

HT521 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 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 Be formed by, live in, & minister out of Scripture & the historical & theological tradition of the Church
X Educate and equip individuals and congregations to live and minister joyfully and faithfully as part of their own denomination and the ecumenical church

MAMC Curricular Goals Fulfilled By this Course:

X Articulate and reflect critically and constructively on the biblical and theological foundations of God's mission to the world
X Develop skills and capacities for faithful and competent Christian witness

Required Texts:

Rowe, Kenneth E., United Methodist Studies: Basic Bibliographies (online)
Heitzenrater, Richard P., Wesley and the People Called Methodist, 2nd edition
Richey, Rowe & Miller Schmidt, American Methodism: A Compact History
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. A final exam (50% of the final grade)
4. 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)
American Methodism: A Compact History (the whole book)
The history of the student's own annual conference (read the whole book rapidly)