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# Selected Sources for Understanding the Role of the University in the Reformation

Most of these twelve readings are readily available. A few may have to be accessed through Interlibrary Loan. Working through several or all of these chapters and articles will give the reader a clear understanding of how the Lutheran Reformers at Wittenberg University applied "the new learning" of the Christian humanities and the structure of the liberal arts. They did this in order to reform (but not revolutionize) higher education, not for the sake of education but for the sake of the Gospel. Such a study will give the reader an informed background for considering the condition and future of Lutheran higher education today.

Ashmon, Scott. Ashmon provides a set of articles for Lutheran higher education that sustain the liberal arts, the professions, and the Lutheran Ethos. See "Higher Education in the Light of the Cross," Dialog: A Journal of Theology, Spring 2015 Vo. 54 No. 1, pp. 93 – 103. See also the online three-part series, "An Eloquent and Harmonious Education." http://blogs.cui.edu/core/2016/10/24/an-eloquent-and-harmonious-education-part-i/

Benne, Robert. "Integrity and Fragmentation: Can the Lutheran Center Hold?" in *The Vocation of Lutheran Higher Education*, Jason A. Mahn, ed. (Lutheran University Press, 2016). Benne argues that Lutheran colleges are no longer recognizable as Lutheran higher education.

Dingel, Irene, Robert Kolb, Nikole Kuropka, and Timothy J. Wengert, eds. *Philip Melanchthon: Theologian in Classroom, Confession and Controversy* (Refo500 Academic Studies, vol. 7. Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, 2012). See also the Melanchthon book below.

Harran, Marilyn. *Martin Luther: Learning for Life* (Concordia Publishing House, 1997) Chapters 4, 5, and 7 address in helpful detail several of the university concerns in the Reformation.

Kittelson, James M. "Learning and Education: Phase Two of the Reformation" in *Die dänische Reformation vor ihrem internationalen Hintergrund*, edited by Leif Grane and Kai Hörby (Forschungen zur Kirchen- und Dogmengeschichte 46, 149-63. Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, 1990). This chapter examines the central role of education in the Reformation and how education fueled the reformers' many efforts in church and society.

Kolb, Robert. *Martin Luther and the Enduring Word of God: The Wittenberg School and Its Scripture-Centered Proclamation* (Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2016). See Ch. 8, "Instruction in Sound Teaching: The Wittenberg Curriculum, the Wittenberg Commentary, the Wittenberg Colleagues."

Melanchthon, Philip. *Orations on Philosophy and Education*, Sachiko Kusakowa, ed. (Cambridge University Press, 1999). Melanchthon sets out his agenda for a Reformation education in the first three chapters of the first section, "The Scope of Learning."

Moulds, Russ. “A Faculty and Model of Higher Education for the Lutheran University,” Issues in Christian Education, Spring 2017 Vol. 50, No. 2. With reference to Wittenberg, this article proposes a model and application of Lutheran higher education for the 21st century. https://issues.cune.edu/the-lutheran-faculty-pre-k-through-higher-education/

Rosin, Robert. “Humanism, Luther, and the Wittenberg Reformation” in *The Oxford Handbook of Martin Luther's Theology*, Robert Kolb, Irene Dingel, L'ubomir Batka, eds. (Oxford University Press, 2014). This chapter explains the background and role of the Renaissance renewal of the humanities in the Reformation’s university studies.

Rosin, Robert. “Luther, Learning, and the Reformation: A Look at Then with Some Thoughts for Now,” Concordia Journal, Winter/Spring 2017 Vol. 43, Nos. 1 & 2, pp. 89 – 105. The article examines how Wittenberg University replaced Scholasticism with the liberal arts and why this move served the Gospel both then and today. http://www.csl.edu/resources/publications/concordia-journal/

Witte, John. *Law and Protestantism: The Legal Teachings of the Lutheran Reformation* (Cambridge University Press, 2002). See esp. Ch. 2,” Loving thine enemy’s law: The Evangelical conversion of Catholic canon law,” Ch. 3, “A mighty fortress: Luther and the two-kingdoms framework,” and Ch. 7, “The civic seminary: The reformation of education laws.”

Wright, William J. *Martin Luther’s Understanding of God’s Two Kingdoms: A Response to the Challenge of Skepticism* (Baker Academic, 2010). Ch. 2, “Northern Humanism: The Context of Luther’s Two Kingdoms,” addresses the Reformation’s historical setting for higher education and the Reformers’ two kingdoms perspective.