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DO 690 John Wesley's Theology for Today

Steve Harper

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Syllabus

Course: DO690 O1 (SP 2009)

Title: John Wesley's Theology for Today

Hours: 3.00

Published: Yes, on 01/30/2009

Prerequisites:

None

Department: Doctrine

Faculty: Dr. Steve Harper



Email: steve.harper@asburyseminary.edu

Office: FC

SPO:

Meetings:

During 02/09/2009 to 05/22/2009 on Tuesday from 9:00a to 11:40a in EXLEXL.

Maximum Registration: 30

Catalog Description: This course focuses upon the distinct theological contributions of John Wesley to the larger Christian tradition. It integrates theology and the practice of ministry by showing the impact of Wesley's theology on his ministry and indicating the relevance of the Wesleyan model for the contemporary church. ST501 is a recommended preparatory course.

Objectives:

DO 690

John Wesley's Theology For Today

2 or 3 Hours' Credit

Spring Semester, 2009

Tuesdays 9:00 a.m. - 11:40 a.m. (see **note** below)

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Dr. Steve Harper

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Course Description

The course will focus upon the distinctive theological contributions of John Wesley for the larger Christian community and for the Wesleyan family. Attention will be given to the roots of Wesley's theology, but the emphasis will be upon the value of the Wesleyan theological perspective for today.

Course Objectives

The course will seek to....

1. identify the roots of the Wesleyan tradition
2. discuss and evaluate the "Wesleyan quadrilateral"
3. articulate and interpret a Wesleyan theology of grace
4. show how theology and piety are synthesized in Wesley's thought
5. connect Wesleyan theology to the life of the church today

Course Textbooks

For Two Hours' Credit

Paul Chilcote, *Recapturing the Wesleys' Vision*

Steve Harper, *The Way to Heaven*

Albert Outler, *John Wesley*

A. Outler & R. Heitzenrater, *John Wesley's Sermons: An Anthology*

For Three Hours' Credit (add these two books to those above)

Albert Outler, *Evangelism and Theology in the Wesleyan Spirit*

Frank Whaling, *John and Charles Wesley*

Course Requirements

1. Reflection Reports (20%). You will prepare two reports on any of Wesley's sermons. Guidelines for this report will be given out the first day of class.
2. Book Report (20%). You will prepare one report on a selected book (other than textbook) that further informs you regarding Wesley's theology. Guidelines for this report will be given out the first day of class.

3. Class Meeting (20%). You will experience the Wesleyan class-meeting at stated times in the semester (see class schedule). You will write a two-page report of your experience.
4. Final Examination (40%). A comprehensive final examination will be administered the final week of the semester (see class schedule). A study guide will be handed out in advance of the exam.

Class Schedule

(Note: Readings are intended to be completed before the class session, so as to help create a common mind among participants)

February 10	Orientation Wesley's World Readings: Harper, Chapter 1 Outler, Introduction
February 17	The Wesleys as Theologians Wesleyan Theology Readings: Outler, Part One (37-116)
February 24	The Wesleyan Quadrilateral Conjunctive Theology Readings: Chilcote, Introduction
March 3	Theology of Grace Prevenient Grace

Readings:

Chilcote, Part One

Harper, Chapters 2 & 3

Sermons....

Original Sin

The Way to the Kingdom

March 10

Converting Grace

Readings:

Harper, Chapters 4 & 5

Outler, (119-220)

Sermons....

Salvation by Faith

Scriptural Christianity

Scripture Way of Salvation

Justification by Faith

The New Birth

The Marks of the New Birth

Great Privilege.....

March 17

Class Meeting

March 24

Sanctifying Grace-Part 1

Readings:

Harper, Chapters 6 & 7

Outler, (221-305)

Sermons....

The Witness of the Spirit

The Means of Grace

Duty of Constant Communion

Christian Perfection

Repentance of Believers

March 31

Spring Break

April 7

Sanctifying Grace-Part 2

Glorifying Grace

Readings:

Harper, Chapter 8

Sermons....

The Great Assize

April 14 Class Meeting

April 21 Ecclesial Theology

Readings:

Harper, Chapter 9-12

Chilcote, Parts 2, 3, & 4

Outler (308-317)

April 28 Theology and the Sacraments-Part 1

Readings:

Outler, (317-332)

May 5 Theology and the Sacraments-Part 2

May 12 Final Exam

Note: Students who are registered for 2 hours' credit will meet from 9:00-10:30 a.m. Students who are registered for 3 hours' credit will meet from 9:00-11:40 a.m. The third hour will be in small groups from 10:45-11:40 a.m., following a schedule prepared by Dr. Harper and based on readings in the book by Frank Whaling. Students registered for three hours will have this guide sent electronically to them.

On the dates marked "Class Meetings" students will meet in small groups, following the guide that Dr. Harper will distribute on the first night of class.

Bibliographies for the course are found in the textbooks rather than a separate handout.