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# CH 750 / MW 745 Methodism in Europe: 19th and 20th century

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Asbury Theological Seminary  
Fall semester 2002  
Course description

**CH 750 / MW 745**  
**Methodism in Europe: 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century**

Course: 8-9:15am Tues/Thur  
Professor: Dr. Patrick Ph. Streiff

**Description:**

The course will present an overview of the history of Methodism in Europe. It will include all the different Methodist traditions, British and American, and their mission initiatives in Europe. Special emphasis will be given to the European continent, west and east, north and south. In all countries of the European continent Methodism is a small minority church. The course will show the interaction between Methodism and the political, social, economic and religious history in 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century Europe.

**Objectives:**

Having successfully completed this course, students will:

- Be acquainted with some fundamental facts of European history in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century;
- Acknowledge different approaches of mission in the story of Methodism in Europe;
- Understand interaction between Methodism and its political, social, economic and religious environment;
- Place present discussions about the global nature of the church in a historical perspective;
- Have studied one subject (geographically, denominationally, theologically or chronologically) in more depth.

**Course Reading – Required:**

McLeod, Hugh, *Religion and the People of Western Europe 1789-1989*. Oxford University Press, 1997 (second edition) (150 pages)

Kimbrough, S T Jr., *Methodism in Russia and the Baltic States. History and Renewal*. Abingdon Press, Nashville 1995 (250 pages)

Garber, Paul Neff, *The Methodists of Continental Europe*. Editorial Department, Board of Missions and Church Extension, The Methodist Church, New York, 1949. (125 pages)

Wunderlich, Friedrich, *Methodists linking two Continents*. Methodist Publishing House Nashville, 1960 (ca 170 pages)

Total: 700 pages

For additional reading requirements (500 pages) according to personal choice see below under “course reading – recommended”.

## Course Reading – Recommended:

According to the theme chosen for the subject paper (see below “course requirements” point 3) the student will choose a total of 500 pages from the recommended reading or from additional sources for his subject study:

- Andersen, Arlow W., *The Salt of the Earth: History of Norwegian-Danish Methodism in America*. Norwegian-Danish Historical Society. Parthenon Press, Nashville 1962
- Barclay, Wade Crawford, *History of Methodist Missions, vol. III: The Methodist Episcopal Church 1845-1939: Widening Horizons 1845-95*. The Board of Missions of The Methodist Church, New York 1957
- Bebbington, D. W., *Evangelicalism in Modern Britain: A History from the 1730s to the 1980s*. Unwin Hyman, London 1989
- Copplestone, J. Tremayne, *History of Methodist Missions, vol. IV: Twentieth-Century Perspectives (The Methodist Episcopal Church, 1896-1939)*. The Board of Global Ministries, The United Methodist Church, New York 1973
- Davies, Rupert; George, A. Raymond and Rupp, Gordon (General Editors), *A History of The Methodist Church in Great Britain, 4 vols.*. Epworth Press, London 1965-1988
- Douglass, Paul F., *The Story of German Methodism: Biography of an Immigrant Soul*. The Methodist Book Concern, Cincinnati 1939
- Findlay, G. G., and Holdsworth, W. W., *The History of the Wesleyan Methodist Missionary Society, vol. I + IV*. The Epworth Press, London 1921 + 1922
- Hassing, Arne, *Religion and Power: The Case of Methodism in Norway*. General Commission on Archives and History, The United Methodist Church, Lake Junaluska 1980
- Hempton, David, *Methodism and Politics in British Society 1750-1850*. Hutchinson, London 1987
- Hempton, David, *The Religion of the People: Methodism and popular religion c. 1750-1900*. Routledge, London 1996
- Kent, John, *Holding the Fort: Studies in Victorian Revivalism*. Epworth Press, London 1978
- Meistad, Tore, *Methodism as a carrier of the holiness tradition in Norway*. ALH-FORSKNING 1994:2, Finmark College, Alta (Norway) 1994
- Schneeberger, Vilém D., *Methodism in Czechoslovakia*. Board of Higher Education and Ministry of the United Methodist Church, Nashville 1991
- Tabraham, Barrie, *The Making of Methodism*. Epworth Press, London 1995
- Turner, John Munsey, *Modern Methodism in England 1932-1998*. Epworth Press, Peterborough 1998

## Course Requirements:

1) Attendance:

The course requires preparation in reading and a regular attendance. (20%)

2) Paper on required reading:

Each student writes a paper of 4'000 words on McLeod, *Religion and the People of Western Europe* which includes a summary of the main argument and a personal evaluation of his or her knowledge and findings about Western European History in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century.

(30%)

To be submitted till September 26.

3) Subject paper

Each student will study one subject of his / her own choice (geographically, denominationally, theologically, chronologically) in more depth and with additional reading. The subject will be fixed after consultation with the professor. The written paper will be of 7'000 to 8'000 words. (50%)

Choice of subject by student: till October 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Submit final subject paper: till November 22.

### **Course contents and approximate schedule:**

Week 36:

Introduction into European history

Week 37:

Chap. 1: Methodist Churches which initiated mission – from the death of John Wesley to the 1870s

1.1 Methodism based in Great Britain

1.2 Methodism based in the United States

1.3 Developments in Europe

Weeks 38 and 39:

Chap. 2: Methodist missions in Continental Europe up to the 1870s

2.1 Mission initiatives in Scandinavia

2.2 Mission initiatives in German speaking Europe

2.3 Mission initiatives in Western and Southern Europe

Weeks 39 to 41:

Chap. 3: Methodist expansion in Europe from the 1870s to World War I

3.1 Christian perfection and the Holiness movement

3.2 Methodism in Great Britain

3.3 Methodism in Scandinavia

3.4 Methodism in German speaking parts of Europe

3.5 New European perspectives for Methodism

3.6 Methodism in Western and Southern Europe

3.7 Methodism in the Balkan and the Russian Empire

No course in week 42 (meeting of GBHEM)

Weeks 43 to 46

Chap. 4: Methodism between euphoria and depression: from World War I to World War II

4.1 World War I and reconstruction

4.2 Methodism in Great Britain and Ireland

4.3 Methodism in Scandinavia

4.4 Methodism in Germany

4.5 Methodism in Central and Eastern Europe

4.6 Methodism in Western and Southern Europe

4.7 Methodism at the end of World War II

Weeks 46, 47 and 49; no course in week 48 (reading week)

Chap. 5: Methodism in Europe after World War II

5.1 Into the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century

- 5.2 Methodism in Great Britain and Ireland
- 5.3 Methodism in Scandinavia, the Baltic and Eurasia
- 5.4 Methodism in Germany
- 5.5 Methodism in Central and Southern Europe
- 5.6 Methodism in the British tradition and / or autonomous churches in Southern Europe

No course in week 50 (examination week)