

RURAL MINISTRY COURSES

RM DIPLOMA AND THEO CREDIT COURSES

RM 104/THEO 404* – Introduction to Rural Culture

This course offers an orientation to the rural scene, including rural values, economics, and environment. It also examines the importance of context and social location for exercising leadership.

RM 105/THEO 405* – The Rural Community

An examination of the changing context of rural communities and what will be required of rural churches to address this new context effectively.

RM 106/THEO 406* – The Ministry of the Rural Church

An exploration of the nature of congregational ministry in rural communities. It gives particular attention to worship, leadership, and pastoral care in rural congregations and to the difference a rural context makes in these areas.

RM 110/THEO 410* – Topics in Rural Ministry

An examination of the contemporary issues in rural life or rural churches that relate to specific aspects of rural life such as the challenges for rural communities of demographic and agricultural changes, the rural economy, or resource issues.

THEO 602* – Rural Life and Rural Ministry

This course examines the nature of rural life and community with particular emphasis on their implications for ministry in a rural setting. The various types of rural communities, the challenges those communities face, and the nature of the rural economy are analyzed in conjunction with a look at their implications for the place and practice of ordered ministry in these communities.

THEO 631* – Theology of the Land

An examination of the theological significance of land in relation to the contemporary quest for community and a sense of place. Specific attention is given to the theological, social, and ethical implications of the worsening ecological and agricultural crises, with emphasis on the pastoral context of congregational life and ministry at the local level.

THEO 702* – Supervised Practice of Rural Ministry

This course provides supervised experiences of ministry (8-10 hours per week) in a rural context where issues related to rural ministry, rural life, and rural culture are explored.

THEO 730* – Professionals in Rural Practice: An Interdisciplinary Approach

This course involves students and faculty from undergraduate medicine, nursing, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, education, and theology. The objective of this course is to help prepare professionals for the reality of working and living in rural and remote Canada. Among other things, it will examine how professionals try to maintain the sustainability of their professional practice, as they live within a community yet maintain a life outside their work. Toward meeting this objective, the course will employ a combination of lecture and discussion, student interviews of rural residents, and a compulsory rural orientation weekend.

Courses followed by * are half credits (0.5). Other courses in theology are required to complete a degree program. Please call Queen's Theological College or consult the Academic Calendar on-line at www.queenstheologicalcollege.ca for complete MDiv/ BTh degree program requirements. RM 104, RM 105, RM 106, and RM 110 are equivalent in subject matter to the THEO degree courses listed above ending in the same number, but they have fewer academic requirements.

“The rural ministry program has been beneficial to my ministry in two key ways. Firstly, it emphasizes the importance of context for understanding particular communities and their relationship to the land, sea, and/or other surrounding features: rural communities are largely defined by history and geography, and sensitive and productive rural ministry must embrace this truth. Secondly, it promotes an interdisciplinary approach to rural ministry, encouraging church leaders to reach out to individuals and agencies which share their rural space and which are often engaging issues similar to those facing rural congregations.”

Rev Don Stiles
MDiv in Rural Ministry
Arnold's Cove, NL

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information about any of these courses or programs, please contact:

Director, Rural Ministry Program
Queen's Theological College
Queen's University at Kingston
Kingston ON K7L 3N6

t: 613.533.2110

e: theology@post.queensu.ca

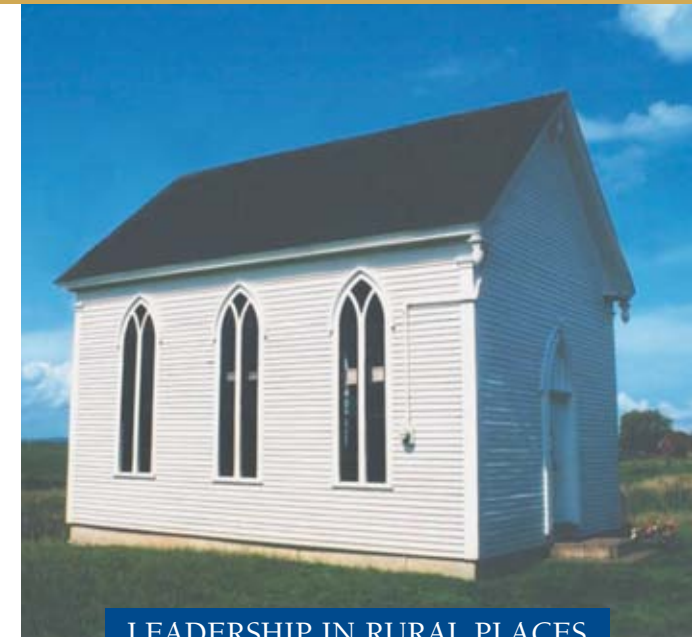
w: www.queenstheologicalcollege.ca



Queen's
THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

RURAL MINISTRY

DEGREE PROGRAM OR DIPLOMA



LEADERSHIP IN RURAL PLACES

COMMUNITY

CULTURE

CONGREGATIONS

QUEEN'S THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE



Established by Royal Charter in 1841, Queen's Theological College is located on the campus of Queen's University at Kingston in Ontario, Canada. Ecumenical in spirit and outlook, the College is affiliated with The United Church of Canada

and is a fully-accredited member of the Association of Theological Schools in Canada and the United States. Our degrees and certificates are awarded by Queen's University at Kingston, one of Canada's oldest and most prestigious educational institutions, and a global leader in research.

THE RURAL MINISTRY PROGRAM

Today's rural communities, rural congregations, and rural leaders in both Canada and the United States face daunting and unprecedented challenges. Queen's Theological College is a recognized educational leader helping to address these challenges, while calling for strengthened co-operation among rural organizations and rural leaders in order to maintain the strength and vibrancy of the rural community.

Situated in the heart of a predominantly rural region, and cognisant a majority of its Master of Divinity students serve rural congregations upon ordination, Queen's Theological College has developed a distinctive sensitivity towards issues facing persons in Rural Ministry. Because Rural Ministry is such an important focus for the College, Queen's Theological College offers a Bachelor of Theology degree and a Master of Divinity (MDiv) graduate degree with a concentration in Rural Ministry, and a Diploma in Rural Ministry, as well as Rural Ministry Symposia of interest to clergy and laity, in order to prepare persons for leadership in the rural community.

The Rural Ministry Program at Queen's Theological College has been directed by Rev Dr John H. Young since 1998, where he also serves as Assistant Professor of Practical Studies. John holds a PhD in the History of Christianity from Southern Methodist University and he is an ordained minister in The United Church of Canada. Prior to his appointment at Queen's Theological College in 1991, John served as minister first with the Rawdon Pastoral Charge in Nova Scotia and later with the Harrowsmith-Verona Pastoral Charge in Ontario, both multi-point rural pastoral charges. He has gained recognition as a teacher and church leader with a strong commitment to the rural church.

MASTER OF DIVINITY/ BACHELOR OF THEOLOGY

WITH A CONCENTRATION IN RURAL MINISTRY

Both the Master of Divinity and the Bachelor of Theology offers persons an opportunity to specialize in Rural Ministry and either degree can be completed within three years of commencing study if courses are taken during all three semesters. Denominational requirements such as internships may lengthen this program. Approximately one-third of the course credits required for the concentration are specifically in the area of rural ministry (see Rural Ministry Degree Courses listed on the following pages).

Admission requirements for the MDiv in Rural Ministry include a baccalaureate degree (BA or equivalent) from a university recognized by Queen's University. A minimum cumulative average of 70 percent (B) is normally required. An introductory course in world religions is a prerequisite or co-requisite to this program. Please call Queen's Theological College or consult the Academic Calendar on-line at www.queenstheologicalcollege.ca for complete MDiv/ BTh program requirements and special admission requirements for the BTh program.

DIPLOMA IN RURAL MINISTRY

The Diploma in Rural Ministry is designed for laypersons, clergy, theological students, and persons involved in rural organizations (including community volunteers), and is open to anyone who has completed high school. It seeks to address the traditional and emerging demands for leadership in a rapidly changing rural context.

The Diploma in Rural Ministry is awarded upon successful completion of RM 106 (required course) and any two of three other RM courses offered (listed below). All Rural Ministry courses are offered in an intensive week-long format in various rural, residential settings, each commencing on a Monday morning and ending on Friday afternoon. Participants are required to do work before and after each course.

The College offers at least two Rural Ministry courses every spring session. Diploma courses may be completed in whatever order one chooses, but all three courses must be completed within ten years of commencing study. With the permission of the Director of the Rural Ministry Program, one of these courses may be taken at another institution. A Letter of Completion will be awarded for each course.



THE R. ALEX SIM RURAL MINISTRY SYMPOSIA

Queen's Theological College organizes the R. Alex Sim Rural Ministry Symposium every two years at alternating locations within Ontario. Named after the renowned Canadian sociologist and educator R. Alex Sim (1911-2005), whose life epitomized a concern for and a commitment to rural Canada and its people, these symposia bring together church members, theological students, leaders in rural places, and clergy. Each symposium features one or more theme speakers and a number of useful workshops related to current issues and concerns.



"In order to provide leadership in ministry into the 21st century, it is vitally important to stay in close touch with those issues and ideas that most impact upon rural ministry. I have taken part in two courses in the Diploma in Rural Ministry program at Queen's Theological College and have grown both personally and professionally in the process. Both in terms of broadening information and expanding the network of like-minded colleagues, the program has proved most worthwhile."

Rev. William J. Palmer
Dexter/Brownville Parish
The United Methodist Church