

DRAFT SYLLABUS
DENOM603- United Methodist Studies: Wesley and the Nineteenth Century
Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary
A Blended-Synchronous Class
Fall 2025

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OFFICE HOURS BY APPOINTMENT F2F or MS TEAMS

A Note on Course Modality and the Syllabus

This course is being offered in a blended-synchronous modality. For a description of modalities see, https://mygets.garrett.edu/ICS/Courses_and_Syllabi/Course_Schedule/. A blended-synchronous course means students may take it either online or in person synchronously, however a student must decide which modality will be used as once a student appears online it will be counted as an online course.

This syllabus is exceptionally long and detailed, including step-by-step instructions for navigating the course in Moodle and detailed explanations of what the graded assignments entail. The syllabus will establish policies for the course while Moodle will provide much of the instruction and content. Please be certain to familiarize yourself thoroughly with the syllabus and Moodle before the start date of class. All the information you need is there. Prior to contacting the instructor about the course, check the syllabus and Moodle to see if the information you want is already there.

While every attempt will be made to follow the syllabus as written, given the changing nature of any given semester, especially during a pandemic, it may mean that some modifications to the course will be made along the way. In this case, the changes will be made on Moodle and emails will be sent to alert you to these changes. Please track your garrett.edu email accounts regularly for emails regarding the course.

Navigating the Course

Since this course will be taught on-line, please note the following:

- 1) Much of the course material will be posted on Moodle.
- 2) Note that each section consists of assignments and deadlines.
- 3) The course will be delivered through the Moodle software Garrett-Evangelical uses (<https://courses.garrett.edu>). Please be certain you can log on to Moodle before the course begins. Report any access issues to the registrar and the IT department. Once it is available, the course name will appear on your Moodle list.
 - a. When you click on the course name, you will see a screen with the title of the course and my contact information. As you scroll down, you will see that the content of the course is contained in several large boxes, each with the title of the topic.
 - b. The course is organized around a series of activities that are in each of these boxes. Within each box you will find a series of hyperlinks. These links will connect you to readings that are available online. You will have to click each of these to access the documents.
 - c. This syllabus will also be posted there and will explain the organization of the course and the activities that students are expected to accomplish in each section.

Technology Notes

Given the modality of this course, you will need to be certain you have sufficient technological ability to access and participate. This is the student's responsibility. The instructor will assume this and is not obligated to take technological difficulties into account when assessing the student's work.

Minimum technological requirements

- **Web Browser** – You will need the latest version of the web browser you are using (Internet Explorer, Firefox, Safari, Google Chrome, etc.). Not all browsers work equally well with Moodle, so you may need to experiment with them if you have difficulty using all the functions on the site.
- **Operating System** – In order to use the latest browser, you must have an operating system (Windows, Mac OS, etc.) that is up to date enough to handle it.
- **Internet Connection** – A high-speed internet connection that is sufficient to run streaming video with no difficulty will suffice. Usually, cable and DSL connections can do this. Dial up cannot. If your home internet connection is not sufficient to provide this kind of connection you will need to find access to a computer or internet service provider that does.
- **Hardware** – Keep in mind that you will also need sufficient computing power in terms of memory, speed, audio, and video for the different aspects of this course to work well. Make certain that you have all of these in place so that you can run the necessary software and fully participate on-line.
- **MS Teams** – Please make certain you have a stable enough connection to sustain MS Teams and familiarize yourself with it.

Academic Policies

All students are required to abide by the academic policies detailed in the *Academic Handbook* for the current academic year. The following policies are of particular importance to the successful completion of one's coursework:

Writing

- *Academic integrity and plagiarism:* (See AY 2324 Handbook, 13, 69-75) All professors are required to respond to all suspected incidents of academic dishonesty, especially plagiarism. Repeated incidents of plagiarism or academic dishonesty may result in dismissal from the school.
- *Writing and citations:* *The Turabian Manual for Writers* and the *Chicago Manual of Style* footnote/bibliography format provide the standard formats for all introductory courses. Basic information on these formats is available online here. In advanced courses an instructor may require another style guide appropriate to the discipline (such as APA). (AY 2324 Handbook, 74-75)
- *Writing Support:* The Writing Center at Garrett-Evangelical offers programs to support all students' theological research and writing. To find out more, see the Writing Center Moodle site: <<https://courses.garrett.edu/course/view.php?id=1137>>. Contact the Writing Center for more detailed information <writing.center@garrett.edu>.
- *The use of AI:* The acceptable use of AI with appropriate acknowledgment includes activities such as translation from one language to another; editing, polishing, or revising (through tools such as spell check, grammar check, and Power Point designer) are allowed with no acknowledgment needed; use of AI for research and generating first draft of assignments or creating outlines through tools such as ChatGPT is not allowed. The extent to which the use of AI is allowable in developing course assignments is determined by the faculty member in each of their courses. To properly cite the use of AI in Chicago/Turabian style access - <https://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/qanda/data/faq/topics/Documentation/faq0422.html>

Attendance and Class Participation

Inclusivity/Diversity: The basic commitments of the seminary to mutual love and searching for the truth in Christ lead to a principle that, in the classroom and in course assignments, persons are always to be respected and ideas are to be freely discussed. All participants in the teaching-learning process have an obligation to honor and respect varying perspectives on relevant issues. (AY 2324 Handbook, 10)

Attendance and lateness policies: Attendance is required. Students who miss more than 20% of the class sessions (e.g., more than 2 classes in the weekly schedule, or a proportionate amount for other class formats) should not expect to pass the class. (AY 2324 Handbook, 20)

All cell phones should be silenced during the whole of a class session and any other IT should not disrupt the class.

Academic Accommodations

Student accommodations for documented conditions should be developed and requested before the beginning of the semester. See the Accessibility, Special Needs, and Disabilities policy and process set out in the Academic Handbook (AY 2324 Handbook, 13) and the Academic Accommodations section on <https://www.garrett.edu/life-at-garrett/student-services/accessfor-students-with-disabilities/>.

Extensions: For Masters students, extensions, if granted, are normally for four weeks following the last day of class in spring and fall semesters or the final due date for coursework for January and summer terms. Extensions may not exceed three months following the end of the term. (AY 2324 Handbook, 21)

Course Policies

1. **Excellence in Writing:** Even though this is an UM Studies course, everything you have learned about good writing style still counts. Obtuse or inelegant writing in your essays will be reason for a reduced grade. If you need help with your writing, please contact the instructor.
2. **Intellectual Virtue:** We are striving not only to learn about a subject, but to sharpen our abilities to think critically. To do this, we must practice intellectual virtue by being open-minded, straightforward, and thoughtful in our spoken and written work. We show our Christian scholarship not only by considering issues and questions that are central to our faith, but by being careful and respectful in our treatment of the authors of our texts, the ideas we discuss, and the thoughts of our fellow classmates.
3. **Late Work:** Late work without the instructor's written permission (via email) is not accepted in this course.

Course Description

This course is designed to provide students with an opportunity to become knowledgeable about the origins of the Wesleyan tradition and its expressions in the United Methodist Church. It explores the roots of the movement in the Anglican Church and the Wesleyan Revival of the 18th century, the history of the institutional and theological development of American Methodist/Evangelical United Brethren tradition through the 19th century. Particular attention will be given to the issue of slavery.

Course objectives

By the end of the course, the student should have a better understanding of the following:

- the sermons of John Wesley
- the hymns of Charles Wesley
- the Methodist heritage and tradition
- the diverse streams of tradition that feed into the United Methodist Church
- the process and development of the Methodist/Wesleyan doctrinal heritage in the United States
- The role that racialization of the people of color has played in the development of Methodist history, doctrine, and polity.

Course Requirements

Required Reading

- Heitzenrater, Richard P. *Wesley and the People Called Methodist*. 2nd edition. Nashville: Abingdon, 1995. ISBN 142674224X, \$30.00.
- Osinski, Keegan. *Queering Wesley, Queering the Church*. Eugene, OR: Cascade Books, 2021. ASIN: B09C2ND62L, Kindle \$9.99. EBook online.
- Outler, Albert C. and Richard Heitzenrater. *John Wesley's Sermons: An Anthology*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1991. ISBN 978-0687204953, \$28.00. (These are available online in various forms. You may want to get the list of sermon titles from table of contents and download them for free.)
- Richey, Russell E., Kenneth E. Rowe E. Rowe, and Jean M. Schmidt M. Schmidt, eds. *The Methodist Experience in America, Volume II: Sourcebook*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2000. ISBN 0687246733, \$54.99.
- Runyon, Theodore. *The New Creation: John Wesley's Theology Today*. Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 1998. ISBN 068709602, \$27.99.