

**CS-422 Theological Heritage 4: Wesleyan Movement
Winter 2023**

Instructor Name: Rev. Dr. Joye F. Jones

Virtual Office Time *by request*. Please send an email & I'll set a zoom or facetime appointment.

Personal cell phone: 240-481-9724

Email: jjones@wesleyseminary.edu I will answer emails within 24 hours.

In person class, February 17-18, 2023

Feb 17: 1:00 – 5:30; 6:30 – 9:00

Feb 18: 9:00 – 1:00

Other required work to be done asynchronously by the assigned date.

All written work MUST be received by the end of class, Feb. 18

ALL email communications will be through your **Wesley email account**. Be sure it is connected to your personal email, if you don't usually check your WTS account. If you're not checking your WTS email, you will miss important information.

ALL work is to be submitted via Blackboard. Videos (or their links) you need for the class are all on Blackboard in "Assignments". Discussion Board questions are on Blackboard. You **must** use Blackboard. If you have trouble with it, see the last part of this syllabus for information on getting help (Technical Help).

SYLLABUS

Course Description

This course covers the significant individuals, decisive events, and theology of the Methodist movement. Utilizing categories of grace, faith, and holiness, the student will appropriate the Wesleyan heritage.

The course combines history and theology.

Course Objectives

1. Understand and reflect on the movements, major figures, and events that led to the eighteenth century revivals, especially the lives and ministries of John and Charles Wesley.
2. Understand and articulate the vision of holiness and the theology of grace as it shaped the Wesleys, and the structures of the Methodist movement.
3. Identify and discuss significant theological and historical developments in American Methodism, including ordination and episcopacy.
4. Reflect theologically on our Wesleyan heritage and identity.

TEXT BOOKS AND COURSE MATERIALS

Required Texts:

- Heitzenrater Richard P., *Wesley and the People Called Methodists*. Second edition. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2013.
- Maddox, Randy L. *Responsible Grace: John Wesley's Practical Theology*. Nashville: Kingswood Books, 1994.
- Wigger, John H. *Taking Heaven by Storm: Methodism and the Rise of Popular Christianity in America*. Univ. Chicago Press, 1998.

Other Required Readings:

The 5 sermons listed below are found on <http://wesley.nnu.edu/john-wesley/> ; **ALSO** in *John Wesley's Sermons, An Anthology* edited by Outler & Heitzenrater, Abingdon Press, ©1987, 2nd printing, 1993 (available on Kindle).

“Christian Perfection”

“On Working out Our Own Salvation”

“Circumcision of the Heart”

“Witness of the Spirit II”

“Means of Grace”

“What is an Arminian” posted in “DOCUMENTS/RESOURCES” [Also available on-line: <https://arminiantheologyblog.wordpress.com/2013/11/09/what-is-an-arminian-by-john-wesley/>]

“Brief thoughts on Christian Perfection” posted in “DOCUMENTS/RESOURCES” [Also available on-line: <https://worthychristianbooks.com/john-wesley/a-plain-account-of-christian-perfection/chapter-13-brief-thoughts-on-christian-perfection/>]

“The Character of a Methodist” posted in “DOCUMENTS/RESOURCES”. [Also available on line: <https://quod.lib.umich.edu/e/evans/N20188.0001.001/1:3?rgn=div1;view=fulltext#:~:text=He%20cannot%20speak%20evil%20of,He%20cannot%20speak%20idle%20words>]

There are also **required videos** for you to watch and respond to on the Discussion Board or in short papers (see below). Videos are posted in the “Assignments” section of Blackboard. (Please note, some of these videos may contain ads.)

OPTIONAL Texts: NONE of these are required.

History:

- Collins, Kenneth J. *John Wesley: A Theological Journey*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2003. Interweaves John Wesley’s life with his theological development and the development of the Methodist movement.
- Newman, Richard S, *Freedom's Prophet: Bishop Richard Allen, the AME Church, and the Black Founding Fathers*. New York: New York University Press, 2008. Biography of an important early African-American Methodist who founded the AME Church.
- Rack, Henry D. *Reasonable Enthusiast: John Wesley and the Rise of Methodism*. 2nd Edition. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1992. A more extensive treatment of JW and his work in England.
- Richey, Russell E., Kenneth E. Rowe, & Jean Miller Schmidt, *American Methodism: A Compact History*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2010, 2012. A very good reference.
- Wigger, John H. *American Saint: Francis Asbury and the Methodists*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2009. A well-written biography of the “father” of American Methodism.

Theology of Grace:

- Collins, Kenneth J. *The Theology of John Wesley: Holy Love and the Shape of Grace*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2007. A different take on Wesley’s theology than Maddox gives.

PRE-CLASS ASSIGNMENTS

Estimated time for Pre-Class (asynchronous) assignments: WTS (and GBHEM) consider watching videos/on-line lectures and replying to Discussion Board questions as part of “contact hours”; they do NOT include reading texts or researching & writing papers in this contact time. GBHEM & WTS expect about 20 contact hours total, both in class and asynchronous. I estimate about 10 hours of asynchronous work. If you work faster, good for you. If you work more slowly, I’m sorry. Our class time together is about 10 hours.

Feel free to discuss your work with others, & use them as sounding boards for your ideas.

TEXTBOOK READINGS

The following are some questions & points to think about in your reading. They are intended to help provide a focus.

Foundations of the Methodist Movement in England.

1. What were the main reformation & theological influences on JW both in his home and as he developed his own theology? Consider pietism, Calvinism, Moravians, Church of England & the dissenters.
2. What were the major effects of (1) the Holy Club, (2) the Georgia experience, (3) Peter Böhler on JW?
3. What were the reactions of The Church of England and various groups of people to the teachings of the Methodist Movement?

Methodist Movement in America

1. Superintendency: including General Superintendents (Bishops) and Presiding Elders (District Superintendents). Their power, who selects, term limits. What was JW’s theological basis for ordaining clergy?
2. Holy conferencing: including general & annual conferences; charge & quarterly conferences. What purpose(s) do/did they serve?
3. Importance of circuits, local pastors, exhorters, class meetings
4. Ordination and offering the sacraments: Who decides on ordination & who carries it out? Who is authorized to officiate/offer sacraments? What were the root causes of these concerns?

Theology

1. Grace: What is grace? What is JW’s understanding of how grace “works”? Why was his interpretation attractive to ordinary & poor people, women, and enslaved people?
2. JW’s understanding of faith. How does faith relate to grace?
3. Holiness: Holiness and sanctification. What does JW mean by these terms? What is radical/confusing about this teaching? What is the holiness movement & what are some of the denominations that are part of the movement? How do they relate to the Methodist movement/church?

DISCUSSION BOARD

Respond to questions in DISCUSSION BOARD by **Feb. 10**; post comments on 2 other students’ answers (if required) by **Feb. 15**. Your comments on others’ answers must include either a new insight that adds depth and meaning to the original post or a question that requires a substantive answers (i.e., not "yes" or "no"). You cannot comment on a post that already has a comment UNTIL every post has at least one comment.

Assigned texts

Respond to questions about **readings from the texts** in DISCUSSION BOARD; post comments on 2 other students' answers if so instructed.

Video Lectures**1. Our Theological Roots**

Watch the following videos:

- **Video Lecture** on Blackboard (in "Assignments") by Joye Jones: "Theological Influences in the Wesleyan Movement" (ca. 13 min)
- **Video Lecture** on Blackboard (in "Assignments") by Joye Jones: "God's Sovereignty: Calvinist-Arminian Arguments & the Council of Dort" (ca.9 min)

Respond to questions in DISCUSSION BOARD, and post comments on 2 other students' answers

2. Our Messy Family Tree

Watch the following

- **Video Lecture** on Blackboard (in "Assignments") by Joye Jones: "Our German Roots" (ca 9 min)
- **Video Lecture** on Blackboard (in "Assignments") by Joye Jones: "One in Christ - The MEC Becomes The UMC" (ca.21 min).

Respond to questions in DISCUSSION BOARD, and post comments on 2 other students' answers

WRITTEN PAPERS

Due Feb. 10

➤ Please read **IMPORTANT information** on writing papers at the end of the assignments section. Papers not adhering to the format will have the grade lowered.

1. Sermon Synopses:

"Christian Perfection" Include what perfection is & is not

"Circumcision of the Heart" Include why JW used "circumcision" as his metaphor

"Means of Grace" Include your understanding of "ordinance"

"On Working out Our Own Salvation" Include why this is or is not works righteousness

"Witness of the Spirit II" Include what JW means by "witness"

Wesley's sermons are written in 18th century British English, and sometimes they are not easy to understand. Word usage changes over time, and some words don't mean exactly the same now as they did then; he also liked to drop Greek and Latin phrases into his sermons. It will take focus & concentration. However, you might find this resource helpful: <http://wesley.nnu.edu/?id=936>.

After reading **each** sermon, write one paragraph (ca.100 – 150 words) describing **your own** understanding of the main theological point(s) of the sermon, and be sure to include the requested information about each sermon. ("Your own understanding" means the number of direct quotes from the sermon should be limited.) These synopses should be combined into a **single document**. Paper to be submitted via BLACKBOARD by **Feb. 10**. **NOTE:** Bibliography NOT required unless you use sources other than the sermons themselves. However, **direct quotes** from any source must have citations.

2. Synopses of Historical People Videos: After watching each video, write a **brief** synopsis (100-150 words) of the importance of each person to Methodism; these synopses should be combined into a **single document**. Paper to be submitted via BLACKBOARD by **Feb. 10**. **NOTE:** Bibliography NOT required unless you use sources other than the videos. However, **direct quotes** from any source must have citations.

- Susanna Wesley <https://www.umc.org/en/content/susanna-wesley-mother-of-methodism> (ca.4 min)
- Robert Strawbridge <https://www.umc.org/en/content/farmers-who-sowed-methodism-in-america> (ca.3.5 min)
- Francis Asbury <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7-ag7WwJZYQ> (ca. 8 min)
- Thomas Coke <https://www.umc.org/en/content/thomas-coke-a-father-of-methodism> (ca.3 min)

3. Richard Allen & the AME Church

Watch the video “Richard Allen Documentary”:

<https://www.facebook.com/MotherBethel/videos/2042042119155900/?v=2042042119155900>
(ca.23 min, produced by Mother Bethel AME Church)

Watch video lecture on Blackboard (in “Assignments”) by Joye Jones: “Richard Allen & the Struggle for the African American Episcopal Church” (ca. 6 min)

Read pages 13-25 of Allen’s biography posted on “DOCUMENTS/RESOURCES” or online:
<https://docsouth.unc.edu/neh/allen/allen.html>

Write a 5-6 page paper about Allen’s important to Methodism. Include the key issues in the conflict between Allen and the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the arguments between St. Georges and Bethel Churches. What was the role of now call the “Trust Clause”? Why did Allen choose to remain Methodist instead of following Absalom Jones into a different denomination?

NOTE: Bibliography NOT required unless you use sources other than the ones listed above. However, **direct quotes** from any source must have citations. Paper to be submitted via Blackboard **Feb. 10**.

FINAL HISTORY REPORT

DUE Feb. 17, 2023 by the beginning of Class.

Visit a place near where you live that is important in American Methodist history or is significant in the life of an early American Methodist. You may include all of the antecedents of today’s UMC, or important break-away denominations that still exist. However, since you’ve already written about Richard Allen, you may not use him (or his life) as your focus.

This link will take you to a list of some sites: <http://www.gcah.org/research/travelers-guide>; be sure to check out the additional options at the bottom of the website page, “United Methodist Historic Sites”. If you plan to visit a place not on the list, please obtain **my permission** before you go. If it is impossible for you to visit a place due to circumstances beyond your control, please email or talk to me immediately to work something out. (Starting late is not an acceptable reason.)

Take notes & photos/videos of the site., and do additional research about the place or person. Then write a 9-11 page paper about this place/person. Be sure to include why this place/person is important., and what he/she contributed to the development of Methodism or Methodist theology. You may include photos you have taken yourself. Your paper **MUST** include a bibliography and citations as needed. You must include at least 2 references in addition to any pamphlets/booklets you may have picked up at the site.

INSTRUCTIONS ON WRITING PAPERS

If you have questions about an assignment, ASK. Please don't assume!

Please, follow the instructions for each paper about what is to be covered, and how long the paper should be.

Good papers will show evidence that you have both read and understood the assignment. They will reflect **your** thinking and integration of the material. Don't over-use quotations.

You are strongly advised to use online source material with caution, since many online sources do not meet scholarly standards. While high-quality scholarship is available online, and the internet is a powerful research tool, Googling is not a synonym for research, and Wikipedia may not be accurate. Be sure you use reliable and accurate sources. In addition, over-reliance on a single source does not represent good scholarship.

All deadlines must be honored, and failure to do so will adversely affect the grade.

All papers should be typed, double-spaced in 12 point font, with one-inch margins. Please **number** all pages. Be sure your **name is on each page of the paper**. Papers should be the assigned length, plus or minus ½ page; the bibliography is not included in the page count.

Please check for typos and grammatical errors. Everybody makes mistakes, but papers with lots of errors indicate a lack of care in preparation.

Citations & Bibliography

Proper citation is critical. Ideas, concepts, or information derived from sources or persons other than your own thinking must be acknowledged through footnotes or endnotes. However, the papers must reflect your own thinking. A paper that contains many quotes or ideas from others cannot be considered your own thinking. Any quotation of three words or more **MUST** have a citation.

Use any academically acceptable "notes-bibliography" style for footnotes and citations. A helpful style is "Turabian."

http://www.press.uchicago.edu/books/turabian/turabian_citationguide.html

Papers must use inclusive language. (see below)

Your final history report **MUST** have a bibliography, listing all the resources you used. Other writings, such as synopses, do not require a bibliography **UNLESS** you use sources other than those assigned. However, **ALL** quotations must have citations.

Failure to meet these requirements will adversely affect a grade. Plagiarism is theft, and may result in a failing grade.

Paper must be submitted on Blackboard in Word or as a PDF.

WTS Inclusive Language Policy

Bearing in mind that language reflects, reinforces, and creates social reality, the Seminary expects class conversation and written work to employ language that respects the equal dignity and worth of all human beings. In particular, linguistic sexism and racism are to be avoided. (from student handbook). In addition, students are asked to refrain from using masculine pronouns for God.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION**Grading**

Writings & postings will be evaluated by how well you address all parts of the assignments; clarity of thought & writing; and accuracy. Pastors should be able to communicate well in writing, as well as in speaking.

The course grade will be based on my evaluation of the assignments, weighted as follows:

Discussion Boards (combined)	20%
Sermon Synopses	15%
Historical videos Synopses	10%
Richard Allen paper	20%
Final History Paper	25%
Class participation	10%

Class Schedule (There will be brief breaks approximately every hour) This is the approximate schedule with the order of topics. Time will dictate the exact schedule!

Friday afternoon: 1:00 – 5:30

Lecture/Discussion

- The Wesley Family
- Methodist Beginnings & the Need for Revival
- Grace, Faith & Holiness

Friday evening: 6:30 – 9:00

Discussions

Sermons:

- Circumcision of the Heart
- Christian Perfection
- On Working Out our Own Salvation
- “What is an Arminian”
- “A Brief Account of Christian Perfection” (if time permits)

Saturday morning: 9:00 – 1:00

Lecture/Discussion

- Methodist Movement in America
 - Asbury & Coke
 - Christmas Conference
 - Clashes over Ordination & Episcopacy
- A Long Road to Inclusion: Laity, Racism, & Women

Discussion

Sermons:

- Means of Grace
- Witness of the Spirit, II
- The Character of a Methodist (if time permits)

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Attendance

Attendance is mandatory. Students are expected to participate in all classes in their entirety. If you are ill or have an emergency and will need to miss a session, contact me immediately.

Participation

Students are required to participate in all course activities.

Participation includes

- Completing all assigned readings, including all on-line readings.
- Completing all asynchronous assignments, including assigned videos and recorded lectures
- Completing Discussion Board assignments with substantive comments & responses.
- Ensuring that all written papers follow the instructions.
- Attending and actively engaging in class sessions, including participating in discussions and any group work.

Late work Policy

All work **MUST** be submitted on Blackboard.

With the exception of Discussion Board assignments, **pre-class** assignments **WILL be** accepted after the due date & by the beginning of class, 1 pm, Feb. 17, without penalty. Those received later, will have a 1/3 grade reduction (e.g., A to A-, B- to C+, etc.). The final history report, due at the beginning of class, Feb. 17, will be accepted by the end of class Feb. 18, but with a 1/2 step grade reduction (A to B+, etc.).

Discussion Board answers and comments **will NOT** be accepted late; missing items will receive a zero.

By Seminary policy, **no work** will be accepted after **Feb. 18**, and will receive a grade of zero.

Just do it!

Viewing Grades

Assignment grades will be on Blackboard and can be accessed by clicking MyGrades in the course menu. Pre-class written papers received by the listed due date will be returned no later than the first day of class, Feb. 17. Work submitted after the due date will be returned by March 1. All papers will be returned via Blackboard.

Grade Schema

- 93 – 100 = A (Excellent/Outstanding)
- 90 – 92 = A- (Outstanding)
- 88 – 89 = B+ (Very Good)
- 83 – 87 = B (Good)
- 80 – 82 = B- (Acceptable)
- 78 – 79 = C+ (Adequate)
- 73 – 77 = C (Adequate)
- 70 – 72 = C- (Substandard)
- 69 or less = F (Unacceptable)

By Wesley Seminary policy, a grade of F is assigned if pre-class work is not received/completed, or if there is evidence of plagiarism. No paper will be accepted after the last day of class.

Course Policies

God has called you to this work. The church has expectations of you. So please remember:

- students are expected to learn how to navigate in Blackboard Learn & to address technical problems immediately
- students are expected to keep abreast of course announcements
- students are expected to **use their Wesley Seminary email** as opposed to a personal email address
- students are expected to keep instructor informed of class related problems, or problems that may prevent the student from full participation
- students are expected to observe course etiquette at all times

Accommodations/Disability Support

All accommodations for classes are made by the Office of Community life on behalf of the student. Please see the [page on Disability Accommodations for more information](#).

Academic Honesty & Integrity

Wesley Theological Seminary considers plagiarism as a serious offense which will result in substantial penalties, including the possibility of academic dismissal. Students are expected to comply with all standards for academic honesty and integrity, both of the seminary and of the classes in which students are enrolled. The seminary regards the following as forms of plagiarism or academic dishonesty:

- copying from another student's work;
- giving or receiving unauthorized assistance to or from another student during an examination;
- using unauthorized material during an examination;
- presenting as one's own (i.e., without proper attribution) the composition or ideas of another;
- copying material from any sources, whether print or online.

All work submitted must be the work of the student submitting. Work from other sources must be thoroughly paraphrased or indicated as a direct quotation. In either case, the source of the material must be cited. Students are referred to the most current edition of Kate Turabian's *Manual for Writers of Research Papers* for instructions on source citations.

Furthermore, the mutilation, defacement, or stealing of library materials are also considered forms of academic dishonesty and a violation of the seminary's *Covenant of Professional Ethics and Behavior* (see "Use of Property") and are also subject to disciplinary action.

In questions of academic dishonesty, the professor will report the circumstances of the case to the Dean. In first instances of proven plagiarism or dishonesty, the student will receive a "Fail" grade for the course. Second instances will result in automatic separation from the Seminary. Please see the Wesley Theological Seminary Catalog for further details.

SafeAssign

You may be asked to submit one or more of your writing assignments to Blackboard's SafeAssign plagiarism prevention service. Assignment content will be checked against Internet sources, academic journal articles, and the papers of other Wesley Theological Seminary students for common or borrowed content. SafeAssign generates a report that highlights any potentially unoriginal text in the submitted paper. The report may be submitted directly to the instructor or the instructor may elect to have students submit initial drafts through SafeAssign so that you will receive the report allowing the opportunity to adjust and ensure that all source material has been properly cited.

Blackboard Administration

Blackboard Learn automatically records all student and faculty activities including: the first and last access to the course, the pages accessed, the number of discussion messages read and sent, chat room discussion text, and posted discussion topics. These data can be accessed by the instructor to evaluate class participation and to identify participants having difficulty, or to verify academic honesty.

Courses will be unavailable to students two months after the course has ended. Please be sure to save any course material, content, or readings prior to the course completion. If you need the course after it has become unavailable, you must contact the instructor.

Courses will be removed from the server 2 years after the course has been completed.

Technical Support

Students must attempt to solve technical problems and contact their instructor when technical problems do arise.

If you experience technical problems, please exercise one or all of the following options:

- [Blackboard Training Materials](#)
- Call Blackboard Support at (202) 885-609
- Email Blackboard Support at edtech@wesleyseminary.edu

If you have lost your password, or have a problem that is not specifically Blackboard related, please contact Solutionworx at support@solutionworx.com or by phone at (703) 961-1840