

Day 1

1. Devo

2. Introductions

- a. Course Introduction
- b. XYZ Discussion
- c. Key Questions for Peer Review

3. What is a Dissertation?

- a. Intellectual Curiosity & Intellectual Humility
- b. Turabian
- c. Roberts

4. What is Dissertation Research? Part 1: Perspectives on Research

- a. Hermeneutical Circle / Spiral
- b. Defining a Project
- c. Choosing a Dissertation Topic
- d. Stages of Research & Writing
 - i. Four Stages of Research (First Steps, Academic Generalist, Academic Specialist, Revisions & Rewriting).
- e. Gilbert, et al., “Unit 2”

5. What is Dissertation Research? Part 2: Types of Resources

- a. Short Form Content
- b. Turabian: Primary, Secondary, & Tertiary Sources
- c. Evaluating Sources for Reliability
- d. Turabian: Engaging Your Sources
- e. Arguments from Authority vs. Arguments from Data
- f. Artificial Intelligence & Research

6. Workshop: Checklists for Evaluating Resources

Day 2

1. Devo

2. Fundamentals of Academic Research

- a. Intellectual Humility (Dunning/Kruger Effect)
- b. How to Judge a Book by its Cover
- c. Evaluating Resources, cont.
- d. How to Pre-Read for Better Reading
- e. Turabian, “Constructing Your Argument,” “Drafts”
- f. Roberts, “Organizing Yourself”

3. Biblical & Theological Research, Part 1

- a. Biblical Canon & Theological Research
- b. Roberts, “Reviewing the Literature”
- c. Machi & McEvoy, “Introduction”
- d. Gilbert, et al., eds, Chapters 6-8
- e. Taxonomy of Resources – Introductions, Dictionaries, & Journals
 - i. Introductions
 - ii. Dictionaries/Encyclopedias
 - iii. Journals

4. Biblical & Theological Research, Part 2

- a. Taxonomy of Resources – Commentaries, Monographs, & Do Not Use
 - i. Commentaries
 - ii. Monographs & Essay Collections
 - iii. Unsuitable for Research
- b. The Internet & Bible Software

5. Workshop: Bibliography of 10 Sources

Day 3

- 1. Devo**
- 2. Taxonomy of Theological Research**
- 3. Word Studies: Philosophy**
 - a. Hermeneutical Circles
 - b. Discourse Analysis
 - c. Aristotelian Rhetorical Triangle
 - d. Words are Made Up
 - e. Language is Fluid
 - f. Meaning on the Level of Discourse
 - g. Registers of Language
- 4. Word Studies: Tools**
 - a. Dictionaries & Lexicons
 - b. Two Types of Word Studies
 - c. Diachronic & Synchronic
 - d. Denotation & Connotation
 - e. Lexicons & Theological Lexicons
 - f. Steps for a Word Study
- 5. Theological Research & the Use of Accordance (Bible Software)**
 - a. **Setting Up & Using Accordance**
- 6. Workshop: More Resources for Working Bibliography**

Day 4

1. **Devo**
2. **Mastering the Academic Style**
3. **Evaluating Sources, revisited**
4. **Primary Sources for Biblical Studies**
5. **Conversations, part 1**
6. **Working Bibliography**
7. **Conversations, part 2**
8. **Workshop:**

Day 5

1. **Devo**
2. **Finalize Working Bibliography**
3. **Summarize Topics**
7. **Practical Theology, Quantitative Research, & Your Dissertation**
 - a. Define “Practical Theology”
 - b. Define “Qualitative Research”
 - c. Apply both to your project
4. **Final Thoughts**