

Syllabus for  
**GTHE 686—Theology of John Wesley**  
3 Credit Hours  
Fall 2011

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Studies the life and theology of John Wesley with special reference to the various influences affecting his doctrine of prevenient, justifying, and sanctifying grace.  
Prerequisites: None.

II. COURSE GOALS

The purpose of this course is to enable the student to do the following:

- A. Examine Wesley's life and theology.
- B. Survey Wesley's views on specific Christian doctrines.
- C. Study Wesley's principles of organization and administration.

III. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR THIS COURSE

As a result of successfully completing this course, the student will be able to do the following:

- A. Describe the major persons, events, and dates in Wesley's life.
- B. Discuss Wesley's views on Christian doctrines.
- C. Critically discuss the major themes, issues, movements, and trends in eighteenth century England as reflected in the career of Wesley.
- D. Discuss the importance of applying the example of Wesley to contemporary needs in Christian Proclamation, organization, and administration.

IV. TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER LEARNING RESOURCES

A. Required materialsM

1. Textbooks

Heitzenrater, Richard P. *Wesley and the People Called Methodists*. Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 1995. ISBN: 9780687443116

Outler, Albert C., and Richard P. Heitzenrater, eds. *John Wesley's Sermons: An Anthology*. Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 1991. ISBN: 9780687204953

Tomkins, Stephen. *John Wesley: A Biography*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2003. ISBN: 9780802824998

2. Other  
None

B. Optional Materials

1. Textbooks  
None
2. Other  
None

V. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

A. University Policies and Procedures

1. Attendance at each class or laboratory is mandatory at Oral Roberts University. Excessive absences can reduce a student's grade or deny credit for the course.
2. Students taking a late exam because of an unauthorized absence are charged a late exam fee.
3. Students and faculty at Oral Roberts University must adhere to all laws addressing the ethical use of others' materials, whether it is in the form of print, electronic, video, multimedia, or computer software. Plagiarism and other forms of cheating involve both lying and stealing and are violations of ORU's Honor Code: "I will not cheat or plagiarize; I will do my own academic work and will not inappropriately collaborate with other students on assignments." Plagiarism is usually defined as copying someone else's ideas, words, or sentence structure and submitting them as one's own. Other forms of academic dishonesty include (but are not limited to) the following:
  - a. Submitting another's work as one's own or colluding with someone else and submitting that work as though it were his or hers;
  - b. Failing to meet group assignment or project requirements while claiming to have done so;
  - c. Failing to cite sources used in a paper;
  - d. Creating results for experiments, observations, interviews, or projects that were not done;
  - e. Receiving or giving unauthorized help on assignments.By submitting an assignment in any form, the student gives permission for the assignment to be checked for plagiarism, either by submitting the work for electronic verification or by other means. Penalties for any of the above infractions may result in disciplinary action including failing the assignment or failing the course or expulsion from the University, as determined by department and University guidelines.
4. Final exams cannot be given before their scheduled times. Students need to check the final exam schedule before planning return flights or other events at the end of the semester.
5. Students are to be in compliance with university, school, and departmental policies regarding Whole Person Assessment requirements. Students should consult the WPA handbooks for requirements regarding general education and the students' majors.
  - a. The penalty for not submitting electronically or for incorrectly submitting an ePortfolio artifact is a zero for that assignment.
  - b. By submitting an assignment, the student gives permission for the assignment to be assessed electronically.

B. School of Theology Policies and Procedures

1. **Completion of Assignments**

Assignments are due on the dates established in the course calendar, which is published in the syllabus. **Any assignments turned in after the scheduled due date are penalized five percent (5%) of the original value per day including weekends, breaks, and holidays.** All work turned in two weeks after the assignment deadline is received but is granted a grade of zero for that assignment. **No work** is accepted after the final date of regular classes.

2. **Incompletes**

a. An incomplete is given only after the student establishes with the academic committee by written petition that student's work is incomplete for good cause (i.e., lengthy illness, death in the family). **Incompletes are rarely granted.** Only those absences that are incurred within the time period of the extenuating circumstances prompting an incomplete are excused. The student is still accountable for any other absences and is penalized for them according to the attendance policy.

b. A Petition for Incomplete Grade with all supporting documentation must be submitted for approval one week prior to the end of normal classes. **The submitting of a petition does not automatically ensure the granting of an incomplete.** The petition must be approved by the academic committee of the School of Theology and Ministry. Students are expected to continue all course work until an incomplete is granted.

3. **Examinations**

a. Early examinations **are not** allowed. Late examinations without grade penalty are administered only when extenuating circumstances are present (such as a death in the family the week before exams or a sudden and major illness the week of exams that is documented by a physician).

b. A Petition for Late Examination must be submitted to the academic dean's office. A **\$15 fee**, plus proper documentation, must accompany the petition. The academic committee reviews each petition and grade penalties are assessed. (Late exam fee is not a grade penalty.)

c. Students taking late exams should expect alternate versions of the original exams.

d. **Not being present for the final examination automatically results in failure of the course.**

4. **Attendance**

The Official Attendance Policy for the School of Theology and Ministry is as follows:

a. If the class meets three times a week, the missing of **6** class sessions results in a grade reduction of **one letter** grade. Missing **8** class sessions results in a grade reduction of **two letter** grades. Missing **12** class sessions automatically results in a **grade of F**. If a class meets twice a week, the missing of **4** class sessions results in a grade reduction of **one letter** grade. Missing **6** class sessions results in a grade reduction of **two letter** grades. Missing **8** class sessions automatically results in a **grade of F**. If the class meets once a week, then the missing of **3** class sessions results in a grade reduction of **one letter** grade. Missing **4** class sessions results in a grade reduction of **two letter** grades. Missing **5** class sessions automatically results in a **grade of F**.

- b. **The absences allowed prior to a grade reduction are designed to allow for emergencies and illnesses and are not designed for indiscriminate use.**
- c. Administrative excuses are granted only when a student is on official university business and has received approval in advance from the university administration.
- d. Students are expected to be prompt for classes.
- e. Students are expected to remain for the entire class session.
- f. Leaving early without permission constitutes an absence.
- 5. The Disability Service Center, in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act, assures that no qualified individual with a disability will be denied reasonable accommodations based upon the individual's needs. It is the responsibility of the student to contact the Disability Service Center and properly register for these services. For more information, call 918.495.7018 or go to [www.studentresources.oru.edu](http://www.studentresources.oru.edu).

C. Course Policies and Procedures

- 1. Evaluation Procedures
  - a. Grading:
 

Research Paper	33.33%
Midterm Exam	33.33%
Final Exam	33.34%
  - b. Grading scale:
    - A=90-100%
    - B=80-89%
    - C=70-79%
    - D=60-69%
    - F=59% and below
- 2. Whole Person Assessment Requirements
  - a. All students entering the seminary are required to enroll in PRF 059—ePortfolio: Whole Person Assessment, which provides specific training to develop skills needed to create an ePortfolio.
  - b. WPA requirements for this course:
    - (1) The research paper for GTHE 686 must be uploaded to the student's ePortfolio.
    - (2) The research paper may be used as a required artifact for the M.A. Theological/Historical Studies degree program.
- 3. Other Policies and/or Procedures
  - a. Students will be responsible for materials posted on the D2L site. These can be studied either on site or printed at the student's convenience.
  - b. Class assignments do not necessarily constitute the assignments for an approved incomplete.
  - c. Assignments are due at the beginning of the designated class period.
  - d. One 12- to-15-page research paper dealing with a selected theme from Wesley's theology. The paper will be expected to show satisfactory sources, critical thinking, and historical methodology, which will satisfy the historical/theological Rubric for this course.

## VI. COURSE CALENDAR

<b>Week</b>	<b>Wesley's Sermons</b>	<b>Heitzenrater Text</b>
1	Introduction	
2	The Image of God The Circumcision of the Heart The One Thing Needful	Heitzenrater, pp. 1-32
3	Salvation by Faith Free Grace The Almost Christian	Heitzenrater, pp. 33-57
4	Christian Perfection "Awake Thou That Sleepest" Scriptural Christianity	Heitzenrater, pp. 58-73
5	Justification by Faith The Way to the Kingdom The Spirit of Bondage and of Adoption	Heitzenrater, pp. 74-96
6	The Witness of the Spirit I The Means of Grace The Marks of the New Birth	Heitzenrater, pp. 97-124
7	The Great Privilege of Those that Are Born of God Sermon the Mount IV Sermon on the Mount V	Heitzenrater, pp. 125-46
8	<b>Midterm Exam</b>	Heitzenrater, pp. 147-64
9	Sermon on the Mount VI Sermon on the Mount VII The Original Nature, Properties, and Use of the Law	Heitzenrater, pp. 165-98
10	The Law Established Through Faith I The Law Established Through Faith II A Caution Against Bigotry	Heitzenrater, pp. 199-232

<b>Week</b>	<b>Wesley's Sermons</b>	<b>Heitzenrater Text</b>
11	Catholic Spirit The Great Assize Original Sin	Heitzenrater, pp. 233-60
12	The New Birth On Sin in Believers The Scripture Way of Salvation	Heitzenrater, pp. 261-92
13	The Lord Our Righteousness The Witness of the Spirit II The Repentance of Believers <b>Paper Due</b>	Heitzenrater, pp. 293-323
14	On Zeal God's Love to Fallen Man The New Creation	
15	The Duty of Constant Communion Prophets and Priests Causes of the Inefficacy of Christianity	
	<b>Final Exam</b> (University Schedule)	

**Inventory for Student Learning Outcomes  
Graduate School of Theology and Ministry  
M. A. Theological/Historical Studies**

**GTHE 686 The Theology of John Wesley**

**Dr. Dan Thimell, Instructor**

**Fall 2011**

This course contributes to student learning outcomes for the M. A. Theological/Historical Studies degree as indicated below:

**Significant Contribution** – Addresses the outcome directly and includes targeted assessment.

**Moderate Contribution** – Addresses the outcome directly or indirectly and includes some assessment.

**Minimal Contribution** – Addresses the outcome indirectly and includes little or no assessment.

**No Contribution** – Does not address the outcome.

Degree Program Outcomes	Significant Contribution	Moderate Contribution	Minimal Contribution	No Contribution
<b>Theological Perspective</b>				
Articulate the specifics of the Christian belief system within contemporary society.		X		
<b>Reformation Traditions</b>				
Demonstrate knowledge of the history and development of Christian tradition during specific time periods.	X			
<b>Development of Doctrine</b>				
Demonstrate basic knowledge of key theologians and the development of doctrine within the history of Christianity.	X			
<b>Specialized Research</b>				
Research specialized topics in history and theology of the Christian church in a manner that demonstrates historical integration and theological reflection.	X			
<b>French/German Language</b>				
Translate Scripture and historical documents in either French or German on an entry level.			X	
<b>Pentecostal/Charismatic Foundations</b>				
Demonstrate awareness of Pentecostal/Charismatic distinctives and historical development.		X		