DS 601 POLITY, MINISTRY AND MISSION OF THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

Instructor: Grant Rodgers
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Fall Term 2018 and Inter-term 2019
Dates: September 25/18; October 9/18; October 30/18; November 20/18; January 10—11/19
Location: VST room tba

Purpose: People entering into leadership in the Anglican Church need to have an understanding of how things work in our particular denomination (or at least how they are supposed to work); they have to know something about the nature and limits of the authority they will be granted and the expectations and responsibilities attached to the roles of Bishop, Priest, Deacon and Laity in the Church. This two-credit course will explore the nature, motivations and practices relating to ministry and mission in Anglicanism, beginning with an examination of the basic organization, structure and polity of the Church.

We will explore subjects such as:
Authority, organization, canons, synods, “instruments of unity”
Official roles, responsibilities
Transition from a colonial, expatriate church to a worldwide communion
The “marks of mission” and the motivations for mission then and now
Anglican Evangelism: not necessarily an oxymoron. The place of evangelism and intentional growth

Competence Objectives: demonstrate familiarity with specific aspects of Anglican organization, authority, governance, and modes of ministry; discuss the history, development and current place of mission in the life of the Anglican Church; demonstrate an awareness of the importance of canonical guidelines and develop an ability to make decisions in parish situations which require specific canonical parameters; develop a better understanding of what it means to interact with and serve the world around us; develop an ability to articulate why we exist and what we uniquely offer the community around us.

Prerequisites: HIS650 Anglican History, Spirituality and Theology; open to Anglican students in the M.Div. program unless by consultation with and permission of the Instructor

Required Reading:
Paul Avis, The Anglican Understanding of the Church, SPCK, 2000
Paul Avis, A Ministry Shaped by Mission, Bloomsbury T&T Clark, 2005
Book of Common Prayer, *The Thirty-Nine Articles*

The Canons of 1604 -- [https://www.anglican.net/doctrines/1604-canon-law/](https://www.anglican.net/doctrines/1604-canon-law/)

Book of Common Prayer: The Solemn Declaration of 1893

The Canons of their own diocese – usually accessible on Diocesan web page

The Marks of Mission: [http/anglican.ca/help/faq/marks-of-mission](http/anglican.ca/help/faq/marks-of-mission)

The Anglican Church of Canada, Historical Sketch for Anglican Residential Schools -- *text provided*

Apology to Native People: A message from the Primate, Archbishop Michael Peers, to the National Native Convocation, Minaki, Ontario, Friday, August 6, 1993 – *text provided*

**Recommended reading:**

Paul Avis, *Anglicanism and the Christian Church: Theological Resources in Historical Perspective* (New York: Continuum, 2002)


Steven J. L. Croft, Ian. Mobsby, Stephanie. Spellers, *Ancient faith, future mission : fresh expressions in the sacramental traditions; 2010; held by: Regent College*


Christopher Duraisigh, *From Church-Shaped Mission to Mission-Shaped Church; Anglican Theological Review, Winter 2010, Vol. 92 – available on reserve in VST Library*

Darrell L Guder, *Called To Witness*, Eerdmans, 2015

Richard Hooker: *Of the Laws of Ecclesiastical Polity* (full text can be found online)

John Jewel; *An Apology, or Answer in Defence of the Church of England, 1562* (full text can be found online)


Rowan Williams: *Why Study the Past? The Quest for the Historical Church* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2005)
Other online resources:


Fresh Expressions https://freshexpressions.org.uk/Online resources

Gifts for Mission: http/giftsformission.anglican.ca

Canadian Anglican Mission: http/anglican.ca/gifts/stewardship

Vision 2019: http/anglican.ca/v2019

Mission-Shaped Ministry http/churchmissionsociety.org

COURSE POLICIES

1. **Attendance**: 100% attendance is expected. The classes in the Fall term may be taken either in person or via Adobe connect, and the classes in the Inter-term require in-person attendance.

2. **Reading and assignments** Students are expected to read all required assignments before the applicable class and to complete all assignments within the specified dates of the course and term, as given by the Instructor. The assignment will be a **final paper of 10 pages, in the format approved by VST, due by March 1, 2019**, and evaluation will be given after a one hour interview with the Instructor. In the interview, which is to be initiated by the student, the student will be questioned about their paper and given opportunity to clarify things not adequately expressed in writing. **The interview must be completed by March 20 2019**

3. **Academic honesty** Students are expected to adhere to VST’s requirements for academic honesty as published in the Student Handbook.
4. **Inclusive language** In speaking and writing, inclusive language is expected when making reference to humans and a variety of metaphors are anticipated when making reference to God.

5. **Late assignments** Submission of assignments on time is a part of academic, professional and pastoral competence and a part of every course at VST. All assignments in courses are due on the dates specified in the syllabus. Late assignments/requests for extensions to be dealt with by the Dean, Dr. Pat Dutcher-Walls.

6. VST is committed to creating a safe space and an inclusive learning environment. If you have a diagnosed or suspected learning disability, chronic condition, mental health concern, or physical requirement which you anticipate may impact your participation in this class, you are encouraged to discuss your needs with the instructor and the Dean within the first week of classes.