

**Alabama Course of Study
Birmingham-Southern College
Spring Session 2019
March 15-16 and April 5-6
Assignments and Course Requirements**

Course: **COS 122 – Theological Heritage I**
Instructor: Ed Glaize
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Please submit this entire assignment stapled on an “*Alabama Course of Study Cover Sheet*”. **You must bring your pre-course work with you on the first night of class.** Late work will be deducted a minimum one letter grade.

Course Description

This course will give consideration of the role and responsibility of the pastor as an interpreter of the Gospel with emphasis upon our Wesley heritage and the student’s own growing sense of theological identity. Basic terms, tasks, and methods of Christian theology are introduced, and representative classical themes are defined and illustrated.

Objectives:

- Challenge students to re-examine their understanding of faith.
- Critical consideration for theological methods and the role of the Wesleyan use of Scripture, tradition, experience, and reason.
- Introduction of the problems inherent in issues such as theodicy, revelation, Christology, law and grace.
- Development of pastor’s identity as a theologian.
- Utilization of theology as a resource for pastoral functions.

Texts:

Campbell, Ted A. Methodist Doctrine. The Essentials. 2nd Edition. Nashville: The United Methodist Publishing House, 2011.

Gonzalez, Justo, and Zaida Perez. An Introduction to Christian Theology. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2002.

Watson, David Lowes. Forming Christian Disciples: The Role of Covenant Discipleship and Class Leaders in the Congregation. (Eugene: Wipf and Stock Publishers, 2002).

The United Methodist Book of Discipline, 2012

The United Methodist Hymnal

Assignment One (Due at Friday Evening of First Class Session)

Read Gonzalez and Perez Introduction to Christian Theology and Ted Campbell Methodist Doctrine, The Essentials. Summarize each section of Gonzalez indicating you have grasped the major theological issues raised, and then give a summary of what Campbell considers to be the essentials of United Methodist theology.

This assignment will be no less than 8 pages and no more than 12 pages, typed, double-spaced, 1" margins all around; 12-point font.

During First Weekend, you will be given topics to do group presentations about topics presented in your readings.

Assignment Two (Due Friday Evening of Second Session)

Read pages in 2016 Book of Discipline relating to the following topics

- I. Write a paragraph each – single or double spaced, no longer than half page each on the following issues from the Social Principles in the Discipline. Describe how you understand the connection between God's love and this life issue. Also, come prepared to discuss the sources of authority that influenced the language in the Discipline and your own beliefs about these issues.
 - A. Family
 - B. Marriage
 - C. Divorce
 - D. Human Sexuality
 - E. Abortion
 - F. Equal Rights Regardless of Sexual Orientation
 - G. Genetic Technology
 - H. Organ Transplant & Donation
 - I. Gambling
 - J. The Death Penalty
 - K. Indebtedness

- II. Write a 3-5 page, typed double spaced summary of the Lowes Watson Text. In your paper, be sure to answer the questions – Why is Covenant Discipleship important for the life of a Christian and the life of the church? How is it a continuation of our Methodist Heritage?

PreCourse / MidCourse / PostCourse Work Policy

We all have deadlines that govern our lives. It is crucial that you take seriously your commitment to complete the pre-work assignments by the deadline. Extensions are granted only for extenuating circumstances. Normal pastoral duties do not constitute extenuating circumstances. Late work will be penalized. Any extension must be granted by the instructor of the class. For your protection, please keep copies of your pre-work assignments.

- All PreCourse and MidCourse work must be submitted to the professor by the date indicated on the syllabus or assigned by the professor on the first weekend. Late PreCourse/midcourse work will be accepted for two weeks following the due date (but not beyond) with the following penalties:

1. **PreCourse/midcourse** work submitted within one week of the due date will receive a **one letter grade deduction**
 2. **PreCourse/midcourse** work submitted after one week of the due date but within two weeks will receive a **two-letter grade deduction**
 3. **No assignments** will be accepted after two weeks from the due date and a grade of "F" will be given in the course.
 4. **In cases where the student has registered late the same policy applies.**
- **PostCourse** work may be assigned in some courses. Post course work will be due no later than two weeks after the completion of the second weekend of the course. **No** late submissions will be accepted.

Come to the second session prepared to develop a plan to implement covenant discipleship within your local church based upon what you learned from the David Lowes Watson text.