CH 600 XL Methodist History

William Kostlevy

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CH 600 – Methodist History
Spring, 2008

William Kostlevy, Instructor

e-mail address: billk@tabor.edu or bill_kostlevy@asburyseminary.edu
Phone: (620) 947-3121 (ext 1065)
Office Hours: by chance or appointment

Course Description

This is a survey of the emergence and spread of Methodism beginning with the career of John Wesley. Special emphasis will be placed on the planting and progress of the movement in America leading to Methodism today. This course meets a denominational requirement with for all candidates for the United Methodist ministry.

Course Objectives

1. Develop an appreciation for the heritage of Methodism.
2. Acquire basic factual knowledge of key people, ideas, events and movements that have helped shape Methodism.
3. Identify the theological shifts in Methodism.
4. Understand the present challenges and opportunities in the light of Methodist tradition.
5. Evaluate one’s Christian vocation in the light of Methodist history.

ExL Contact Information:
For general questions and administrative assistance regarding the ExL program, contact Dale Hale:
ExL Office@asburyseminary.edu
Phone: (859) 858-2393

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1. General Questions:
   The Information Commons is a "one-stop shop" for all student research, circulation and technical needs. The Information Commons hours are posted here: http://www.asburyseminary.edu/icommons/hours.shtml.
2. **Materials Requests:**
   - To search the library catalog for available materials, click here: http://www.asburyseminary.edu/icommons/index.shtml
   - ExL Students may request books, photocopies or emailed attachments of journal articles/reference books from Asbury Seminary’s Library. Please allow 3-10 business days for all requests to be filled. Contact the Information Commons for costs and instructions on how to make requests.
   - ExL students are encouraged to make use of local library resources. Students who live within a 50 mile radius of either the Florida or the Kentucky campus should come to campus to obtain their materials.

3. **Research Questions:**
   - ExL students are encouraged to contact the Information Commons for research assistance including help choosing a paper topic, determining the best sources to use for a paper, finding book reviews, or research questions about using the online databases or any other library materials.

4. **Online Databases:**
   - To access the online library resources including the library catalog and full-text journal databases, go to http://www.asburyseminary.edu/icommons/index.shtml and enter your 10-digit student ID# number in the login box. Your student ID# is provided on the biographical information section of the student registration webpage. Add a 2 and enough 0’s to the front to make a 10-digit number (20000XXXXX where XXXXX = your student id).

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**Course Assignments and Requirements**

We will have two open book exams based on readings and lectures; regular class discussion; and a three to 5 page book review. The book you choose for the book review should come either from the recommended texts or from the list of significant histories from the Methodist tradition included in this syllabus. A style sheet for the book review will be circulated after class begins. The foundation of the class will be mastering the assigned reading and post lectures. To enhance classroom discussions, a question will be posted in the “discussion center” and you will be expected to respond (limited to 100 words) to the question and each other. This inter-action will occur during the second week of our two-week modules. Feel free to disagree and challenge each other. All I ask is that we respect each other. If for some rare reason, you are unable to be involved in any of the discussions, please let me know.

**Grading**

60% of your grade will be based on the tests; 20 % on the book review; 20 % on class discussion.
Required Texts


Recommended Texts


Significant Representative Histories of Methodism


Rupert Davies, Raymond George, Gordon Rupp, eds. *History of the Methodist Church in Great Britain*, 4 vols. (1965-1987). (Counseling will be provided for those wishing to review these four volumes).


Course Outline and Assigned Readings

Module 1 (February 11-23): The Roots and Founding of Methodism

Norwood, 1-69, Rowe, *United Methodist Studies*, Hempton, Methodism.

Assignment. Introduce your self to the class. (See my example). On February 18 our discussion will begin.

Module 2 (February 25-March 8): The American Setting


Module 3 (March 10-22): The Emergence of African-American and German American Expressions of Methodism


Module 4 (March 24-April 5): Methodism in the Nineteenth Century

Module 5 (April 7-19) Holiness and Women in Methodism

Assignment, Richey, 127-144, 192-208, 248-264, 289-342. Class discussion begins April 14

Module 6 (April 21-May 3). Methodism in the Twentieth Century

Assignment. Read Norwood, 355-442, Richey, 371-497. Class discussion begins April 28

Module 7 (May 5-17) The Theological Heritage of Methodism

Assignment. Read Norwood, 223-238, 316-329, Richey, 277-285, Callen and Kostlevy, 81-100, 127-150, 163-361. We will not have a discussion.

Book review is due May 3. FINAL EXAM is due May 22.