COURSE SYLLABUS

Course Description: A study is made of the meaning and purpose of research. Students are directed through the process of utilizing tools, clarifying purposes, choosing methods, and drawing conclusions as the result of careful research. The course involves the use of a personal computer / word processor. Attention may be given to principles of grammar and punctuation, as well as such standard methods of exposition as narration-description, comparison-contrast, classification-division, and argumentation.

Purpose: Students enrolled in most seminary classes will be expected to do at least some formal writing to meet the requirements of the individual courses. RE 314 is designed to address areas of weakness or deficiency in the student’s research and writing skills.

Objectives: As a means of accomplishing the above purpose, the student will be expected to achieve the following measurable objectives:
1. Demonstrate ability to search for and select material from various sources that will aid the student in writing about selected topics.
2. Demonstrate ability to produce written material conforming to standard, edited English.

Student Responsibilities: According to the seminary catalog for 2010-2012, on page 44, “In keeping with Christian character, students are expected to attend all class sessions of courses for which they are registered, participate in class discussions, attend chapel regularly, and avail themselves of other opportunities for academic and spiritual enrichment while they are on campus. Tardinesses or absences from class or chapel may result in a reduction of the final grade a student may receive in a particular course. A student who misses more than one-fourth of the classes for any course, without extenuating circumstances, as determined by the professor, will receive an automatic ‘F’ for the course (In the case of this class, that means no more than three class periods. Any time lost through late registration or late enrollment is included in the limit of three absences). . . . Normally, for unexcused absence from a regularly appointed test or examination, five points will be deducted from the class grade for the semester. Three tardinesses are equivalent to
one absence. Student grades will be computed on the basis of attitude in class, class recitation, quizzes, and outside work.”

**Approach:** In order to accomplish the above objectives, the student’s writing skills will be diagnosed at the beginning of the semester, and course work and assignments will depend on the outcome of the diagnosis.

**Textbooks:**


**Additional Resources:**
You will find a variety of helps available online by accessing the seminary’s web site and navigating to the Kellar Library page. First, type the following URL into your browser’s address window and go to the site:

www.bmats.edu

Then click on “kellar library” in the box to the left. From the Kellar Library page, you can navigate to a wide variety of web sites that will be helpful to you in your research and writing, especially the one labeled “Research Assistance.”

**Assignments:**
In addition to daily work, every student will be required to write a paper for this class. Graduate level students will be required to write a paper consisting of 13 to 15 pages; undergraduate level students will be required to write a paper consisting of 3 to 5 pages. The paper will be due at the end of the semester, one week prior to final exams. The topic will be decided on in a few weeks.