

Lilly Endowment, Inc. has awarded New Brunswick Theological Seminary a program grant as part of its Theological School Initiative to Address Economic Issues Facing Future Ministers. New Brunswick's program – How Not to Mortgage Your Future – leverages the Seminary's strengths in contextual learning and educating diverse audiences to improve the economic well-being of its current students and future ministerial leaders.



**Free 2 Credit Course offering\* –  
Spring 2015 – Term B (begins March 24, 2015)**

Creating and Sustaining a Debt Free Ministry:  
The Clergy Cycle, Congregation and Church  
Instructor: The Rev. Dr. DeForest B. Soaries, Jr  
Tuesdays, 6:40 PM – 10:00 PM, New Brunswick Campus

**Course Description**

This 7 week course offers a historical, cultural, biblical and social overview of consumer debt in Western society. Students will explore the relationship between Christian faith, clergy and consumerism; specifically, the impact of debt on clergy and congregational ministry. Methods of assessing, addressing and avoiding high levels of personal debt will be developed. Consideration will be given to the implications of the prosperity Gospel theology and movement on mainline churches and clergy. Models for financial health among professional clergy will be designed.

This course also includes financial & spiritual coaching for seminarians. Students who successfully complete the requirements of the course, will be provided one-on-one coaching (approximately five sessions) with a spiritual coach who has special training in working with finances. Coaching sessions will examine approaches to handling debt, comprehensively look at consumer debt (car loans, mortgages, credit cards), as well as education loans as part of each person's total financial health.

This course is open to all Master's level students and alumni/ae.  
Registration deadline March 12, 2015.

For questions about the Lilly Grant, please contact Dr. Terry Smith, Director of Assessment & Academic Initiatives and Affiliate Assistant Professor of Biblical Studies ([tsmith@nbts.edu](mailto:tsmith@nbts.edu)).

For questions regarding registration, please contact the Registrar ([registrar@nbts.edu](mailto:registrar@nbts.edu)).

\* The cost of this course is underwritten by the Lilly Grant and is free of charge to all students who successfully complete the requirements of the course.

