



THE **wesleyan** CHURCH

Education & Clergy Development

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Introduction to Theology

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Syllabus Overview

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Course Description

This course seeks to introduce learners to the basic doctrines of the Christian faith.

Course Objectives & Learning Outcomes

During this class, the student will...

- Acquire an appreciation for theology as a necessary part of life and ministry.
- Identify the basic doctrines of the Christian faith.
- Articulate a doctrine of salvation within the grid of Creation, Fall, Redemption, and Restoration.
- Understand the Wesleyan distinctive of a Doctrine of Grace.

Required Textbooks

Books can be purchased through:

- *Wesleyan Publishing House: 800-493-7539; www.wphstore.com (WPH may not have all books).*
- Amazon: <http://astore.amazon.com/festivalonspi-20?encoding=UTF8&node=5>
- *Common Ground* by Keith Drury, 2008. Indianapolis, IN: Wesleyan Publishing House.
- *Theology: The Basics* by Alister McGrath, 2008 (Third Edition) Blackwell Publishing. Malden, MA.

Pre-Course Assignments

- By May 8, 2017, read *Common Ground* By Keith Drury, 2008. Indianapolis, IN: Wesleyan Publishing House. Type a 5-page double-spaced summary of the book. Use 12-point Times New Roman font. The paper will be handed in the first day of class.

Mid-Course Assignments

- Starting May 15, you will turn in a *Weekly Reading Worksheet* (you will find this on the back page the syllabus) for the book *Theology: The Basics*. The three questions will be answered and turned in before class. A worksheet should be submitted for each chapter. See page layout under *Papers* in the *Policies and Requirements* section of this syllabus. One full page is expected (two pages the max). See assignment schedule below.
 - -May 15-Chapters 1 and 2
 - -May 22-Chapters 3 and 4
 - -June 5-Chapters 5 and 6
 - -June 12-Chapters 7 and 8
 - -June 19-Chapters 1 and 2
- Memorize *The Apostles Creed* found on p21. This will need to be done by June 5. You demonstrate by videotaping yourself reciting *The Apostles Creed* (further instruction will be given when I go through the Syllabus in class.

Live Class

The learner must attend all classes. Our time is already restricted. Missing any of the time compromises the learning process. The learner is expected to participate in the

class dialogue. Learning is a community event wherein teachers and learners are on a journey together. Christian education is not a competition. The learner has a responsibility to help his/her colleagues in the learning process.

Post Course Assignments

The learner is expected to turn in a post-course paper demonstrating an understanding of basic Christian doctrines as presented in class discussions and class readings. The outline of the paper will follow The Apostles Creed. (Further clarification will be given in class).

ALL POST-COURSE ASSIGNMENTS ARE DUE June 26, 2017.

Grades

- 5% Attendance
- 15% Apostles Creed Memorization
- 25% Pre-course paper on *Common Ground*
- 15% Class Participation
- 40% Final Project

Policies & Requirements

Attendance

Students are required to attend all class sessions. Failure to attend at least 85% (20 hours) of the minimum required seat time (24 hours) will result in automatic failure of the course. Any and all absences within that 15% window must be approved by the professor prior to the course in writing (e.g. email). Do not ask for permission to be excused during the class or after the absence has already occurred.

Grading Scale

A	91-100
B	81-90
C	71-80
D	61-70
F	60 or below

Students must get a “C” or above to pass the course and receive credit for ordination.

Books

Students may purchase their books through Wesleyan Publishing House (www.wphonline.com) or on Amazon. WPH may not carry all books.

Books for this course are available at: <http://astore.amazon.com/festivalonspi-20?encoding=UTF8&node=5>

Due Date

All assignments are due on the date indicated in the syllabus or verbally communicated by the instructor. Professors are required to submit grades to Education and Clergy Development at a maximum of 8 weeks after the last day of class. Assignments may not be submitted to the professor any later than 1 week after the last day of class. Assignments not submitted by the due date will result in an automatic “0” for the assignment.

Extensions

Extensions may be (but are not guaranteed) granted for serious sickness or injury, or death in the student’s immediate family or for similar extreme & unusual circumstances. *When in doubt, please contact the professor.* Also, no assigned work will be accepted after the final due date, unless an extension has been granted in writing (e.g. email) from the professor. Communication is the key! Professors may reduce a student’s grade by 20% for each week past the due date (even in the event of approved extensions). Education and Clergy Development reserves the right to refuse extension and override the professor as it deems necessary.

Papers

All written papers must be typed. Papers should be double spaced on 8.5x11 paper using 12 point font in a normal, easy to read type style (Arial, Cambria, Times New Roman, etc.). Margins should be 1” on all sides. Each paper should include at least:

student's full name, course title, and date. It is advisable to include your name on each page of the paper.

Ordination Deadline

If the student is a candidate for ordination in a given year, coursework must be completed as follows: the final grade submission deadline (8 weeks after the last day of class) must be at least 40 days before the student's district conference. Professors are not required to fulfill any requests for grade submission prior to this deadline.

Plagiarism

Ministerial students in The Wesleyan Church are expected to exhibit honesty and integrity in their personal, professional and academic life and work. As Christians, we are called to a high standard of honesty. As such, students in our ministerial training courses are required to adhere to strict academic guidelines.

The following is borrowed from the Oklahoma Wesleyan University *University Undergraduate Catalog 2015-2016 Traditional Studies*:

Plagiarism — This is defined as offering the work of another as one's own. It is an attempt to deceive by implying that one has done work that was actually done by another. Faculty and students are honor bound to show that ideas and words match with the sources used and thus demonstrate that honest research has been done.

Examples of plagiarism include (but are not limited to) the following:

1. Copying all or part of a theme, examination, paper, library reading report, or other written work from another person's production
2. Submitting as one's own work that which was wholly or partially done by another so as to appear to one's professor to be more accurate or skilled in one's work than one actually is
3. Quoting material from any source without proper documentation
4. Summarizing or paraphrasing from any source without proper documentation
5. Misrepresentation of documentation or resources
6. Using in collateral reports or book reviews the opinion of a professional literary critic or of a campus friend as though it were one's own original thought
7. Submitting workbook answers copied from another person or working in a group and submitting an identical set of answers for each member of the group without explicit permission from the professor

Cheating — Examples of cheating include (but are not limited to) the following:

1. Use of unauthorized prepared materials (cheat sheets) for answering test questions
2. Giving aid to another student during a test or quiz
3. Gaining answers to test questions from others during testing periods
4. Signing another person's name to the attendance record
5. Claiming to have done laboratory work or outside reading that was not done

6. Submitting the same work for more than one course without the prior approval of the professors involved

Education and Clergy Development policy for all students receiving credit through non-accredited ministry training programs (e.g. FLAME, FLAMA, Correspondence Courses, Cross Training, District Extension Classes, Equipping for Ministry, etc.):

- 1) Any instance of plagiarism (whether intentional or not) will result in an automatic "F" for the particular assignment and may also result in an automatic failing of the course.
- 2) A repeat offense will result in an automatic failing of the course.
- 3) A third offense will result in an automatic withdrawal from a credentialing track in The Wesleyan Church.

Bibliography

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