

Course of Study School of Ohio  
West Virginia Extension  
Online Class  
Fall Term

COS 422 - Theological Heritage IV: Wesleyan Movement  
September 25, October 9, October 30, and November 13, 2021  
Course Syllabus  
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### Course Description (Goals and Objectives)

This course covers the significant individuals, decisive events, and theology of the Methodist movement. Utilizing categories of grace, faith, and holiness, the student will appropriate the Wesleyan heritage.

Students will be able to:

1. Understand and reflect on the movements, major figures, and events that led to the eighteenth century revivals, especially the lives and ministries of John and Charles Wesley.
2. Understand and articulate the vision of holiness and the theology of grace as it shaped the Wesleys, and the structures of the Methodist movement.
3. Identify and discuss significant theological and historical developments in American Methodism, including ordination and episcopacy.
4. Reflect theologically on their Wesleyan heritage and identity.

### Textbooks

Required Texts:

1. Richard Heitzenrater: Wesley and the People Called Methodists, Second Edition
2. Russ Richey, Ken Rowe, Jeanne M. Schmidt: American Methodism: A Compact History
3. Randy Maddox: Responsible Grace

References:

1. The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church 2016
2. The United Methodist Hymnal
3. John Wesley's Fifty-three Sermons or Wesley's Sermons, An Anthology: edited by Outler and Heitzenrater

Supplementary:

1. John Wigger: Taking Heaven by Storm
2. Robert G. Tuttle, Jr., John Wesley: His Life and Theology

Assignments:

## READ

In preparation for **September 25, 2021** - Read the first three chapters of Heitzenrater.

In preparation for **October 9, 2021** - Read Richey, Rowe, and Schmidt's Book on American Methodism.

In preparation for **October 30, 2021** - Read pages 11 - 146 (par. 1 - 166) in the 2016 Book of Discipline.

Read Charles Wesley's 51 hymns, and John Wesley's 4 hymns that are included in The United Methodist Hymnal. You can easily locate them in the index of authors.

Read as much of the Maddox textbook as possible.

In preparation for **November 13, 2021** - Read at least three of John Wesley's sermons in his Fifty-three Sermons or the Anthology from the following list: I. Salvation By Faith; II. The Almost Christian; IV. Scriptural Christianity; V. Justification By Faith; VI. The Righteousness Of Faith; XII. The Means Of Grace; XXXV. Christian Perfection; or any of his thirteen sermons on the Sermon on the Mount.

## REFLECT

Reflect on what you are reading. What interests you the most about what you are reading? What theological themes emerge in what you are reading? What would you identify as the central theology of the Wesleyan Movement? What would you identify as the central doctrines of the movement? What strikes you the most about our history, formation, or the organization of the Methodist Movement?

## WRITE

You will write a total of twenty pages for this course. You will WRITE A BIBLE STUDY, A THEOLOGICAL REFLECTION PAPER, AND A SERMON.

**WRITE A SIX PAGE BIBLE STUDY** on one of the following topics: Our Doctrinal Standards, Our Theological Task, Mission and Ministry of the Church, or The Social Principles. Be sure to accurately reflect what is taught in the Book of Discipline. **DUE OCTOBER 9, 2021.**

**WRITE A SIX PAGE PAPER** on John Wesley's theology of grace (be sure to include all categories) or choose a topic that you are excited about from what you have read and write on that topic. Examples are the Social Gospel, the struggle over slavery or segregation, clergy rights for women, inclusiveness, or holiness. Do not be limited by these examples. Choose a topic that gets you excited, and that you want to dig into a little more deeply. **DUE OCTOBER 30, 2021.**

**WRITE AN EIGHT PAGE SERMON** on the theme that we are saved by Grace through Faith in Jesus Christ. Be sure to draw upon Wesley's sermons. **DUE NOVEMBER 13, 2021.**

## ARTICULATE

As you prepare for class, be able to articulate your understanding of the reading assignments. Class discussion is an important part of the process of theological education. Students are expected to understand and articulate the theological themes of John Wesley and the Wesleyan Movement.

## **PRAY**

Pray for the COS. Pray for your classmates, instructors, and administrators. Pray for your churches, and their role in your theological education.

## **NOTES**

Please do not put off reading or you will become overwhelmed. My hope is for you to develop or deepen your interest and love for Wesleyan theology that will enrich your ministry through the years as it has mine.

Prepare to attend all class sessions ready to ARTICULATE what you are learning.

Please PRAY for the COS, that we all might grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

## **ASYNCHRONOUS CLASS WORK**

Videotape lectures for this course are available for you to view on Vimeo. They are entitled 422video1; 422video2; 422video3; 422video4; 422video5; 422video6; 422video7. The password to view these videos is **John Wesley**. Please view at least one video lecture in preparation for each class until you have viewed all of them.

Discussion Board opportunities are available on our class private Facebook page which you will be invited to join. This is a place to engage in theological discussion with your classmates and instructor. This is not intended for sharing information or news with one another. It is a classroom discussion space.

Below is our online class schedule.

## Online Class Schedule

We will begin most classes by using “A Small Group Study Guide Following the Early Methodist Model.”

### **September 25, 2021**

Class Session 1            9:00 am - 9:50 am  
                                     PowerPoint # 1  
                                     A Brief Chronological History of John Wesley

BREAK                            9:50 am - 10:10 am

Class Session 2            10:10 am - 11:00 am  
                                     A Brief Chronological History of John Wesley, Cont.

### **October 9, 2021**

Class Session 3            9:00 am - 9:50 am  
                                     PowerPoint #1 cont. The Methodist Movement: The  
                                     Three Rises of Methodism (Heitzenrater)

BREAK                            9:50 am - 10:10 am

Class Session 4            10:10 am - 11:00 am.  
                                     Students Sharing Time: Two or three students will  
                                     have an opportunity to share their Bible Studies  
                                     with the class.

### **October 30, 2021**

Class Session 5            9:00 am - 9:50 am  
                                     PowerPoint #2  
                                     Doctrinal Standards  
                                     BOD paragraphs 104 & 105  
                                     Articles of Religion  
                                     Confessions of Faith  
                                     The Three General Rules  
                                     The Wesleyan Quadrilateral (Book of Discipline)

BREAK                            9:50 am - 10:10 am

Class Session 6            10:10 am - 11:00 am  
                                     Students Sharing Time: Two or three students will  
                                     have an opportunity to share their papers with the  
                                     class.

**October 30, 2021**

Class Session 7      1:00 PM - 1:50 PM  
 Major Theological Themes  
 Various Themes Central to Wesley's Theology  
 (Maddox)

BREAK      1:50 pm - 2:10 pm

Class Session 8      2:10 pm - 3:00 pm  
 Students Sharing Time: Sermons, Bible Studies,  
 Papers - Any student who has not had the  
 opportunity to share their work will be given that  
 opportunity at this time.

**November 13, 2021**

Class Session 9      9:00 am - 9:50 am  
 Selected Sermons from Wesley's Standard Sermons  
 (Anthology)

BREAK      9:50 am - 10:10 am

Class session 10      10:10 am - 11:00 am  
 Students Sharing Time: Sermons, Bible Studies,  
 Papers - Any student who has not had the  
 opportunity to share their work will be given that  
 opportunity at this time.

Student participation through discussion and dialogue will be encouraged during each zoom class.

Students will have an opportunity to share their written work at the designated times: including Bible Studies, Theological Reflection Papers, and Sermons.