

THEO 217
The Wesleyan/Holiness Tradition

Messiah College
Jterm 2017

Prof. Devin Manzullo-Thomas

Office Location & Hours

Boyer 101E
M 1-3pm
Tu 1-3pm
or by appointment

Classroom & Meeting Time

Kline 235
M-F 9am-12pm

Contact Info

dcthomas@messiah.edu
717-766-2511 x5235

Course Description

This course examines major Christian doctrines from the perspectives of the Wesleyan/Holiness movement. It focuses on understanding the history and key beliefs of the movement, as well as identifying similarities and differences between the movement and a variety of other Christian traditions. Special attention is given to social holiness. *Meets QuEST Christian Beliefs requirement. Prerequisite: BIBL 201, BIBL 202, BIBL 203, or BIBL 204.*

Course Goals

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Practice theological ways of thinking and writing;
2. Understand central beliefs of historic Christian faith about God, Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit, salvation, and the church;
3. Understand Anabaptist, Pietist, and Wesleyan theological emphases, while affirming that Christian faith can be articulated in many ways;
4. Examine their theological convictions and spiritual practices;
5. Do theological reflection on academic study;
6. Articulate key doctrines of Wesleyan/Holiness theology from its roots in Great Britain to its present status as a global movement;

7. Articulate key developments in the history of the Wesleyan/Holiness movements in Europe and North America; and
8. Compare and contrast the history and central beliefs of Wesleyan/Holiness groups to those of other Christian traditions.

Course Texts

Synan, Vinson. *The Holiness-Pentecostal Tradition: Charismatic Movements in the Twentieth Century* (HPT). 2nd edition. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Eerdmans, 1997. (First edition, 1971.) ISBN 978-0-8028-4103-2

Tyson, John R. *The Way of the Wesleys: A Short Introduction* (WW). Grand Rapids, Mich.: Eerdmans, 2014. ISBN 978-0-8028-6954-8

* NOTE: In addition to these texts, several short readings and videos will be made available through our Canvas course site.

** NOTE: Students are also required to own and occasionally bring to class a copy of the Bible, New Revised Standard Version (NRSV).

Course Delivery

Most of the content in this class will be delivered in lectures. However, although this class isn't a seminar *per se*, class discussion will constitute a significant portion of the course. Sometimes we'll discuss ideas and issues as a whole class, and other times we'll break into smaller groups of three or four students. In both contexts, please be honest but tactful, sensitive but forthright, as you express your opinions.

Course Requirements

In order to get the most out of this class, you must:

1. **Attend class consistently.** In-class lectures and large- and small-group discussions will constitute the basis for our learning in this course. For that reason, you are expected to attend class each and every day.
2. **Participate in class discussions.** Everyone is expected to contribute to our discourse.
3. **Read the assigned material before class.** Course texts are essential to learning in this class. Lectures will supplement the readings. Our discussions, which will constitute parts of most class periods, will operate on the assumption that you've read the readings carefully.

4. **Take notes.** Detailed notes on each lecture, class discussion, guest presentation, and media presentation will come in handy on the midterms and final exams—so make sure you take them regularly. Laptops are allowed for note-taking purposes, but see the note below re: use of technology for more on laptops in the classroom.
5. **Complete a Daily Assignment for each day our class meets.** These assignments involve answering questions and/or labeling maps related to the day's assigned readings. I will post the Daily Assignments on Canvas well in advance of their due date, and you will need to submit your answers in a typed format at the *beginning* of the respective class day. These Daily Assignments must constitute your own work, in your own words.
6. **Complete three exams, including a cumulative final exam.** Anything covered in this course—including readings, lectures, videos, discussions, and student presentations—is fair game for the exams. So you'll need to be an engaged learner at all times.
7. **Participate in developing and delivering a fifteen-minute presentation on a Wesleyan/Holiness denomination.** For this presentation, you will work in groups to become experts on a particular Wesleyan/Holiness denomination. You will be assigned a denomination from a list available on our Canvas course site and complete extensive research in order to deliver a compelling, informative presentation. Each group will also distribute a handout to their classmates that will (1) contain information about the denomination under consideration, and (2) be used as a study guide and reference tool. More information about these presentations—what sorts of information you should gather, how you can gather it, and how you should present it—will be distributed in class.
8. **Write a five-page paper, detailing the findings of your group.** These papers will present in written form the findings of your group. Written individually, they will recount in a compelling, readable way the most important information your group has gathered. More information about these papers, including my formatting and writing expectations, will be distributed in class.

Grading

I'll calculate your final grade for this course based on the following items:

- **Attendance and participation.** Class participation is worth 100 points. If you attend class every day, you'll receive at least 75 of these points. However, only those who participate actively and regularly in class will receive 90 points or more. In addition to being present and engaged, active participation means entering fully into classroom activities (e.g., small group activities), contributing verbally to classroom discussions, and attending all three of the church visits.

Note: Unexcused absences will result in a participation grade deduction of five points per class missed.

- **Daily Assignments.** Each Daily Assignment is worth 10 points. Each assignment will be graded according to the accuracy, clarity, and thoughtfulness of your response. These assignments are due in class at the beginning of the class period. You may submit the Daily Assignments to me via email, rather than in hard copy, but they must be sent to me **before** class, not after. Late submissions will receive a point reduction.
 - a. Because the Daily Assignments are intended to prepare you for classroom discussion, you must be present in class to receive credit for them. In other words, you cannot complete an assignment and email it to me but not show up at our class meeting. Except in cases of documented illness or family emergency, I will not accept Daily Assignments after class.
 - b. There are a total of eleven (11) Daily Assignments on the course assignment schedule. At the end of the term, I will drop your **two lowest scores**.
- **Presentation and paper on a Wesleyan/Holiness denomination.** This presentation is worth 50 points, and the paper worth 100 points. I will distribute further details about the presentation, and a grading rubric, in class.
- **Exams.** Each of the three exams is worth 100 points.

Thus, your final grade for this course will be determined as follows:

Attendance/Participation	10%
Daily Assignments	20%
Presentation & Paper	20%
Exam 1	15%
Exam 2	15%
Final Exam	20%

Your course letter grade will be assigned according to the following percentages:

93-100	A	77-79	C+
90-92	A-	73-76	C
87-89	B+	70-72	C-
83-86	B	67-69	D+
80-82	B-	60-66	D
		< 60	F

Laptop and Cell Phone Policy

Laptops are welcome during class for note taking but not for other purposes. If you choose to use your laptop to take notes, you must email me a copy of your notes at the end of each class session. Because laptops can be distracting to inexperienced presenters, you may not use your laptop to take notes while a classmate is presenting.

If I determine or suspect that you are using your laptop for some purpose other than note taking, I will first discuss my concerns with you outside of class. If the misuse continues, I will cut your participation grade in HALF. Cell phone use is never permitted during class time.

Late Work Policy

All assignments for THEO 217 are to be handed in on the due date identified in the syllabus. Late submissions, without my prior approval, will receive an appropriate point reduction. However, if you talk to me in advance of the due date and have a compelling reason, I am usually very lenient and willing to grant an extension. The important thing is that you talk to me first, not on the due date or after the fact.

Attendance Policy

If you will be absent, please email me in advance of class. An excused absence due to illness requires a note from the Engle Center or other healthcare provider. You are allowed one (1) unexcused absence without a grade reduction. Additional unexcused absences will result in an appropriate grade reduction as described in the “Grading” section above.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

Any student whose disability falls within ADA guidelines should inform the instructor at the beginning of the semester of any special accommodations or equipment needs necessary to complete the requirements for this course. Students must register documentation with the Office of Disability Services (Murray Library). If you have questions, call extension 5382.

The Writing Center

The Writing Center is one of Messiah College’s best—and most neglected—resources, available to you as you write throughout your time here. In the Writing Center you’ll find student tutors who are available to help you as you prepare your assignments. The Writing Center is located on the main floor of Murray Library.

Although there’s not a lot of formal writing required in this particular course, you may want to schedule an appointment for help with the paper you’re required to write. Students who have had me in previous courses know that I’m a tough grader when it comes to written assignments, so availing yourself of the Writing Center is probably a good idea.

Schedule (Tentative)

Wed., January 4	<p>Introduction to Course</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Getting to Know One Another• Syllabus Review• Considering Theology and Church History• Tradition, tradition, Traditions, Traditioning (or, What is Tradition?) <p><u>Read:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Brooks, “How to Fight the Man” (handout)
Thurs., January 5	<p>John Wesley—Life, Legacy, Lessons</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Contexts for Wesleyan Theology: Catholicism and the Protestant Reformations• John Wesley—Portrait of a Life <p><u>Read/Watch:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• D. Jacobsen, “Catholicism” & “Protestantism” (Canvas)• “1525: The Anabaptist Movement Begins” (Canvas)• “John Calvin: Father of Reformed Faith” (Canvas)• “Courage When It Counted [Anglican Reformation]” (Canvas)• “John Wesley: Methodical Pietist” (Canvas) <p><u>Due:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Daily Assignment #1
Fri., January 6	<p>John Wesley—Life, Legacy, Lessons</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wesley and the Bible• Wesley and Salvation <p><u>Read:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tyson, <i>WW</i>, chs. 1-3• Spener, excerpt from <i>Pia Desideria</i> (Canvas)• Wesley, excerpts from <i>Journal</i> (Canvas) <p><u>Due:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Daily Assignment #2

Mon., January 9	<p>John Wesley—Life, Legacy, Lessons</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wesley and Sanctification <p><u>Read:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tyson, <i>WW</i>, chs. 4, 8 • Wesley, <i>A Plain Account of Christian Perfection</i>, sections 4 & 13 (Canvas) <p><u>Due:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily Assignment #3
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Tues., January 10	<p>John Wesley—Life, Legacy, Lessons</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Against Calvinism: Predestination, Prevenience, and Perseverance • Wesley and Life in the World <p><u>Read:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tyson, <i>WW</i>, chs. 4, 11 • <i>Westminster Confession of Faith</i>, chs. 3, 6, 13, 17 <p><u>Due:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily Assignment #4
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Wed., January 11	Exam #1
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Thurs., January 12	<p>Coming to America: The American Holiness Movement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Methodism in America: Opportunities and Challenges • Second-Work Sanctification • Discuss Group Presentations <p><u>Read:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Synan, <i>HPT</i>, chs. 1-2 • Ruth, “The ‘Church of the Horse’” (Canvas) • Gravely, “You Must Not Kneel Here” (Canvas) • Palmer, <i>The Way of Holiness</i>, parts V and VI (Canvas) <p><u>Due:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily Assignment #5
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Fri., January 13	<p>Coming to America: The American Holiness Movement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Holiness • Women in the Holiness Movement <p><u>Read:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kostlevy, “Saving Souls and Bodies” (Canvas) • Lee, autobiography of Jarena Lee (Canvas) • L. S. Dayton & D. Dayton, “Your Daughters Shall Prophesy”: Feminism in the Holiness Movement” (Canvas) <p><u>Due:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily Assignment #6
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Mon., January 16	NO CLASS—MLK Jr. Day
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Tues., January 17	<p>Wesleyan/Holiness Denominations in Context</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The United Methodist Church • The Brethren in Christ Church <p>Group Work on Presentations</p> <p><u>Read:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • United Methodist Church History, parts 1-4 (Canvas) • Keefer, “Holiness: A Brethren in Christ Case Study” (Canvas) <p><u>Due:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily Assignment #7
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Wed., January 18	<p>Wesleyan/Holiness Denominations in Context</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wesleyan Methodist Church • Free Methodist Church • The Salvation Army • Church of God (Anderson, Ind.) • Christian and Missionary Alliance <p><u>Read:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Synan, ch. 3 <p><u>Due:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily Assignment #8
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Thurs., January 19	<p>Wesleyan/Holiness Denominations in Context</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire-Baptized Holiness Church • Church of God in Christ • Pilgrim Holiness Church • Church of God (Cleveland, Tenn.) • Church of the Nazarene <p><u>Read:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Synan, ch. 4 <p><u>Due:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily Assignment #9
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Fri., January 20	<p>Exam #2</p> <p><u>Due:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper on Wesleyan/Holiness Denomination
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Mon., January 23	<p>The Wesleyan/Holiness Tradition in the 20th Century</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fundamentalism vs. Modernism • Pentecostalism <p><u>Read/Watch:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marsden, excerpt from <i>Understanding Fundamentalism and Evangelicalism</i> (CP) • Stanley, “Wesleyan/Holiness Churches: Innocent Bystanders in the Fundamentalist/Modernist Controversy” (CP) • Jacobsen, “Pentecostalism” (Canvas) • Synan, chs. 5, 10 <p><u>Due:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily Assignment #10
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Tues., January 24	<p>The Wesleyan/Holiness Tradition in the 21st Century</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christianity in Contemporary America • Wesleyan/Holiness Churches Today—Optimism or Pessimism? <p><u>Read:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ammerman, “New Life for Denominationalism” (CP) • Drury, “The Holiness Movement is Dead: A Retrospective” (CP) • Chilcote, “The Wesleyan Tradition: A Paradigm of Renewal for the Contemporary Church” (CP) <p><u>Due:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily Assignment #11
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Wed., January 25	<p>Course Evaluations</p> <p>Exam #3 / Final Exam</p>
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