

COURSE OF STUDY SCHOOL OF OHIO at MTSO
2018 August

COS 122 – Theological Heritage I: Introduction

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This course introduces the student to theological reflection in the Wesleyan tradition. Basic terms, tasks and methods of Christian theology will be introduced. Representative classical themes will be defined and illustrated. The course provides a foundation for further historical and theological study.

Students will be able to...

1. Examine their understanding of faith, sin, salvation, grace and the place of doctrine in the life of the Church.
2. Use and understand classical theological terms and themes.
3. Critically consider the sources of theological reflection, including scripture, tradition, experience and reason.
4. Reflect theologically as a resource for pastoral ministry.

Texts: Ted A. Campbell, *Methodist Doctrine: The Essentials*
Justo L. González and Zaida Maldonado Pérez, *An Introduction to Christian Theology*

Reference: *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church* (2016)
(Students in COS 122 at MTSO during the Summer Two-Week term should become familiar with “A Brief History of The United Methodist Church” [pp. 12–24]; and, in Part I, “The Constitution,” Division Two, Section III, “Restrictive Rules”; and all of Part III [paragraphs 102—105].)
The United Methodist Hymnal

Supplementary: Robert Burtner and Robert Chiles, *John Wesley's Theology: A Collection from His Works*
Ken Collins, *The Theology of John Wesley: Holy Love and the Shape of Grace*
Thomas Oden, *John Wesley's Scriptural Christianity: A Plain Exposition of His Teaching on Christian Doctrine*
Ted Runyon, *The New Creation: John Wesley's Theology Today*
Colin Williams, *Theology Today: A Study of the Wesleyan Tradition in the Light of Current Theological Dialogue*

Pre-Course Assignments:

1. Read the two textbooks, and also Part III of the 2016 *Book of Discipline*
2. Write a 2-3 page paper on “The Wesleyan Quadrilateral.” Your paper must include...
 - Your personal understanding of the Quadrilateral; AND
 - Your use of the Quadrilateral in constructing your own theology of ONE of the following doctrines: CREATION, the CHURCH, or THE CHRISTIAN HOPE.
 - Hand your paper in when the first class convenes on August 6

Mid-Course Assignments:

1. Re-read the relevant parts of the textbooks as listed in the class plan below.
2. Keep notes that will help you write the final paper for this course (see below).
3. Select ONE of the pastoral situations listed below (#5), OR an actual pastoral situation you have faced. List the doctrines that provide a theological resource for you as the pastor in this situation. Before the final class session on August 16, write a paper showing how your theology helps your pastoral ministry in this situation.
4. Note: This paper should be at least one page, but no more than two. No citations are required. You will use your paper in the final class session, and then hand it in to the instructor.
5. Some Pastoral Situations:
 - You are to do the funeral of a faithful member of your congregation
 - You are to do the funeral of a person who, apparently, was not a believer
 - You are requested to baptize the new baby of an active church couple
 - You are requested to baptize the new baby of an inactive couple
 - A baby—long awaited by the couple and your congregation—is still-born
 - A couple's first child is born with Down syndrome
 - An active member is diagnosed with ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease)
 - A family of your congregation has a house fire, losing everything
 - You are doing a sermon about The Lord's Supper
 - You are preparing an evangelistic sermon
 - You are preparing a sermon about child abuse
 - You have become aware of an actual case of child abuse
 - You have learned that a respected leader in your congregation is guilty of marital infidelity

Post-Course Assignment:

Write a final paper, complete with appropriate citations, entitled “BASIC THEOLOGY.” In 5 to 7 pages, this paper should outline what you believe, at the present time, about faith, sin, salvation and grace. The paper should indicate your use of the Quadrilateral in arriving at your conclusions.

You may submit your paper as a WORD document to Dr. Campbell's email address (shown above); OR in hard copy to Dr. Campbell's home address: 67 Taylor St., Fredericktown, OH 43019. By either method, the DEADLINE is Friday, August 31, 2018.

Citations in Pre-Course and Post-Course Papers:

When quoting or giving credit to a textbook, reference book or supplementary book, show the author's name and page number(s). To cite *The Book of Discipline*, write “Disc.” and add the paragraph number. You may put your citations in parentheses within the text of your papers; OR either as Footnotes or Endnotes.

Grading:

The Course of Study School of Ohio uses a traditional letter grading system and evaluation grid for each student. Dr. Campbell will return your paper with comments; and will submit your grade and evaluation to the Director of the COSSO by September 13, 2018. The basis for grading will be:

- 25% Pre-Course Paper
- 25% Mid-Course Paper
- 25% General Classroom Participation
- 25% Final Paper

Class Plan:

Monday, August 6 “Theology and Doctrine in Methodism”

Campbell, Introduction and ch. 7; González and Pérez, ch. I; Disc. Par. 103

Tuesday, August 7 “Doing Theology as Wesleyans: The Quadrilateral”

Campbell, ch. 1; Disc. Par. 105, section 4; Art/Rel* V and VI; and Conf/Art** IV

Wednesday, August 8 “God: Revealed and Revealer—Our Trinitarian Faith”

Campbell, chapter 2; González and Pérez, chapters II and IV; Disc. Art/Rel I, II, IV; Conf/Art I – III

Thursday, August 9 “Life in God's Creation”

Campbell, chapter 3; González and Pérez, chapter III; Disc. Art/Rel VII, VIII; Conf/Art VII

Friday, August 10 “Jesus Christ, Savior and Lord”

Campbell, pp. 44 – 47; González and Pérez, chapter, chapter IV; Disc. Art/Rel II, III, XX; Conf/Art II, VIII

Monday, August 13 “The Wesleyan Vision of Salvation”

Campbell, chapter 4; Disc. pp. 49 – 54 in par. 102; Art/Rel IX – XII plus the article “Of Sanctification” (p. 72); Conf/Art IX – XI

Tuesday, August 14 “The Family of God”

Campbell, ch. 5; González and Pérez, ch. V, VI; Disc. Art/Rel XIII – XIX; Conf/Art V, VI, XIII, XIV

Wednesday, August 15 “The Christian Hope”

Campbell, ch. 6; González and Pérez, ch. VII; Disc. Conf/Art XII

Thursday, August 16 “Theology as a Resource for Ministry”

Campbell, ch. 7; Disc. Par. 102, pp. 54 – 56; Art/Rel XXI, XXIII – XXV and the article “Of the Duty of Christians to the Civil Authority;” and “The General Rules of The Methodist Church” (Disc. pp. 77 – 80); Conf/Art XV, XVI

*Art/Rel = Articles of Religion of The Methodist Church (Disc. pp. 65 – 72); the Articles of Religion and General Rules are duplicated in Campbell “Appendix,” pp. 114 – 128

**Conf/Art = The Confession of Faith of The Evangelical United Brethren Church (Disc. pp. 72 - 77)

Academic Honor

The Course of Study School of Ohio requires that all material submitted by a student in fulfilling his or her academic requirements be the original work of the student.

Violations of academic honor include any action by a student indicating dishonesty or lack of integrity in academic ethics. Violations in this category include, but are not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, or knowingly passing off work of another as one's own.

Cheating includes seeking, acquiring, receiving or passing on information about the content of an examination prior to its authorized release or during its administration. Cheating also includes seeking, using, giving or obtaining unauthorized assistance in any academic assignment or examination.

Plagiarism is the act of presenting as one's own work with the work of another whether published or unpublished (including the work of another student). A writer's work should be regarded as his or her own property. Any person who knowingly uses a writer's distinctive work without proper acknowledgement is guilty of plagiarism.

A student found guilty of a violation of the academic honor code, after a review of the case, may be subject to one or more of the following actions: (1) warning; (2) probation; (3) suspension for the remainder of the course; (4) dismissal from the Course of Study School of Ohio; (5) grade of Fail for the course. Regardless of the outcome, a letter will be sent to the student's District Superintendent and Board of Ordained Ministry representative.