

THEO 217
The Wesleyan/Holiness Tradition

Messiah College
Spring 2016

Prof. Devin Manzullo-Thomas

Office Location & Hours

Hoffman 314
T H 12:25-1:55pm
F 11:30am-12:00pm
or by appointment

Classroom & Meeting Time

Boyer 330
T/H 2:05-3:35pm

Contact Info

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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. This course meets the General Education Christian Beliefs requirement.

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

Tomkins, Stephen. *John Wesley: A Biography*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Eerdmans. 2003. ISBN 978-0-8028-2499-8

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

* NOTE: Students are also required to own and occasionally bring to class a copy of the Bible, New Revised Standard Version (NRSV). Online Bible tools, such as the Oremus Bible Browser (<http://bible.oremus.org/>) use the NRSV translation.

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

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—the small groups and the larger classroom—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 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.

6. **Complete two midterm exams.** 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. **Attend three Sunday morning worship services at local Wesleyan/Holiness churches, and write a brief report on your visit.** More info on the churches—including service times, locations, etc.—is available on our course site. After visiting each church and attending the worship service, write a 2-page report that summarizes the theology revealed during the visit. In what ways do you observe Wesleyan/holiness theology in word or practice during your visit? Consider such aspects as music, the sermon, order of worship, etc. Your report should draw on appropriate course readings and make clear connections between your experience and course content.
8. **Attend the lecture by Dr. Molly Worthen and report on it.** On Thursday, March 17, 2016, Dr. Molly Worthen of the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill will be on campus to serve as the 2016 Schrag Lecturer through the Sider Institute for Anabaptist, Pietist, and Wesleyan Studies. You are required to attend her lecture at 7pm in Parmer Cinema. After attending the lecture, write a two-page response that (1) summarizes her talk, giving special attention to the role of Wesleyan/Holiness groups in the post-World War II evangelical movement, and that (2) connects the talk to our course content. What connections do you see between Dr. Worthen's talk and our lectures, readings, etc.?
9. **Participate in developing and delivering a ten-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.
10. **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.
11. **Write a final exam essay.** This paper will require you to identify a key topic from our course—holiness, women in ministry, or predestination vs. free will, for example—and reflect theologically on it, using the elements of the Wesleyan Quadrilateral as your sources. 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 fifteen (15) Daily Assignments on the course assignment schedule. If you complete only thirteen (13) Daily Assignments, then all the scores will count. If you complete all fifteen, I'll drop the lowest two scores; if you complete fourteen (14), I'll drop the one lowest score. You will **not** earn extra credit for completing all fifteen Daily Assignments.
- **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.
- **Report on church visits and response to Worthen lecture.** Each paper is worth 10 points.
- **Exams.** Each of the three exams is worth 100 points.

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

Attendance/Participation, incl. church visit reports and response to Worthen lecture	10%
Daily Assignments	15%
Presentation & Paper	25%
Exam 1	15%
Exam 2	15%
Final Exam Essay	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

Week One: Introductions—You, Me, Course, Concepts	
Tues., February 2 <u>Class:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Getting to Know One Another• Syllabus Review• What is Christian Theology?	Thurs., February 4 <u>Class:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tradition, tradition, traditions, traditioning (or, What is tradition?) <u>Read:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Brooks, “How to Fight the Man” (Canvas)• Rea, “What Is The Tradition?” (Canvas)

PART I: The Wesleyan/Holiness Movement in Church History

Week Two: John Wesley—Life, Legacy, Lessons	
Tues., February 9 <u>Class:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Subjects & Sources of Wesleyan Theology• John Wesley’s Early Years & Influences <u>Read:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chilcote, introduction to <i>Recapturing the Wesley’s Vision</i> (Canvas)• United Methodist Church, “The Wesleyan Quadrilateral” (Canvas)	Thurs., February 11 <u>Class:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Contexts for Wesleyan Theology: Catholicism, the Protestant Reformation, Anglicanism• John Wesley’s Early Years and influences <u>Read/Watch:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tomkins, chs. 1-6 (pp. 6-42)• D. Jacobsen, “Catholicism” (Canvas)• D. Jacobsen, “Protestantism” (Canvas)

Week Three: John Wesley—Life, Legacy, Lessons	
Tues., February 16 <u>Class:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• John Wesley & Salvation• John Wesley & the Church• Origins of the Methodist Movement <u>Read:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tomkins, chs. 7-10 (pp. 43-83)• Wesley, “Talk with Bohler” (Canvas)• Wesley, “I Felt My Heart Strangely Warmed” (Canvas)	Thurs., February 18 <u>Class:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Against Calvinism: Providence and Predestination• Wesley as Preacher and Leader <u>Read:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tomkins, chs. 11-15 (pp. 84-129)• Ephesians 1:4-11 (NRSV)• Romans 10:5-13 (NRSV)

Week Four: Coming to America—The American Holiness Movement	
<p>Tues., February 23</p> <p><u>Class:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christian Perfection • Wesley's Later Years <p><u>Read:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tomkins, chs. 16-24 (pp.130-200) • 1 Peter 1:13-25 (NRSV) • Wesley, <i>A Plain Account of Christian Perfection</i>—sections 4 & 13 (Canvas) 	<p>Thurs., February 25</p> <p><u>Class:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Methodism in America • The Holiness Insurrection in American Methodism • Second-Work Sanctification <p><u>Read:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Synan, ch. 1 • Wigger, "The Unexpected Leader" (Canvas) • Palmer, <i>The Way of Holiness</i>, sections V and VI (Canvas)

Week Five: Coming to America—The American Holiness Movement (cont'd)	
<p>Sun., February 28: Church Visit #1: Camp Hill United Methodist Church Meet in Murray Library circle, 9:00 a.m.</p>	
<p>Tues., March 1</p> <p><u>Class:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Holiness • Abolitionism & the Public Role of Women <p><u>Read:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Synan, ch. 2 • Kostlevy, "Saving Souls and Bodies" (Canvas) • Tait, "My Chains Fell Off: Richard Allen and Francis Asbury" (Canvas) • White, "Holiness Fire-Starter" (Canvas) • Lee, autobiography (Canvas) 	<p>Thurs., March 3</p> <p><u>Class:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exam #1 <p><u>Due:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Church Visit Report #1 (upload to Canvas)

Week Six: SPRING BREAK	
No Class—Enjoy Spring Break!	

Week Seven: The Wesleyan/Holiness Tradition in the 20th Century	
<p>Tues., March 15</p> <p><u>Class:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Themes in Twentieth-Century Holiness History • The Rise of Pentecostalism <p><u>Read/Watch:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Synan, chs. 5-6 • Jacobsen, "Pentecostalism" (Canvas) 	<p>Thurs., March 17</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Class— Attend lecture by Dr. Molly Worthen <p>"The Curious History of the Christian Worldview: Theology and the Origins of the Culture Wars" Parmer Cinema, 7pm</p>

PART II: Wesleyan/Holiness Denominations in Context

Week Eight: Group Presentations—Holiness Denominations	
<p>Tues., March 22</p> <p><u>Class:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • United Methodist Church (Dr. Stephen Gallaher) • Brethren in Christ Church (Prof. Devin Manzullo-Thomas) <p><u>Read:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keefer, "Holiness: A Brethren in Christ Historical Case Study" 	<p>Thurs., March 24</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Class – Work Day <p><u>Due:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Response to Worthen lecture (upload to Canvas)

Week Nine: Group Presentations—Holiness Denominations	
<p>Tues., March 29</p> <p><u>Class:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Groups 1-5 <p><u>Read:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Synan, ch. 3 	<p>Thurs., March 31</p> <p><u>Class:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Groups 6-9 <p><u>Read:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Synan, ch. 3

Week Ten: Group Presentations—Holiness Denominations	
Sun., April 3: Church Visit #3: <i>Harrisburg Brethren in Christ Church</i> Meet in Murray Library circle, 8:30 a.m.	
Tues., April 5	Thurs., April 7
<u>Class:</u> • Groups 10-11	<u>Class:</u> • Exam #2
<u>Read:</u> • Synan, ch. 4 • Prepare for Exam #2	<u>Due:</u> • Church Visit Report #2 (upload to Canvas)

PART III: The Wesleyan/Holiness Movement in Comparative Perspective

Week Eleven: Head, Heart, Hands, and the Wesleyan Tradition	
Sun., April 10: Church Visit #3: <i>The Salvation Army (Harrisburg, PA)</i> Meet outside Murray Library, 8:45 a.m.	
Tues., April 12	Thurs., April 14
<u>Class:</u> • The Wesleyan/Holiness Tradition and the Life of the Mind	• No Class—Service Day
<u>Read:</u> • Mullen, “The ‘Strangely Warmed’ Mind” (Canvas) • J. & S. Stanley, “What Can the Wesleyan/Holiness Tradition Contribute to Christian Higher Education” (Canvas)	<u>Due:</u> • Church Visit Report #3 (upload to Canvas)

Week Twelve: Wesleyanism + Anabaptism + Pietism	
Tues., April 19	Thurs., April 21
<u>Class:</u> • Anabaptism & Pietism—Similarities and Differences • <u>Guest Speaker:</u> Dr. John Yeatts	• No Class—Make-Up Day

Week Thirteen: Wesleyanism and Women in Ministry	
Tues., April 26 <u>Class:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women in Ministry in the Wesleyan Tradition • <u>Guest Speaker:</u> Dr. Susie Stanley 	Thurs., April 28 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Class—Make-Up Day

Week Fourteen: Concluding Reflections	
Tues., May 3 <u>Class:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Wesleyan/Holiness Tradition— Relevant for Today? <u>Read:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selections from D. Kinnaman, <i>unChristian</i> (Canvas) 	

FINAL EXAM PERIOD: Tuesday, May 10 – 8:00-10:00am