

COS 122: Theological Heritage 1 - Introduction
Summer 2023 Hybrid Course Syllabus
May 13th to June 24th

Faculty Information

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About me: I am a professor of historical theology at Indiana Wesleyan University, where I teach undergraduate and graduate courses in systematic theology and church history. I've been teaching at IWU for 9 years and I love it. I am also an adjunct professor at Wesley Seminary. I earned a BA in Religion (Whitworth University), an MDiv (Princeton Theological Seminary) and a PhD in Religion, Politics, and Society (Baylor University), all with the intent of responding to God's call on my life to teach in service of the Church. I live in Fishers, IN with my husband, Jonathan, our daughter, Renata (3 years).

Course Description

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.

Course Outcomes

By the end of this course the student should 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,
4. tradition, experience and reason.
5. Reflect theologically as a resource for pastoral ministry.

Course Resources

The following textbooks are required:

- Campbell, Ted. *Methodist Doctrine: The Essentials*. 2nd Edition.
- Gonzales, Justo and Zaida Maldonado-Perez. *And Introduction to Christian Theology*
- Additional readings and videos posted on Moodle

Course Assignments

- **DIY Read & Watch Quiz** (6 x 50 points = 300 points): Each week you'll have reading from *Methodist Doctrine*, *An Introduction to Christian Theology* and usually additional articles. You'll also watch several video lectures each week. Create a quiz for yourself based on the assigned reading and videos. The quiz should consist of 10 questions and answers. Questions should be open-ended, inviting several sentences in response.

Answers should be in complete sentences and should demonstrate strong understanding of the reading and videos. Quizzes are due Friday night and should be uploaded to Moodle with the questions numbered and the questions and answers clearly differentiated.

- **Weekly Discussion** (6 x 40 points = 240 points): Discuss theology with your colleagues each week. Post 2 questions prompted by the reading and/or videos by Wednesday night, then respond to at least 2 questions from your colleagues by Friday night. All questions and responses should engage the reading/videos deeply and directly, including direct citations, and should invite your colleagues into thoughtful discussion of theology and its application in ministry. These should not simply be comprehension questions or questions from your DIY quizzes. All responses should be at least 200 words in length.
- **Onsite Session Preparation and Participation** (2 x 30 points = 60): Prepare for, attend and actively participate in each onsite session.
- **Doctrine Papers** (8 x 50 points = 400 points): The purpose of theology is faithful and fruitful communication of the Gospel. One of the best ways to develop one's communication skills is writing. Each workshop will conclude with an opportunity to carefully and thoughtfully articulate your beliefs about a central doctrine of the Christian faith. In these papers, you will clearly state your belief and cite extensively from Scripture and the assigned course readings as support. Each paper should be 600-800 words (2-3 pages), double-spaced, 12 point Times New Roman font, 1-inch margins, and at least 3 sources cited in MLA, APA, or Chicago format.
- Check Moodle for more details and grading rubrics.

Course Policies:

- **Students with disabilities** should inform me as soon as possible so appropriate accommodations can be arranged.
- **Attendance** is required at all onsite sessions.
- **Submit assignments** by uploading them to the designated dropbox on Moodle by midnight on the due date.
- **Late work** can be submitted at the end of the course for partial credit.
- **Transition to Zoom:** In the event that we are unable to meet in person, our onsite sessions and dates will be held via Zoom. Zoom attendance is only an option if the INUMC instructs the course to transition to virtual.
- **Statement on Plagiarism from the COS Handbook:**
 - Students must do their own work, not submit the work of others as their own. To submit the work of someone else as the student's own work is dishonest and a form of stealing – stealing the intellectual property and writing skill of a source and claiming that it is your own. It also defeats the purpose of a course and education in general since the student does not learn either the subject matter at hand nor the skill in organizing ideas and expressing them in writing. In addition, of course, it is unfair to those who correctly absorb the subject matter and write their own papers for credit in a course.
 - It is normal, indeed expected, that one consult relevant sources on a topic when preparing a paper for a course. The way that the student uses those sources, however, becomes crucial. The student should read, absorb the subject matter, but then organize the ideas and material in the student's own way. One should not

- simply follow a series of ideas – the thinking – of the source.
- One can quote from a source, of course, but then that quoting must be exact, not changing a word or so here and there. The rule is: three consecutive words or more constitutes a quote. A quotation from a source must be indicated as a quotation (enclosed in quotation marks) and the exact source of the quotation must be given so that the reader can go to that source and find it without difficulty. Quoting from a text requires quotation marks before and after the quote and the source (including page numbers) must be clearly identified at the end of each usage. Generally, quotations should not be more than a sentence or two in length.
 - The student should state the ideas and material in the student’s own words and structure of sentences. A student writer should not use the sentence structure of the source, merely changing some words in the text. Such a practice does not constitute one’s own work but uses the work of others. Such practice is plagiarism, the chief academic sin.
 - The student should be scrupulous in identifying the work of others in writing a paper. Honesty and personal integrity demand it. It is better to over-document one’s sources than to under-document them and leave doubt in the mind of the reader as to the use of sources.
 - In order to be fair to the students who do their own work and fairly earn a good or superior grade, other students should not be allowed to cheapen the value of a good grade by unfairly receiving a better grade than the student earns, especially if the student employs some form of cheating and/or plagiarism.
 - The appearance of plagiarism in a paper is unacceptable. An assignment may have to be done over or may simply be rejected. An “F” grade in a course is warranted, especially in egregious or repeated instances of plagiarism. Students are encouraged to work with their instructors on expectations for written work and to use one of the writing resources and style manuals identified.

Course Grading Scale:

“A” work exceeds expectations. A = 950-1020, A- = 900-949 points;
 “B” work clearly expectations. B+ = 860-899, B = 830-859, B- = 800-829;
 “C” work minimally meets expectations. C+ =760-799, C =730-759, C- =700-729;
 “D” work does not meet graduate level expectations. D = 600-699;
 “F” is failing work = 0-599.

Course Meeting and Assignment Schedule

Instructions for all writing assignments and links to articles and videos are posted on Moodle. All assignments should be uploaded to Moodle by midnight on the due date.

Onsite Session 1 – Epistemology & Trinity	Saturday May 13th, 8:30-2:00
Read: Gonzalez Pgs. 9-31 and Ch. 2; Campbell Ch. 1 and Pgs. 43-45, 48-50; articles posted on Moodle	Complete before the session.
Watch: Session 1 Videos	Complete before the session.
Paper 1: Who is God, and how do you know?	Submit next Wednesday 5/17.
Week 1 – Creation & Providence	Monday May15th – Friday May 19th

Read: Gonzalez Pgs. 55-64; Articles posted on Moodle	
Watch: Week 1 Videos	
DIY Quiz 1	Submit by midnight Friday.
Discussion 1	Post questions Wednesday, responses Friday
Paper 2: How is God involved with the world?	Submit by next Wednesday 5/24.
Week 2 – Anthropology & Hamartiology	Monday May 22nd – Friday May 26th
Read: Gonzalez Pgs. 64-76; Campbell Pgs. 52-54; Articles posted on Moodle	
Watch: Week 2 Videos	
DIY Quiz 2	Submit by midnight Friday.
Discussion 2	Post questions Wednesday, responses Friday.
Paper 3: What does it mean to be human?	Submit next Wednesday 5/31.
Week 3 – Christology	Monday May 29th – Friday June 2nd
Read: Gonzalez Pgs. 77-90; Campbell Pgs. 45-46; Articles posted on Moodle	
Watch: Week 3 Videos	
DIY Quiz 3	Submit by midnight Friday.
Discussion 3	Post questions Wednesday, responses Friday.
Paper 4: Who is Jesus Christ?	Submit next Wednesday 6/7.
Week 4 – Pneumatology	Monday June 5th – Friday June 9th
Read: Gonzalez Pgs. 90-96; Campbell Pgs. 46-48 and 54-71; Articles posted on Moodle	
Watch: Week 4 Videos	
DIY Quiz 4	Submit by midnight Friday.
Discussion 4	Post questions Wednesday, responses Friday.
Paper 5: Who is the Holy Spirit?	Submit next Wednesday 6/14.
Week 5 – Soteriology	Monday June 12th – Friday June 16th
Read: Gonzalez Pgs. 90-96; Campbell Pgs. 54-71; Articles posted on Moodle	
Watch: Week 5 Videos	
DIY Quiz 5	Submit by midnight Friday.
Discussion 5	Post questions Wednesday, responses Friday.
Paper 6: What does it mean to be saved?	Submit next Wednesday 6/21.
Week 6 – Ecclesiology	Monday June 19th – Friday June 23rd
Read: Gonzalez Chs. 5-6; Campbell Ch. 5; Articles posted on Moodle	
Watch: Week 6 Videos	
DIY Quiz 6	Submit by midnight Friday.
Discussion 6	Post questions Wednesday, responses Friday.
Paper 7: What is the Church?	Submit next Wednesday 6/26.
Onsite Session 2 – Eschatology & Questions	Saturday June 24th, 8:30-2:00
Read: Gonzalez Ch. 7; Campbell Ch. 6; Articles posted on Moodle	Complete before the session.
Watch: Session 2 Videos	Complete before the session.

Paper 8: What is our Christian hope?

Submit by Wednesday 6/26. (Papers 7 & 8 due!)