most courses are on-line-only, meeting 2 hrs./wk. for 10 wks, but our Foundations module includes recorded lectures and an optional residential course.

Students can enroll at any time.

Students are required to take:

Foundations (6 credits):

- Mentor-directed Reading OR Residential Intensive 1: How to Read the Bible and the World (3 credits)
- Lecture Package 1: The Ways of Knowing (1 credit)
- Lecture Package 2: God: Essence and Attributes (1 credit)
- Lecture Package 3: The Biblical Story (1 credit)

*Assuming full-time status of five courses for three terms. Students may complete their degrees more slowly but will not be eligible for the full-time tuition discount (reflected in the prices shown here).

M.LITT IN CLASSICAL PROTESTANTISM

\$9,998 PER STUDENT
72 CREDITS
TWO YEARS
WITH RESIDENTIAL

Bible (6 credits)

- Core course: Natural Law and Scriptural Authority (1.5 credits)
- Two Bible electives (1.5 credits each)
- One 8,000-word integrated research paper (1.5 credits each)

Theology (6 credits)

- Three Theology electives (1.5 credits each)
- One 8,000-word integrated research paper (1.5 credits)

Philosophy (6 credits)

- Core course: Philosophy for Theology (1.5 credits)
- Two Philosophy electives (1.5 credits each)
- One 8,000-word integrated research paper (1.5 credits)

Christian History (12 credits)

- Core course: The Reformation and the Modern World (1.5 credits)
- Two Christian History electives (1.5 credits each)
- One 8,000-word integrated research paper (1.5 credits)

Language and Literature (6 credits)

- Three Latin courses (2 credits each)
- OR
- Four Literature electives (1.5 credits each)

Cost

The total cost of the program for full-time students paying tuition annually in advance is just \$4,999, including full room and board at one 2-week Residential Intensive courses (students opting for the Mentor-Directed reading will pay \$4,599). Part-time students pay somewhat more, but still much less than any comparable programs.

Our M.Litt program is a two-year, 72-credit course of study* that could serve as an alternative to an M.A.R. program at a seminary, a qualification for Christian secondary-school or adult education teachers, or a strong launch-pad into graduate study. Most courses are online-only, meeting 2 hrs./wk. for 10 wks, but our Foundations module includes residential intensives and recorded lectures.

Students can enroll at any time.

Students are required to take:

Foundations (12 credits):

- Residential Intensive 1: How to Read the Bible and the World (3 credits)
- Residential Intensive 2: A Protestant Christendom (3 credits)
- Lecture Package 1: The Ways of Knowing (1 credit)

*Assuming full-time status of five courses for three terms. Students may complete their degrees more slowly but will not be eligible for the full-time tuition discount (reflected in the prices shown here).

- Lecture Package 2: God: Essence and Attributes (1 credit)
- Lecture Package 3: The Biblical Story (1 credit)
- Lecture Package 4: God: The Trinity (1 credit)
- Lecture Package 5: The Story of the Reformation (1 credit)
- Lecture Package 6: Christ and His Work (1 credit)

Bible (12 credits)

- Core course: Natural Law and Scriptural Authority (1.5 credits)
- Five Bible electives (1.5 credits each)
- Two 8,000-word integrated research papers (1.5 credits each)

Theology (12 credits)

- Core course: Protestant Moral Theology (1.5 credits)
- Five Theology electives (1.5 credits each)
- Two 8,000-word integrated research papers (1.5 credits each)

Philosophy (12 credits)

- Core course: Philosophy for Theology (1.5 credits)
- Core course: Approaches to Defending the Faith (1.5 credits)
- Core course: Philosophy as a Way of Life (1.5 credits)
- Three Philosophy electives (1.5 credits each)
- Two 8,000-word integrated research papers (1.5 credits each)

Christian History (12 credits)

- Core course: The Reformation and the Modern World (1.5 credits)
- Five Christian History electives (1.5 credits each)
- Two 8,000-word integrated research papers (1.5 credits each)

Language and Literature (12 credits)

- Three Latin courses (2 credits each)
 - Three additional language courses—Latin, Greek, or Hebrew (2 credits each)
- OR
- Four Literature electives (1.5 credits each)

Cost

The total cost of the program for full-time students paying tuition annually in advance is just \$9,998, including full room and board at two 2-week Residential Intensive courses. Part-time students pay somewhat more, but still much less than any comparable programs.

Students completing this M.Litt will receive the title of Davenant Scholar and be invited to participate in a Davenant Scholars' Retreat at Davenant House at the end of their program. They will also be offered the opportunity to publish a polished version of their Integrated Paper in a Davenant publication.

M.LITT IN CLASSICAL PROTESTANTISM, PASTORAL MINISTRY TRACK

\$10,898 PER STUDENT
78 CREDITS
THREE YEARS
WITH RESIDENTIAL

Davenant Scholars proceeding on to further graduate study will be eligible for a Davenant Fellowship: a \$10,000 scholarship upon completion of a Ph.D. *In other words, Davenant Scholars completing the M.Litt and later completing a Ph.D will receive their entire tuition for the M.Litt program credited back to them.*

Our M.Litt, Pastoral Ministry Track program is a three-year, 78-credit course of study* that could serve as an alternative to an M.Div. or MATS program at a seminary. As a confessional institution, we require that Pastoral Ministry students choose a tradition-specific sub-track. For now, we are offering Anglican Studies, and Reformed and Presbyterian Studies; we hope to add a Baptist Studies track in fall 2023. Most courses are online-only, meeting 2 hrs./wk. for 10 wks, but our Foundations module includes residential intensives and recorded lectures.

Students can enroll at any time.

Students are required to take:

Foundations (12 credits):

- Residential Intensive 1: How to Read the Bible and the World (3 credits)
- Residential Intensive 2: A Protestant Christendom (3 credits)
- Lecture Package 1: The Ways of Knowing (1 credit)
- Lecture Package 2: God: Essence and Attributes (1 credit)
- Lecture Package 3: The Biblical Story (1 credit)
- Lecture Package 4: God: The Trinity (1 credit)
- Lecture Package 5: The Story of the Reformation (1 credit)
- Lecture Package 6: Christ and His Work (1 credit)

Bible (12 credits)

- Core course: Natural Law and Scriptural Authority (1.5 credits)
- Five Bible electives (1.5 credits each)
- Two 8,000-word integrated research papers (1.5 credits each)

Theology (12 credits)

- Core course: Protestant Moral Theology (1.5 credits)
- Five Theology electives (1.5 credits each)
- Two 8,000-word integrated research papers (1.5 credits each)

Philosophy (12 credits)

- Core course: Philosophy for Theology (1.5 credits)
- Core course: Approaches to Defending the Faith (1.5 credits)

**Assuming full-time status of five courses for three terms. Students may complete their degrees more slowly but will not be eligible for the full-time tuition discount (reflected in the prices shown here).*

- Core course: Philosophy as a Way of Life (1.5 credits)
- Three Philosophy electives (1.5 credits each)
- Two 8,000-word integrated research papers (1.5 credits each)

Christian History (12 credits)

- Core course: The Reformation and the Modern World (1.5 credits)
- Five Christian History electives (1.5 credits each)
- Two 8,000-word integrated research papers (1.5 credits each)

Language (12 credits)

- Three Latin courses (2 credits each)
- Three Greek courses Greek, or Hebrew (2 credits each)

OR

- Four Literature electives (1.5 credits each)

Pastoral Ministry (6 credits)

- Moral Theology for Counseling (1.5 credits)
- Classical Rhetoric for Preaching (1.5 credits)
- Exegesis for Preaching (1.5 credits)
- 8,000-word Reflection and Application paper (1.5 credits)

Confessional sub-tracks

In place of general electives in Theology and Christian History, students take six courses specific to the theology and history of the Anglican tradition, or the Reformed and Presbyterian tradition.

Anglican Studies Track

- Anglican Church History I
- Anglican Church History II
- Thirty-Nine Articles
- Anglican Theology (rotating focus)
- Anglican Polity
- Anglican Liturgy

Reformed and Presbyterian Studies Track

- Continental Reformed Church History
- British Reformed Church History
- Reformed Confessions
- Reformed Theology (rotating focus)
- Reformed Polity
- Reformed Liturgy

Practicum

Throughout their three years of study, students work with an ecclesial mentor—whether it's their senior pastor, diocesan bishop, or other designated leader—to acquire the skills,

experience, and character needed for on-the-ground ministry.

For the Practicum part of our program, we have teamed up with the innovative network NXTGEN Pastors, which has pioneered a unique cohort-based model of practical pastoral skills training and currently has over two dozen cohorts throughout the United States. Students are encouraged to connect with a NXTGEN cohort, but they can also arrange to work with an individual ecclesial mentor in their community.

Cost

The total cost of the program for full-time students paying tuition annually in advance is just \$10,898, including full room and board at two 2-week Residential Intensive courses. Part-time students pay somewhat more, but still much less than any comparable programs.

Students completing this M.Litt will receive the title of Davenant Scholar and be invited to participate in a Davenant Scholars' Retreat at Davenant House at the end of their program. They will also be offered the opportunity to publish a polished version of their Integrated Paper in a Davenant publication.

Davenant Scholars proceeding on to further graduate study will be eligible for a Davenant Fellowship: a \$10,000 scholarship upon completion of a Ph.D. In other words, Davenant Scholars completing the M.Litt and later completing a Ph.D will receive their entire tuition for the M.Litt program credited back to them.

Term Structure

The academic year is structured in four terms: Michaelmas (Fall), Hilary (Winter), Trinity (Spring), and an optional Summer term. All terms are 10 weeks, apart from Summer which is 8 weeks. Zoom sessions in Summer are 2.5 hrs rather than 2, to ensure equal class time. Fewer classes are offered in the Summer Term, due to residential courses being run at Davenant House.

2022-2023 ACADEMIC CALENDAR

FALL

MICHAELMAS TERM

9/26-12/10, 2022

WINTER

HILARY TERM

1/9-3/18, 2023

SPRING

TRINITY TERM

4/10-6/17, 2023

SUMMER

SUMMER TERM

7/3-8/26, 2023

Scheduling and Assignments

Classes only run if a sufficient number of students enroll. After registration, students will be surveyed for their availability for Zoom class times. Preference will be given to the availability of for-credit students. If students cannot make the scheduled class time, recordings of all classes will be available, and discussion is possible in the class channel on Discord. Alternatively, students can switch to another course at a more convenient time, or receive a full refund.

Any necessary books will be listed on the course curriculum before commencement. Other readings will be made available via Google Classroom. Assignments will also be posted in Google Classroom, or outlined in the curriculum.

Courses Offered

Please note that classes listed below are provisional. Teachers and course titles are subject to change, some courses may need to be dropped, and additional courses not yet listed will be offered. The latest course offerings for the upcoming term will always be listed at davenanthall.com, and registration will open for each term two months in advance.

MICHAELMAS TERM

FALL · 9/26-12/10/22

BIBLE COURSES

NATURAL LAW AND SCRIPTURAL AUTHORITY

Taught by Dr. Brad Littlejohn

Although Protestants are familiar with the doctrine of *sola Scriptura*, they are less familiar with the equally important Reformation teaching that God reveals himself through the “two books” of Scripture and nature, and how the two relate. This course, with readings from Aquinas, Calvin, Hemmingsen, and Hooker, along with key Scriptural passages, will help students understand the meaning of *sola Scriptura* and the use of moral reason in classical Protestantism.

COVENANT THEOLOGY IN REDEMPTIVE HISTORY

Taught by Dr. Dan McManigal

When dedicated readers apply themselves to Scripture, its abundance of themes swiftly becomes apparent: law, grace, worship, sacrifice, kingship, the church, eschatology, to name but a few. Amidst such richness, what, if anything unites things into a whole? In this course students will gain a firm understanding of the Old and New Testament hope of God’s people through the lens of the biblical covenants, and the application of covenant theology for us today. Careful attention will be given to the ways in which the major covenants of the Bible build upon one other, and give form and content to the work of God through Christ.

THEOLOGY AND ETHICS COURSES

REFORMING VIRTUE: VERMIGLI AND EDWARDS

Taught by Tim Jacobs

While foundations in virtue ethics rely on Aristotle and Aquinas, the Protestant reception of this tradition requires an ethic that fully considers the severity of sin and reliance on grace. This course introduces reformed virtue ethics through the study of Peter Vermigli's *Commentary on Aristotle's Nicomachean Ethics* and Jonathan Edwards' *The Nature of True Virtue*.

PRESENCE AND HOLINESS OF GOD

Taught by Ryan Hurd

God is with us, and holy among us. This course considers these two, presence and holiness, as said of God. We will not only give some understanding of these things in God, but also use presence and holiness as examples of the mode of how theology is done, broadly speaking. We will also consider something of the development of these names in the catholic tradition, as well as more recent explanations thereof.

PHILOSOPHY COURSES

THE PLATO SEMINAR III

Taught by Colin Redemer

The cornerstone of any philosophical education, Plato is often summarized rather than read. This class will engage first-hand with certain of Plato's works which form the backbone of the western Church's reception of Plato, most centrally the *Timaeus*. We will also read the *Gorgias*, as well as some shorter dialogues. Students will grasp the essence of Plato's own thought, the nature of philosophy, and its bearing upon the political and church community. This is part of a three-part Plato cycle, but students need not have taken previous Plato classes to attend.

APPROACHES TO DEFENDING THE FAITH

Taught by Joseph Minich

Apologetics is often viewed as a matter of mere arguments. This course, whilst surveying the major schools of apologetics, will reframe apologetic encounters as occurring between whole persons, with many persuasive tools coalescing to persuade one's interlocutor. Students will learn how to cultivate tools and habits of soul in order to be more effective Christian witnesses.

CHRISTIAN HISTORY COURSES

AN INTRODUCTION TO REFORMED SCHOLASTICISM

Taught by Dr. Michael Lynch

Although prior generations of historians were prone to denigrate scholasticism in the early modern period, including the scholasticism of the Reformed tradition, recent historiography has begun to rehabilitate its legacy. Taking a decidedly appreciative approach, this course will explore early modern scholasticism more generally, as well as the particular species of Reformed scholasticism.

STREAMS IN THE DESERT: THE CHRISTIAN WISDOM OF THE DESERT FATHERS

Taught by Dr. Matthew Hoskin

The course of Christian spirituality was established by ascetics in the deserts of Egypt, Syria, and Palestine in the fourth and fifth centuries. In this course, students will engage with the literature of these ancient Christian ascetics, from Antony of Egypt to Symeon the Stylite, learning about prayer, Scripture, and spiritual disciplines.

LITERATURE COURSES

C.S. LEWIS'S THEOLOGY OF LOVE

Taught by Dr. Jason Lepojarvi

What is love? Why does love make us vulnerable? Does eros aim at happiness? When does love turn into idolatry? These questions and more are addressed in this course on C.S. Lewis's key writings about love, in dialogue with both ancient (e.g. Augustine) and modern thinkers of love (e.g. Anders Nygren). The course will also feature two leading scholars as guest lecturers, and make use of Oxford-style tutorials.

ANGLICAN STUDIES

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND AND THE ANGLICAN COMMUNION SINCE THE REFORMATION

Rev. Dr. Charles Erlandson

Anglicanism was given its definitive and normative shape by the English Reformation, and yet religious identities develop over time, even while they maintain characteristics of earlier identities. This course will examine the evolution of Anglicanism from its Erastian identity at the time of the English Reformation to its diverse and global identity in the twenty-first century, paying special attention to both the continuity and discontinuity in this fascinating process.

REFORMED/PRESBYTERIAN STUDIES

EARLY REFORMED CONFESSIONS

Dr. Daniel Hyde

In the periodization of the Protestant Reformation, the era of "early orthodoxy" was one of developing consensus and confessionalization of what it meant to be catholic yet protestant. In this course, we will study a selection of those early attempts at confessionalization both ecclesiastical confessions from "churches under the cross" such as the French (1559)/Belgic (1561) and magisterial confessions such as the Second Helvetic (1566) and Thirty-Nine Articles (1571). We will also look at more intra-mural and regional confessions such as the Consensus Tigurinus (1549), which sought to unite different regions on the issue of the Eucharist.

HILARY TERM

WINTER · 1/9-3/18/23

BIBLE COURSES

EXODUS AND THE SHAPE OF THE BIBLICAL NARRATIVE

Taught by Alastair Roberts

The course will familiarize students both with the story of the Exodus from Egypt and with its gravitational pull upon the rest of the scriptural narrative. Students will study the literary means by which texts evoke deeper narrative patterns and the ways in which echoes of past events and themes, or anticipations of future ones, are used to communicate authorial vantage points, theological import, and ethical direction to readers.

THEOLOGY AND ETHICS COURSES

INTRODUCTION TO PROTESTANT MORAL THEOLOGY

Taught by Dr. Brad Littlejohn and Tim Jacobs

Protestant moral theology is memorably summed up by Martin Luther's dictum, "The Christian is the most free lord of all, subject to none. The Christian is the most dutiful servant of all, and subject to everyone." In this course, we will unpack this profound dialectic, explaining the true shape of Christian liberty that flows from justification by faith but that is ordered to love of neighbor in the life of sanctification. In the process, we will explore the role of the law, the virtues, and the conscience in a well-rounded Protestant approach to ethics.

IMPASSIBILITY AND PASSIONS OF GOD

Taught by Ryan Hurd

God is not passible and has many passions. This course considers these two, impassibility and passions, as said of God. Today, needless to say, much misunderstanding reigns on both of these issues: there are classical theists who say God is impassible and does not have passions, and relational theists who say that God has passions (often called "emotions") and is not impassible. Each is somewhat correct and neither is entirely correct. The position of the catholic church has always been very clear: theologians not only negate passions of God but also affirm passions of God. Understanding how this is remains crucial for many areas of theology. This course explains how these things are in God, and uses impassibility and passions as examples of the mode of how theology is done, broadly speaking. We will also consider something of the development of these names in the catholic tradition, and address contemporary departures on both sides of these questions

PHILOSOPHY COURSES

THE NIETZSCHE SEMINAR I

Taught by Colin Redemer

Perhaps the greatest critic of Christianity and Christendom to arise in the modern era, Nietzsche is too often avoided by Christians who would rather he not have existed. His critique is, if anything, more potent now than it has ever been before, and has much to offer by way of corrective to contemporary Christianity. This class will directly engage Nietzsche's central works *Beyond Good and Evil*, and *The Genealogy of Morality* as well as other selected readings including *The Birth of Tragedy*, and *Thus Spake Zarathustra*.

PHILOSOPHY FOR THEOLOGY

Taught by Joe Minich

This course will introduce students to the philosophical grammar that God's people have found useful throughout the ages in grasping the content of their faith. While this course will be weighted toward a broad survey of scholastic metaphysics, anthropology, and ethics, we will also consider other ancient and modern trends that have helped to illuminate the Christian faith.

CHRISTIAN HISTORY COURSES

THEOLOGICAL WORLD OF THE NICENE CONTROVERSY (325-407)

Taught by Dr. Matthew Hoskin

In the fourth century, the Church hammered out how to articulate the doctrine of the Trinity and produced some of the greatest theological minds of the ancient church. In this course, students will study not only the Nicene controversy from 325 to 381 but other theologians in that era, from Athanasius the Great to John Chrysostom.

LITERATURE COURSES

CHRISTIAN WOMEN INTELLECTUALS OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

Taught by Dr. Jason Lepojarvi

This course addresses key questions in theology, philosophy, and ethics (e.g. vocation, ordination, marriage, divorce, contraception, abortion) through the lens of three twentieth-century Christian intellectuals—Dorothy L. Sayers, Joy Davidman, and Elizabeth Anscombe—in dialogue with an all-female bibliography. The course will also feature, two leading scholars as guest lecturers, and make use of Oxford-style tutorials.

ANGLICAN STUDIES

THIRTY-NINE ARTICLES

Taught by Victor Austin

The Thirty-nine Articles of Religion (1571), despite widespread neglect today, remains the confessional standard throughout the Anglican Communion more than 450 years on. Frequently misrepresented as a minimalist consensus document, it is in fact a robust statement of reformed catholic faith. In this course, students will become familiar with its distinctives and guiding logic with the aid of Bicknell and Carpenter's classic introduction, and Oliver O'Donovan's more recent *On the Thirty-nine Articles: A Conversation with Tudor Christianity*.

REFORMED/PRESBYTERIAN STUDIES

HISTORY OF AMERICAN PRESBYTERIANISM

Taught by Dr. Michael Lynch

The history of Presbyterianism in America is, in many ways, a three-century long microcosm of religious history in America. In this class, we will trace the story of how Presbyterianism has adapted and survived in the New World, focusing special attention on the Old Side-New Side and Old School-New School controversies as well as the formation of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church and the Presbyterian Church in America.

TRINITY TERM

SPRING · 4/10-6/17/23

BIBLE COURSES

A BIBLICAL THEOLOGY OF THE SEXES

Taught by Dr. Alastair Roberts

Within the Scriptures there are a wealth of underexplored resources for a Christian understanding of the sexes: narratives, poetry, wisdom, prophecy, symbol, and letters. This course is an investigation of the scope of the scriptural witness on these matters, demonstrating the multiplicity of the ways that it can inform our thinking on the subject.

THEOLOGY AND ETHICS COURSES

THE HOLY SPIRIT

Taught by Ryan Hurd

Who the Holy Spirit is remains one of the more difficult and confused aspects of the doctrine of the holy Trinity: the Holy Spirit is not the Father, not the Son, but a certain other proceeding from both just as one principle, not through mode of nature or intellect as the Son but more through mode of will. This course considers who the Holy Spirit is through various names, e.g., the proper names holy spirit, love, and gift, and certain other symbolic names which further elucidate certain aspects pertaining to the Holy Spirit. Along the way, we will continue to press home more generally the mode of how the doctrine of the Trinity is done, using various problems unique to the Holy Spirit as exemplary.

FREE CHOICE IN EARLY MODERN REFORMED THEOLOGY

Taught by Dr. Michael Lynch

This class will focus on early modern Reformed expositions of free choice in their theological, philosophical, and historical contexts. Generally speaking, the course will cover the 16th–18th centuries, although classical and medieval treatments on the question of free choice will inevitably provide the background to much of the class material.

PHILOSOPHY COURSES

THE ARISTOTLE SEMINAR III

Taught by Colin Redemer & Tim Jacobs

Aquinas called Aristotle “The Philosopher,” and Heidegger advised anyone looking to begin a philosophical career to first read Aristotle for 15 years before reading anything else. In the Aristotle Seminar we recover the now-neglected Protestant tradition of closely reading the works of Aristotle in order to understand his insight into realities of the created world, but also with an eye to the implications it has for us as we contemplate God and his revelation in scripture. In this third seminar we will be focusing on Aristotle’s logical works in the *Organon* as well as reading selections of other texts. This is part of a three part Aristotle cycle; students need not have taken previous Aristotle classes to attend.

PHILOSOPHY AS A WAY OF LIFE

Taught by Joseph Minich

Philosophy at its inception was understood as a way of life, not the reserve of experts. This course recovers this approach to the philosophical enterprise, asking what it means to live philosophically, whilst cultivating a humble heart and bold curiosity. For the Christian, this pursuit of truth ultimately means seeing the divine Logos throughout the world and our lives.

CHRISTIAN HISTORY COURSES

REFORMATION AND THE MODERN WORLD

Taught by Dr. Brad Littlejohn

Once upon a time, Protestants liked to take credit for the glories of the modern world, but as attitudes on modernity have soured, many have been quick to turn the narrative around and blame Protestantism for its cultural decline. Was the Reformation to blame? What is the true story? This course will offer students a fuller perspective on why the Reformation was necessary, what aspects of Christendom it did and did not seek to change, and the lasting legacy it left, both good and ill, for the world we live in today.

AUGUSTINE'S CITY OF GOD

Taught by Matthew Hoskin

In this course, students will study St Augustine's *City of God Against the Pagans*, a wide-ranging exploration of history, theology, politics, and philosophy begun as a response to the sack of Rome in 410 but branching out into most areas of human endeavor. The main goal of this course is to read the whole book in its own context but not flinching from appropriate contemporary application.

LITERATURE COURSES

NATURE AND GRACE: WORDSWORTH'S THEOLOGICAL POETICS

Taught by Dr. Anthony Cirilla

Wordsworth is often depicted as a subjectivist, quasi-pagan poet, at the expense of his explicitly Christian writing. This course will seek to recapture the Christian assumptions guiding Wordsworth's Romantic vision of the relationship between poetics and nature, examining familiar works such as *Tintern Abbey* and *The Prelude* as well as less read works such as *The Ecclesiastical Sonnets* and *The Excursion*.

REFORMED/PRESBYTERIAN STUDIES

REFORMED CHURCH POLITY

Dr. Daniel Hyde

In modern descriptions of ecclesiastical polity, the terms Presbyterian, Episcopalian, and even Independent are used as ideal types. Instead of taking this approach, this course will examine a particular church order from a particular national church: the Church Order of Dort (1618-19). In doing so, our survey of ecclesiastical polities will take on life within one national church while giving us context to evaluate other Reformed polity models. Such a survey will examine the roles and qualifications of ecclesiastical officers, the relationship between local, regional, and national assemblies, issues of liturgy, sacraments, ceremonies, and discipline, as well as the interplay between civil magistrates and church governors.

SUMMER TERM

7/3-8/26/23

BIBLE COURSES

THE SOCIAL SETTING OF THE NEW TESTAMENT

Taught by Dr. Matthew Colvin

This course explores the social dynamics of the earliest Christians and rereads NT texts in light of primary sources from the ancient Jewish and Greco-Roman world, focusing on six areas: ethnicity, sex, the household, politics, rituals, and communication. The result is a clearer understanding of the gospel's reconfiguration of society.

PHILOSOPHY COURSES

PHILOSOPHY FOR THEOLOGY

Taught by Dr. Joe Minich

This course will introduce students to the philosophical grammar that God's people have found useful throughout the ages in grasping the content of their faith. While this course will be weighted toward a broad survey of scholastic metaphysics, anthropology, and ethics, we will also consider other ancient and modern trends that have helped to illuminate the Christian faith.

LITERATURE COURSES

GEORGE HERBERT'S PASTORAL POETICS

Taught by Dr. Anthony Cirilla

This course will be a sustained examination of Herbert's masterpiece, *The Temple*, which he described as "a picture of the many spiritual conflicts that have passed between God and my soul, before I could subject mine to the will of Jesus," in the light of *The Country Parson: His Character and Rule of Life*, a parson's manual which he regarded as a "mark to aim at" for himself as a pastor.

Additional courses to be added. Check davenanthall.com for updates.

Language Courses

THE ANCIENT LANGUAGE INSTITUTE

In January 2022, we entered a new partnership with the Ancient Language Institute, allowing us to offer students a full suite of ancient language courses in Latin, Greek and Hebrew. Founded in 2019 by long-time friends and collaborators of the Davenant Institute, the Ancient Language Institute encapsulates one of Davenant’s central missions: to go “back to the sources” – reading the crucial texts of the Christian tradition in their original tongues. Moreover, ALI’s approach to language pedagogy, which emphasizes inductive language acquisition and comprehensible inputs, aligns perfectly with Davenant’s approach over years of ancient language instruction.

All degree-seeking students will enroll in ALI to fulfill their language course credit, and receive a discount off of the standard ALI rates (\$436 full-time, \$623 part-time). Non-degree seeking students, including anyone who has even audited a Davenant Hall class within the past year, will be eligible for a 10% discount off of standard ALI course prices (\$850 for most courses).

ALI language classes run on a 3-term schedule with 14 week terms, while all other Davenant Hall classes will run on a 4-term, 10-week schedule.

For full information, and to register for courses, visit ancientlanguage.com.

ALI TERMS

- **Fall** (September to December)
- **Spring** (January to April)
- **Summer** (May to August)

ALI LANGUAGE COURSE OFFERINGS

LATIN COURSES

- Beginner Latin I (*101 & 102*)
- Intermediate Latin I (*102 & 103*)
- Advanced Latin I (*301 & 302: Ancient Rome Track*)
- Latin 210 (*The Vulgate Christendom Track*)
- Latin 320 (*Confessions: Christendom Track*)
- Latin Tutorials

HEBREW COURSES

- Beginner Hebrew I (*Biblical Hebrew 101 & 102*)
- Intermediate Hebrew I (*Biblical Hebrew 201*)
- Advanced Hebrew I (*Biblical Hebrew 301*)
- Hebrew Tutorials

GREEK COURSES

- Beginner Ancient Greek I (*101 & 102*)
- Intermediate Ancient Greek I (*201 & 202*)
- Advanced Ancient Greek (*301*)
- Ancient Greek Tutorial

Residential Courses at Davenant House

Residential courses are run for two weeks at a time between June and August. Sometimes multiple iterations of each course will be offered in the same summer. Check davenanthouse.org in November or later to find the following summer's schedule, and to register for residential courses.

**RESIDENTIAL INTENSIVE:
HOW TO READ THE BIBLE AND THE WORLD:**

“The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom,” but only the beginning. To cultivate true wisdom, we need to know both how to read Scripture rightly, and to read the world around us rightly, so that we can faithfully and accurately apply the Word of God to our own challenging circumstances. In this residential intensive course, you will learn to read the Scriptures as more than merely a plan of salvation or a set of precepts, but as a roadmap to the cosmos and a narrative of God’s action in the world. You will also learn what it means to discern the order of creation, and sort through the complex testimony of science, history, and philosophy in order to read the world skillfully.

RESIDENTIAL INTENSIVE: A PROTESTANT CHRISTENDOM?:

Protestantism has been one of the chief causes and the chief beneficiaries of the separation of church and state. Today, however, the concept of “religious liberty” is increasingly unclear, and Protestants struggle to articulate the proper relationship of faith to public life. In this residential intensive course, you will become better acquainted with the long debate over the relationship of spiritual and political authority, the Reformation’s decisive contributions to this debate, and the rich heritage of Protestant social and political thought, and will be encouraged to creatively apply this heritage to the challenges of our own day.

ABOUT DAVENANT HOUSE

Located in the Blue Ridge Mountains of South Carolina, Davenant House is the home of the Davenant Institute. It hosts our regional and annual events, as well as all Davenant Hall residential courses. Overseen by Michael and Lynette Hughes, it is surrounded by God’s glorious creation, and filled with books and conversation. It is the perfect place for study, reflection, and building the army of friends which makes our work possible.



Frequently Asked Questions

01 DO I NEED TO BE A SEMINARIAN OR GRAD STUDENT TO PARTICIPATE?

No, in fact, you do not need to currently belong to an academic institution at all. Undergraduate students, pastors, teachers, and independent scholars are welcome as well.

02 ARE THERE ANY PREREQUISITES?

Not generally, although certain courses may require certain other courses as prerequisites (e.g. languages). All classes are open to students 18 and over who are capable of deep reading, charitable engagement, and coherent writing (though of course students will be expected to grow in these skills through participation).

03 WHAT IS THE TIME COMMITMENT?

The standard format for online courses is 10 weeks, 2 hrs/wk. For-credit students should plan on spending roughly 4 hrs/wk on average outside of class for each online course. Full-time students should plan on enrolling in five classes each term (no less than four, no more than six).

04 DOES IT MATTER WHAT TIME ZONE I'M IN?

It is important that for-credit students be able to participate in most of the live classes, although auditors may participate via recordings only if desired. It is our goal to schedule live class times that will fit within normal waking hours for all enrolled students, wherever they live on the globe, though obviously the times will be more convenient for some than others. After the registration deadline, students will be polled to determine suitable class meeting times, and the time that works best for all participants will be selected. If the resulting time does not work for you, you will have the option of (a) switching to auditor and watching recordings, (b) switching to a different course, (c) receiving a full refund.

05 HOW DO THE RESIDENTIAL COURSES WORK?

Residential intensive courses will run for two weeks in the summer and should be considered full-time commitments during the two-week period. Davenant Discipleship Weeks will be scheduled with each student at a time that is convenient for them and their family.

06 ARE THE DEGREE PROGRAMS CURRENTLY ACCREDITED?

Davenant Hall is not currently accredited by any outside agency, although we believe our courses and our program as a whole conform to high standards of professional qualification, academic rigor, and student assessment. As the program grows, we are steadily building relationships with other academic institutions to have our courses and degrees recognized for transfer credit or advanced standing.

Registration and Payment

Register and find more information at davenanthall.com

TO REGISTER

Registration for each term opens eight weeks in advance at the Davenant Hall webpage—scroll down to see latest course offerings and click through to enroll, whether you're an auditor or full-course student.

DEGREE ENROLLMENT

To enroll as a degree-seeking student in the Certificate or M.Litt programs, click through to the page with more details about your preferred program, and fill out the application form. Applicants must provide a Personal Statement, Writing Sample, Academic Reference, and Character Reference. Once all documents are received, we usually respond within three weeks on admission decisions. Admissions are on a rolling basis, so you can apply at any time of year and jump straight in to classes the first time after admission!

PAYMENT

Payment is generally on a per-course basis, and is charged to registrants two and a half weeks before the start date of your class. Full-time degree-seeking students may opt to pay tuition for the full year in advance in a single payment of \$4,150, representing an 18% discount off of the cost of individual course registration.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Currently, we do not offer scholarships, choosing instead to keep standard tuition extremely low across the board. However, we know there are occasionally special circumstances that make tuition payment challenging, and can occasionally make special arrangements on a case-by-case basis.

Email Lynette Hughes at registrar@davenantinstitute.org for all inquiries.



DAVENANT HALL

REIMAGINING THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION

davenanthall.com