# HISTORY AND THEOLOGY OF THE EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH

**HSTY 7300, 3 Credits**

**Dr. Philip J. Anderson**

**January 7-11, 2013**

**North Park Theological Seminary, Chicago Illinois**

## Purpose:

The purpose of this survey course is to assist students in gaining a deeper knowledge of and appreciation for the history of the Evangelical Covenant Church. This includes background in the Reformation tradition of Sweden and Europe, as well as the Free Church movements that influenced the revivals of the nineteenth century. The transplantation of the Swedish renewal to America by immigrants provides the more immediate context of the denomination's history. The course will also examine the theological roots and development of the Covenant's story into the twenty-first century and explore the meanings of that heritage for today. This intensive course is specifically designed for students in the SemConnect program.

Because of the size of the class, as well as the body of material that needs to be conveyed in such a short time, the normal format of the course will be lecture and discussion. Students are encouraged to raise pertinent questions in class arising from the readings and lectures. The primary emphases in the course are: the basic mastery of the assigned readings; the opportunity to engage in research and writing; and the ability to discern and articulate the relevance of the historical issues for the life of the church in the present.

## Required Readings:

The required texts are available at Covenant Bookstore, and may be ordered directly http://www.covenantbookstore.com/cecoexorpr.html:

Glenn P. Anderson, ed., *Covenant Roots: Sources and Affirmations* (1999 ed.)

Donald C. Frisk, *Covenant Affirmations: This We Believe* (1981)

Karl A. Olsson, *By One Spirit* (1962)

_____, *Into One Body . . . By the Cross*, vol. 2 (1986)

Zenos E. Hawkinson, *Anatomy of the Pilgrim Experience* (2000)

Selected readings posted on Moodle

Before the beginning of the class, students will be required to read *By One Spirit*, *Anatomy of the Pilgrim Experience*, and *Covenant Affirmations*. While at NPTS, there will be opportunity to read *Into One Body* and *Covenant Roots*, as well as review the pre-reading. With the one-week concentration of a three-credit course, **it is imperative that students complete all pre-class reading**. It will also make it possible for students to begin a research topic.

## Written Assignments:

A. Two written essay examinations, one in-class, one take-home.

**B.** A research paper on some aspect of Covenant history and theology. Because of the compact character of the course, the topic needs to be manageable. The length should be 15 pages, exclusive of notes and bibliography.
**This paper is due no later than February 22.**

**C.** A 3 page paper describing the student's perceptions of the "essence" of the ECC.
**This paper is due before class, Tuesday, January 8.**

### *Daily Schedule:*

**Session I:** 8:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.
**Break:** 10:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m.
**Session II:** 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
**Lunch:** 12:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.
**Session III:** 2:30 p.m.-4:15 p.m.
**Break:** 4:15 p.m.-4:30 p.m.
**Session IV:** 4:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m.

PLEASE STOP BY OR SET UP AN APPOINTMENT TO DISCUSS ANYTHING PERTAINING TO THE COURSE (OR ANYTHING FOR THAT MATTER!): 773-244-6218; panderson@northpark.edu

North Park Theological Seminary provides services for students with documented disabilities to ensure equal access to programs, services, facilities, and activities. Students with a disability who believe that they may need accommodations in this class are encouraged to contact Seminary Academic services as soon as possible. If desired or necessary, discussion pertaining to documentation and accommodation can take place at another suitable location or by telephone. Further information about the American Disabilities Act is found in the Student Academic Handbook.

## Class Schedule:

***Monday, January 7***

- Introduction
- The Believers' Church Tradition and The Church of Sweden
- Pietism and Moravianism: The Source of Renewal
- George Scott and Carl Olof Rosenius

***Tuesday, January 8***

- Waldenström and Controversy
- Birth of the Swedish Mission Covenant (1878)
- Immigration: Uprooted and Transplanted
- Swedish Lutherans and Free Mission Friends in America

***Wednesday, January 9***

- Synodical Experiments and Struggles
- The Emergence of the Covenant Church in North America (Session in Covenant Archives)
- Examination
- Quest for Identity: Order and Disorder

***Thursday, January 10***

- Quest for the Church: Leadership and Ethnic Dilemma to 1920
- Turbulent Twenties: Fundamentalist Agendas and Generational Challenges
- The Emergence of an American Church (1930-1950)
- Structural Maturation and Critical Issues (1950-1967)

***Friday, January 11***

- Emergence of a "Functional Unity" (1967-1986)
- New Dimensions of Mission and Life (1986-1998)
- The Changing Face of Covenant Life (1998-2010)
- Challenges and Opportunities Post-125$^{th}$: The Past Is Prologue