

## **Wesleyan Theology**

Instructor: Rev. Jeremy Carr

Contact: reverendjeremy@sbcglobal.net

**Dates:** November 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> 2018

**Time:** 9:00am-3:50pm

**Location:** Foothill Community Church - 2475 Foothill Blvd. Oroville, CA 95966

**Purpose:** The purpose of this course is to equip students for ministry in the Free Methodist context with a basic framework for understanding the life, theology, and ministry of John Wesley. To this end, the course will not only focus on the nature of Wesleyan thought but also on its place in the current context of our ever-changing cultures. The goal of this course is not an exhaustive understanding of the minutia of Wesleyan thought, but rather a basic understanding of Wesley that will serve the students as they continue to study Wesleyan thought through seminary education or independently motivated studies.

**Course Requirements:** The course will be made up of four graded components: completion of required reading, attendance and participation in class discussions, knowledge of terminology, and comprehension of the subject matter. Completion of required reading will be assessed with a questionnaire given to students at the outset of the course asking them to truthfully report what percentage of the required reading they completed. Attendance and participation will be assessed objectively by the presence of the student in the classroom and subjectively by my sense of their active participation through asking questions or engaging in discussion when invited. Knowledge of terminology will be assessed through a written, closed-book, vocabulary quiz given to students at the end of the course. Finally, comprehension of subject matter will be assessed through two, take-home, open-book, essays of 400 words each for which I will provide prompts at the close of the course. These essays will be submitted to me via e-mail by 11:59pm Saturday, October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

**Grading:** Each graded component will be worth 100 points giving the course a total of 400 points. A student's final grade will be determined by whatever percentage of those 400 points they complete. Grades will be given on the standard academic scale:

90%-100%	A	70%-79%	C	59% or below	F
80%-89%	B	60%-69%	D		

\*\*For ordination purposes students must achieve a grade of C or above.

**Required Reading:** I am a strong believer in the power of primary sources. Due to Wesley's archaic English and dense argumentation it can be difficult to wade through his works and far easier to trust secondary authors to synthesize his thoughts down for us. But I believe this is a disservice to the student interested in developing their own opinions on his theology. Therefore, use of secondary sources will be minimized and the bulk of the required reading will

be Wesley's own writings. Fortunately, much of what Wesley wrote is available for free on-line, thus minimizing the cost to the student. Links for online materials are provided below. The two required books must be acquired by the student.

- Wesley's Sermons: Available online at: <http://www.umcmission.org/Find-Resources/John-Wesley-Sermons/Numeric-Index>
  - #5 Justification by Faith
  - #9 The Spirit of Bondage and of Adoption
  - #10 The Witness of The Spirit, Discourse 1
  - #11 The Witness of The Spirit, Discourse 2
  - #12 The Witness of Our Own Spirit
  - #13 On Sin In Believers
  - #16 The Means of Grace
  - #40 Christian Perfection
  - #43 The Scripture Way of Salvation
  - #44 Original Sin
  - #48 On Self-Denial
  - #57 On The Fall of Man
  - #76 On Perfection
  - #82 On Temptation
  - #85 On Working Out Our Own Salvation
  - #89 The More Excellent Way
  - #92 On Zeal
  - #123 On The Deceitfulness of The Human Heart
  - #138 On Grieving The Holy Spirit
  - #141 On The Holy Spirit
- Wesley, John. *A Plain Account of Christian Perfection* - Available online at: <http://wesley.nnu.edu/john-wesley/a-plain-account-of-christian-perfection/>
- Thorsen, Don. *Calvin vs. Wesley: Bringing Belief In Line With Practice*. Abingdon Press: Nashville, 2013.
- Snyder, Howard A. *The Radical Wesley*. Seedbed Publishing: Franklin, 2014

**Meals:** At this time there is no plan for lunch to be provided by Foothill Community Church. Students should prepare to provide their own lunch. If this changes, students will be notified via e-mail.

**(CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)**

## **Schedule and Agenda**

### **Day 1 – Saturday, November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

- 9:00am-9:50am: The life and calling of John Wesley
- 10:00am-10:50am: Wesley and The Human Condition
- 11:00am-11:50am: Wesley and Prevenient Grace
- 12:00-1:00: Lunch
- 1:00pm-1:50pm: Wesley and Justification
- 2:00pm-2:50pm: Wesley and Sanctification
- 3:00pm-3:50pm: Days Topics in Contemporary Context

### **Day 2 – Saturday, November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

- 9:00am-9:50am: Wesley and Christian Perfection I
- 10:00am-10:50am: Wesley and Pneumatology
- 11:00am-11:50am: Wesley and The Church
- 12:00-1:00: Lunch
- 1:00pm-1:50pm: Wesley's Vision for The Christian Life
- 2:00pm-2:50pm: Day's Topics in Contemporary Context
- 3:00pm-3:50pm: Vocabulary Quiz/Student given prompts for final essays