

Restorative Reproductive Medicine Seminar

at Duke University

Seminar Director: John Thorp, MD, UNC School of Medicine

Presentations from:

- Peter Casarella, Ph.D.
- Joseph B. Stanford, MD
- David Gordon, MD
- Lesley Rice, Ph.D.
- Rachel Peragallo Urrutia, MD
- Rev. Jonathan Duncan

What is Included:

- Meals, lodging and seminar materials

Participants must cover their own transportation costs to Duke University in Durham, North Carolina

June 28 - July 1, 2026

This seminar considers “the contraceptive mentality” and new challenges related to in vitro fertilization (IVF) in light of restorative reproductive medicine (RRM). RRM is an approach to fertility care that focuses on diagnosing and treating the underlying causes of reproductive problems with the telos being restoration of natural function. Public opinion polls also show strong support for this restorative model, which has roots in the classical medical framework as well as in Catholic teaching and the natural law tradition.

Our discussion will be guided by these two moral frameworks, along with other religious and philosophical thinking on the issues of bioethics, public health, and medicine as it relates to reproductive health.

Students from various graduate and professional backgrounds are invited to apply.

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