

Course Description:

Wesley's holistic ministry included medicine, music and Christian education. It was also directed toward the poor, the intelligentsia, the imprisoned and other groups. He focused his ministry on multiple human needs in order to preach saving grace. His ministry shapes a paradigm for contemporary evangelistic effort.

Textbooks:

Logan, James C. Theology and Evangelism in the Wesleyan Heritage. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1994.

Outler, Albert C. Evangelism and Theology in the Wesleyan Spirit. Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 1971.

Snyder, Howard. The Radical Wesley: and Patterns for Church Renewal. Downers Grove: Intervarsity Press, 1980.

Objectives:

1. To grasp the historical context and flexibility of Wesley's ministry.
2. To understand the connection between Wesley's theology and his evangelistic ministry.
3. To grasp the broad context and the specific aims of Wesley's ministry.
4. To embrace a biblical theology of evangelism able to connect with the specific context of a future ministry location.
5. To develop leadership, analytical skills that will enable a person to serve as a catalytic leader for church growth.

Requirements:

1. Write a five to seven-page paper explaining a major idea from each chapter of Logan's book. In addition to the explanation of the concept or principle, explain how this theme will be applicable to your future ministry.
2. Teach an interactive class session from one chapter of Outler's book. Lecture and teaching methodology will be submitted to the professor one week before the assigned teaching time.
3. Write a five page paper on Wesley's understanding of the Church from Snyder's text. This assignment will serve as a basis for discussion in one or more class sessions. In this paper imagine how Wesley might have responded to the contemporary idea, "You don't have to go to church to be a Christian."
4. Read a pre-approved text and teach a forty-five-minute class session. The contents of the chosen book are to be outlined for class presentation and a ten-minute interactive learning experience must be planned for the class. The lecture and outlined learning experience are to be given to the professor one week in advance of the assigned teaching date.

5. Interview ten unchurched people as to their absence from public worship and write a five page paper detailing their answers, perspectives and thinking regarding the church. Ask about what needs they have the church could meet. What kind of church do they envision ministering to them?
6. The student is to involve himself/herself in ten hours of ministry within the inner city, to prisoners or to the poor. The student then is to report (three to five pages) on the ministry experience reflecting how it varies from or is similar to Wesley's ministry.
7. A final test will be given over designated lecture material.

Grading:

Late papers will not be accepted after one week. All accepted late work will receive a ten-percent deduction. No work will be accepted after April 23. The professor may not read or grade late work until the last week of the semester. All late work will be returned to the students on the day of the final exam. Seniors must turn in all work by April 14th.

Grading will be based on:

- 91-100% = A
- 81-90% = B
- 71-80% = C
- 61-70% = D
- 0 – 60% = F

The assignments are worth the following points and are due at the assigned times.

<u>Date</u>		<u>Points</u>
January 23	1. Logan book report (5-7 pages)	100
January 25	2. Teaching on Outler chapters	100
February 20	3. Paper (5 pages) on The Church (Snyder)	100
January 30-31	4. Teaching pre-approved text	100
April 2	5. Unchurched interviews	100
April 18	6. Ministry report	100
Jan 31	7. Final exam	<u>100</u>
	Total	<u>700</u>

Class Features:

1. Dr. Ron Benefiel may be a guest lecturer.
2. Dr. Fletcher Tink will teach six class sessions on the following topics:
 - a. The urban context: John Wesley's world now.
 - b. What Wesleyan theological support system is useful for urban ministry?
 - c. What social initiatives did the Wesleyan movement spawn?
 - d. What was the effectiveness of these programmatic initiatives?
 - e. Wesley's concept of community as a redemptive society.
 - f. Post Wesleyan influence.
3. The following topics and issues will also be addressed:
 - a. What triggered Wesley's effective evangelism?

- b. How did his interest in medicine and theology unite in ministry?
- c. How are we to understand the historical setting which launched John Wesley?
- d. The impact of the theology of prevenient grace.
- e. How did Wesley's concern about personal finance and Christian stewardship impact his ministry and his world?
- f. John Wesley's writings as ministry.
- g. The impact of Wesley's sermons.
- h. How did Wesley influence the political scene?
- i. The use of lay preachers.
- j. The issues of ordaining and structuring ministry.
- k. Methodism as a revival movement inside the Anglican Church.
- l. Prison ministries in England.
- m. Wesley and the use of music.
- n. "The world is my parish" philosophy.
- o. What are the creative relevancies of Wesley's ministry to our day?