

COURSE OF STUDY SCHOOL OF OHIO at MTSO

2022 Summer 2-Week

August 8-12 and 15-18

Zoom meetings 9:00-10:45 AM (Eastern time), Aug 8-11 & 15-18

COS 122 –Theological Heritage I: Introduction

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This course introduces the student to theological reflection in the Wesleyan tradition. Basic terms, tasks, and methods of Christian theology will be introduced. Representative classical themes will be defined and illustrated. The course provides a foundation for further historical and theological study.

Students will be able to:

1. Examine their understanding of faith, sin, salvation, grace, and the place of doctrine in the life of the Church.
2. Use and understand classical theological terms and themes.
3. Critically consider the sources of theological reflection, including scripture, tradition, experience and reason.
4. Reflect theologically as a resource for pastoral ministry.

Texts: Ted Campbell, *Methodist Doctrine: The Essentials*

Justo González & Zaida Pérez, *An Introduction to Christian Theology*

John Wesley, "The Scripture Way of Salvation"

(https://www.whdl.org/sites/default/files/resource/book/EN_John_Wesley_043_scripture_way_of_salvation_0.htm)

Make sure you read the sermon in John Wesley's original language. DO NOT work with it in an updated language version.)

By Water and the Spirit, GBOD, <http://www.gbod.org/resources/by-water-and-the-spirit-full-text>

This Holy Mystery, GBOD, <https://s3.us-east-1.amazonaws.com/gbod-assets/generic/THM-BYGC.PDF>

Note: If you don't know words in any of the reading, make sure you use the theological dictionary to understand theological words. Regular dictionaries (like Merriam-Webster) will be of little help.

Reference: *2016 Book of Discipline**

*United Methodist Hymnal**

Westminster Dictionary of Theological Terms, Second Edition: Revised and Expanded, Donald McKim

Supplementary: Ted Runyon, *The New Creation: John Wesley's Theology Today*
Ken Collins, *The Theology of John Wesley: Holy Love and the Shape of Grace*

Pre-course Assignments:

Before you read anything, write a 1-2 page paper of your current understanding of sin. I would advise you to read *Methodist Doctrine* and *An Introduction to Christian Theology* in their entirety before class begins to meet. It would be a good idea to reread the relevant chapters (listed below in the class plan) just before the weekend that we meet.

Also read for the first week paragraphs 102-105 in the 2016 *Book of Discipline*.

For the first paper, after you have done this reading, revise your paper on sin to reflect how the reading deepened your understanding. **Submit both the original and the revised versions as your assignment.** For the revised paper, be sure to refer (either by footnote or by reference in parentheses) to the places in the reading that informed your thoughts. Submit your original and revised papers to me through Populi by **August 1**.

Note that you will turn in two papers (original and revised) to me.

For the second paper, read "The Scripture Way of Salvation." This is a sermon written by John Wesley and I have posted an online version on Populi under "files." Find Wesley's definitions of "salvation," "faith," "justification," and "perfection," and compare and contrast them to your own understanding of those words. *Please note* I do not want you to write simply that you agree or disagree with Wesley. I want you to state his ideas and your own, and then show how they are alike or different. Submit your paper through Populi by **August 17**.

Final Open Book exam. You will be given one question to answer after our class meetings are done. It is due to me by **August 26**.

Asynchronous Online work: On Populi, I will create Lessons (with lectures and a discussion board for questions you may have) for the two weeks; lessons need to be completed by the time of our Zoom meetings according to our class plan.

Citing readings for papers: There are some special conventions for citing the *Discipline* and Wesley. Do not use page numbers for either of them. The *Discipline* should be cited by paragraph number (and you can add a heading in a long paragraph, for instance ¶105, Tradition). Wesley should be cited by section and paragraph (for instance II.2)

Class Plan:

First week.

August 8, Prolegomena. Review reading: *Introduction to Christian Theology*, chapter 1. *Methodist Doctrine*, introduction, chapters 1 and 7; 2016 *Book of Discipline* ¶105

August 9, God. Review *Introduction to Christian Theology*, chapter 2, pp. 33-49

August 10, The Trinity. Review *Introduction to Christian Theology*, chapter 2, pp. 49-54.

August 11, Human Nature. Review *Introduction to Christian Theology*, chapter 3 and *Methodist Doctrine*, chapter 3.

Second week.

August 15, Jesus Christ incarnation: Review reading: *Introduction to Christian Theology*, chapter 4, pp. 77-83.

August 16, Jesus Christ, atonement. Review reading: *Introduction to Christian Theology*, chapter 4, pp. 83-90

August 17, Salvation: Review reading: *Introduction to Christian Theology*, chapter 4, pp. 90-95; *Methodist Doctrine*, chapter 4, *The Scripture way of Salvation* (Bring UM hymnal)

August 18, The church: Review reading: *Introduction to Christian Theology*, chapters 5-7. *Methodist Doctrine*, chapter 5, *By Water and the Spirit, This Holy Mystery*.

Assignment Deadlines:

August 1: Turn in your original paper on sin along with your revised version. (**Two papers total**)

August 17: Turn in your paper on ideas in "The Scripture Way of Salvation"

August 26: Turn in open book final open book exam, which will be posted and explained the last week.

All assignments should be turned in as Word documents on Populi. Put your last name as the first word of the name of your document when you save it. Do not use Pages--there have been problems posting and opening Pages on Populi. I do not want a PDF. If you must post a PDF, I will not make comments throughout the paper, but only at the end.

Grading:

Papers (Original and revised paper on sin, Wesley sermon paper): 40% (20% each paper)

Open book final exam: 30%

Participation: 30%

Academic Honor Policy

The Course of Study School of Ohio requires that all material submitted by a student in fulfilling his or her academic requirements be the original work of the student.

Violations of academic honor include any action by a student indicating dishonesty or lack of integrity in academic ethics. Violations in this category include, but are not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, or knowingly passing off work of another as one's own.

Cheating includes seeking, acquiring, receiving or passing on information about the content of an examination prior to its authorized release or during its administration. Cheating also includes seeking, using, giving or obtaining unauthorized assistance in any academic assignment or examination.

Plagiarism is the act of presenting as one's own work with the work of another whether published or unpublished (including the work of another student). A writer's work should be regarded as his or her own property. Any person who knowingly uses a writer's distinctive work without proper acknowledgement is guilty of plagiarism.

A student found guilty of a violation of the academic honor code, after a review of the case, may be subject to one or more of the following actions: (1) warning; (2) probation; (3) suspension for the remainder of the course; (4) dismissal from the Course of Study School of Ohio; (5) grade of Fail for the course. Regardless of the outcome, a letter will be sent to the student's District Superintendent and Board of Ordained Ministry representative.

Course Of Study School of Ohio Attendance Policy

National policy from the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry (GBHEM) states that a student is expected to attend every class session. Unexcused absences may be cause for loss of credit or dismissal from the school. A student missing 20% or more of the classroom work shall not receive credit for the class. In the event of extenuating circumstances which require the student to miss up to 20% of a course (4 hours for an in-person class or 20% of synchronous time on Zoom for an online course), the student should contact both the instructor and the Director prior to the start of the class to get approval and discuss make-up work. Extenuating circumstances include emergency situations, illness, and dire circumstances, for example.

Cancellation and Withdrawal: Student must notify the COSSO office if they will be unable to attend class for which they are registered. Although there is no penalty when withdrawing more than two weeks in advance of the beginning of a term, registration fees are nontransferable and nonrefundable. A \$25.00 late withdrawal fee is charged for all withdrawals within two weeks of the start of a class. All tuition and housing payments are applied to a future term.

Students withdrawing after the start of a term will be assigned a grade of AW (Administrative Withdrawal) and will be responsible for the full \$270 tuition amount. Any annual conference scholarship applied to the student billing record becomes the student's responsibility and is due by the end of the term. Housing payment is non-refundable.

No Shows: Except in cases of immediate and dire emergencies, if a student misses any class without notifying the COSSO office, tuition and housing fees are due immediately, a \$25.00 no show fee is charged, and the student will receive an "F" in the class.