

HT 521 D UNITED METHODIST HISTORY

Professor: Rev. Dr. Elmer M. Colyer
3 credits: letter grade

This course surveys the history of the United Methodist Church in relation to its antecedent institutions and traditions that are historically related to the Methodist movement. The course introduces students to the events, persons, and institutions of the people called Methodist from the time of John Wesley to the present. There will be lectures, readings, and open class discussions. This course fulfills the disciplinary requirement for those seeking ordination in the UM Church.

Course Objectives:

1. To develop a clear understanding of the history of Methodism from Wesley to the present
2. To understand how this history has shaped the UM Church today
3. To become aware of the diversity of United Methodism today
4. To learn to interpret the Methodist tradition to congregations
5. To learn to relate UM history to discipleship, character formation and the Church=s life & ministry

M.Div. Curricular Goals Fulfilled By this Course (emphasis added):

- X *Nurture habits and disciplines of study, prayer, and reflection* that increase their love for God and neighbor and shape their personal and professional lives.
- X *Be formed by, live in, & minister out of Scripture & the historical & theological tradition of the Church*
- X Interpret the Christian Scriptures through faithful *exegesis and in light of the Christian tradition*
- X *Engage contemporary theological and ethical issues with insight and humility*
- X Educate and equip individuals and congregations to live and minister joyfully and *faithfully as part of their own denomination and the ecumenical church*
- X *Integrate theology and practice in all areas of life and ministry*

Required Texts:

- Rowe, Kenneth E., United Methodist Studies: Basic Bibliographies (the newest edition)
- Heitzenrater, Richard P., Wesley and the People Called Methodist, 2nd edition
- Wood, A. Skevington, The Burning Heart: John Wesley, Evangelist (Photocopy from Dr. Colyer—contact him about it)
- Richey, Rowe & Miller Schmidt, The Methodist Experience in America: A History, volume 1
- A history of the student's own annual conference (Students can get copies from their Annual Conference Historians)

Course Requirements:

1. Completion of assigned readings (10% of the final grade)
2. Conscientious class participation (10% of the final grade)
3. 2-3 page review of annual conf. hist. text (10% of grade of the final grade)
4. A final exam (40% of the final grade)
5. 8-10 page research paper (30% of the final grade)

Pre-load Reading Assignment: (To be completed by the first class)

- Heitzenrater, Wesley and the People Called Methodist (the whole book)
- Wood, The Burning Heart: John Wesley, Evangelist, pp. 9-156, 186-286
(read Wood rapidly to get an overall sense of John Wesley and his life)
- The Methodist Experience in America: A History, volume 1 (the whole book)
- The history of the student's own annual conference (read the whole book rapidly)