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CH 600 XL Methodist History

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METHODIST HISTORY 600
Fall, 2008

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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

For **technical support, library research support, library loans, and ExL media** contact Information Commons:
Info_Commons@asburyseminary.edu
Phone: (859) 858-2233
Toll-free: (866) 454-2733

Accessing Information Commons Materials:

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).

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 posted 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

David Hempton, *Methodism: Empire of the Spirit* (2005).

Frederick A. Norwood, *The Story of American Methodism* (1974).

Nathan O. Hatch, *The Democratization of American Christianity* (1989).

Kenneth E. Rowe, *United Methodist Studies: Basic Bibliographies* (1998).

Russell Richey, Kenneth E. Rowe, Jean Miller Schmidt, eds. *Perspectives on American Methodism: Interpretative Essays* (1993).

Barry L. Callen and William C. Kostlevy, eds. *Heart of the Heritage: Core Themes of the Wesleyan/Holiness Tradition as Highlighted in the Wesleyan Theological Journal* (2001). Available from the ATS bookstore.

Recommended Texts

J. Steven O'Malley, *Early German-American Evangelicalism: Pietist Sources on Discipleship and Sanctification* 1995)-includes important sources on the commonly neglected Evangelical and United Brethren heritage.

Significant Representative Histories of Methodism

Emory S. Bucke, ed. *History of American Methodism*, 3 vols. (1974). (For those who really want to impress the instructor).

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).

Wayne Caldwell, ed. *Revivalists and Reformers: A History of the Wesleyan Church* (1992).

Leslie R. Marston, *From Age to Age a Living Witness: A History of the Free Methodist Church* (1960).

Edward H. McKinley. *Marching to Glory: The History of the Salvation Army in the United States, 1880-1992* (1995).

Neil Semple, *The Lord's Dominion: The History of Canadian Methodism* (1996).

John W. Smith, *The Quest for Holiness and Unity: A Centennial History of the Church of God (Anderson)* (1980).

Timothy L. Smith, *Called Unto Holiness: The Story of the Nazarenes* (1962).

William Warren Sweet, *Methodism in American History* (1953).

Vinson Synan, *The Old Time Power: A Centennial History of the International Pentecostal Holiness Church* (1998).

Julia Stewart Warner, *The Primitive Methodist Connection: Its Background and Early History* (1984).

Dianne Winston, *Red Hot and Righteous: the Urban Religion of the Salvation Army* (1999).

Course Outline and Assigned Readings

Module 1 (September 2-13): 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 September 15 our discussion will begin.

Module 2 (September 15-27): The American Setting

Assignment. Read Hatch, *Democratization of American Christianity*, Norwood, *The Story of American Methodism*, 70-102, Richey, Rowe and Schmidt, (listed as Richey from here in syllabus) 13-45. Class discussion begins September 22.

Module 3 (September 29-October 11): The Emergence of African-American and German American Expressions of Methodism

Assignment. Read Norwood, 103-118, 164-174, 185-197, Richey, 108-155, 178-191, and 209-227. Class discussion begins October 6. **TEST due October 11.**

Module 4 (October 13-25): Methodism in the Nineteenth Century

Assignment. Read Norwood, 175-315, 341-354 Richey, 159-177, 192-208, 265-288, 356-368. Begin book for book review. Class discussion begins October 20.

Module 5 (October 27-November 8) Holiness and Women in Methodism

Assignment, Richey, 127-144, 192-208, 248-264, 289-342. Class discussion begins November 2

Book Review due November 1

Module 6 (November 10-22). Methodism in the Twentieth Century
Assignment. Read Norwood, 355-442, Richey, 371-497. Class discussion
begins November 17

Module 7 (November 24-December 6) 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.

FINAL EXAM is due December 10.