Christian Doctrines 2

European Nazarene College

2023-24 04.09.2023 - 20.10.2023
Digital Campus
THE2123
3
English
Fully Online
15 hours/week

Lead Teacher: Howard Culbertson

Course Description

This course is part of a two-part series exploration of the major doctrines of the Christian church from the perspective of the Wesleyan-Holiness tradition. This particular part will focus on the doctrines pertaining to the relationship between God and humanity.

Place in the Curriculum

This course has Introduction to Theology as its prerequisite. It is preferred but not required that students take Christian Doctrines 1 first.

Purpose Statement

We have six weeks to delve into five theological doctrines. Those are the saving activity of Jesus of Nazareth through his suffering, death, and resurrection (also known as "the work of Christ"), the convicting, teaching, and transforming role of the Holy Spirit (also known as "the work of the Holy Spirit"), the state or process of being set apart for God's use and purposes (also known as "sanctification"), the Church, and Last Things. The purpose will be (1) to deepen our own relationship with God and (2) to be better able to redemptively communicate these biblical concepts to others.

Intended Educational Outcomes

This course contributes to reaching the following intended educational outcomes of EuNC's curriculum:

Content	<i>CN2 Theology.</i> Students will know the various topics of Christian theology, its history and specifically Wesleyan holiness theology and the doctrines of the Church of the Nazarene.
Competency	 <i>CP1 Interpretation.</i> Students will be able to interpret and apply Scripture in exegetically and theologically sound ways. <i>CP3 Leadership.</i> Students will be able to lead people closer to God, to lead the church in fruitful ministry, and be skilled in self and organisational management. <i>CP5 Analysis.</i> Students will be able to analyse and address current situations in church and society in a historical, theological, and biblical way. <i>CP6 Critical Thinking.</i> Students will develop the ability to determine validity and reasonableness through an examination of information, argumentation, and experience.

Character	CH1 Integration. Students will be able to apply the knowledge they have received to their personal lives. CH2 Transformation. Students will have grown in their pursuit of living a holy life in all its various dimensions of daily life and personhood.
Context	<i>CT1 Relevance.</i> Students will be able to communicate the Gospel in relevant ways to the people in a certain context, using sound hermeneutical principles. <i>CT4 Integration.</i> Students will be equipped to relate the Christian faith to all areas of life from the Wesleyan theological perspective.

Learning Objectives

In order to reach partially or completely the above-stated intended educational outcomes, by the end of the course students will be able to ...

- 1. Identify, reflect, and explain the major Christian doctrines (from a Wesleyan-Holiness viewpoint) of the Work of the Saviour, Work of the Holy Spirit, Sanctification, Church and Last Things. (Supports CN2, CP5 and CP6).
- 2. Give theological leadership to the church as a community of believers from a Wesleyan-Arminian perspective (supports CP1, CP3, CP5 and CP6).
- 3. Allow theological persuasion on the Christian doctrines to deliberately shape his/her personal life (supports CH1 and CH2).
- 4. Contribute and strengthen the Wesleyan-Holiness tradition in his/her own country (supports CP1, CP6, CT1, and CT4).
- 5. Identify and articulate the relationship of major Christian doctrines to the missional purpose of the church in his/her own context (supports CP3, CP5, CT1, and CT4).

Learning Activities

The following learning activities are required of all students:

<u>Participation</u>. Faithful participation is expected and essential to benefit from this course. Much of your learning will depend on your participation in class assignments, activities, and discussions. Also, see below for the class participation policy. (This requirement helps you accomplish course objective(s): 1-5)

All essays, papers, reports, and reflections are to be submitted to Moodle forums. As part of your class participation, you are expected to read the assignment submissions and response posts sent to Moodle by other students (as though you were sitting in a classroom and listening to their in-class presentations and discussions. Furthermore, each week you are expected to write at least two substantive response posts to what other students have submitted to the Moodle forums.

These participation activities will help you to feel part of a learning community as opposed to being in a directed study course.

2. <u>Reading.</u> The textbook(s), and/or other materials assigned, need to be read according to the course calendar. (This requirement helps you accomplish course objective(s): 1-5.)

The pages required to be read are listed in the course calendar. All of those in the course calendar are from the book by Dunning. Suggestions for additional readings in the texts by Klaiber and Marquardt and by McGrath will be given in Moodle.

- 3. <u>Theological Journal.</u> After you have read each week's material, you are to reflect in written form on the relationship of the various doctrines studied in class and your personal faith relationship to God (Objective 3). Details can be found in Appendix 3.
- 4. <u>Final Paper (Comprehensive Assignment).</u> Write a 1700-1900-word research paper in response to the following question: **How is our life both as individuals and as members of a Christian community influenced by Wesley's optimism of grace?** In your paper, you should focus on the doctrines that make the Wesleyan approach distinct from other denominations, and particular implications for how we live personally and corporately (as the church in your country) the Christian life. You should interact critically with at least two sources in addition to the textbooks and the Bible. These sources should be pre-approved by the teacher. Details can be found in Appendix 1.

Please be aware that you need to turn in this assignment in order to qualify to pass this course, even if you received a passing grade for all the other learning activities. Details can be found in Appendix 1. (Objectives 1-5)

- <u>Reflection Papers.</u> In order to supplement the class lectures with additional (especially culturally relevant material), you will write two brief reflection papers (400 words) based on the reading in Dunning (Objectives 1 and 4 - Details can be found in Appendix 2):
 - a. "Benefits of the Atonement" (Dunning, pages 338-352)
 - b. "The Marks of the Church" (Dunning, pages 529-535)

Additional assignment instructions, video as well as written, will be in a Moodle "book" as the top of the course main page.

Requirements	Percentage of	Learning Hours	
	Final Grade		
Participation	15%	18 hours	
Reading	20%	37 hours	
Theological Journal	20%	5 hours	
Final Paper	25%	18 hours	
Reflection Papers	20%	12 hours	
Total	100%	90 hours	

Grade Distribution and Learning Hours

Textbooks

- Dunning, H. Ray. *Grace, Faith, and Holiness: A Wesleyan Systematic Theology*. Kansas City, MO: Beacon Hill of Kansas City, 1988. Print. [Overdrive, ProQuest]
- Klaiber, Walter and Manfred Marquardt. *Living grace: An outline of United Methodist theology.* Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 2001. [ProQuest]

McGrath, Alister E. *Christian Theology: An Introduction*. 6th ed. Chichester: John Wiley and Sons Ltd, 2017. Print. [Overdrive]

Additional Resources

- Greathouse, William M. & Dunning, H. Ray. *An Introduction to Wesleyan Theology*. Kansas City, MO: Beacon Hill Press, 1989. [Overdrive]
- Grider, J. Kenneth. A Wesleyan-Holiness Theology. Kansas City, MO: Beacon Hill Press, 1994. [Overdrive]

Horton, Stanley, Ed. Systematic Theology. Springfield, MO: Logion Press, 2007. [Overdrive]

Leclerc, Diane. *Discovering Christian Holiness: the heart of Wesleyan-holiness theology*. Kansas City, MO: Beacon Hill Press, 2013. [Overdrive]

Wiley, H. Orton. Christian Theology. Kansas City, MO: Beacon Hill Press, 1940. [Overdrive; WHDL]

Course Calendar

Date	Course Outline	Reading/Assignments – Journals due each Thursday, Reflections due by Sunday
Week 1	Introduction Person of the Saviour Work of the Saviour	 Dunning, pp. 302-352 Submission: Weekly Journal Two response posts
Week 2	Work of the Saviour (continued) Person and Work of the Holy Spirit	Dunning, pp. 352-394 • Submission: Weekly Journal • Two response posts
Week 3	Person and Work of the Holy Spirit (continued Sanctification: Renewal in the image of God)	Dunning, pp. 395-448 • Submission: Weekly Journal • Submission: Reflection #1 • Two response posts
Week 4	Sanctification (continued) Communion of the Saints (the Church)	 Dunning, pp. 448-498 Submission: Weekly Journal Two response posts
Week 5	Sacraments in the life of the community	Dunning, pop. 498-538 • Submission: Weekly Journal • Submission: Reflection #2 • Two response posts
Week 6	Last things: Hope of Final Restoration	Dunning, pp. 538-589 • Submission: Weekly Journal • Two response posts • Submission: Final Paper

The teacher has the right to make changes in the course calendar and due dates (within the course duration) if necessary.

Mutual Accountability

I expect from you that:

- 1. You will diligently prepare each week's work and participate in constructive ways in all learning activities.
- 2. You will show respect towards other students, being sensitive to cultural, gender, denominational, and other individual differences.
- 3. You will submit work on time, or, if this is not possible, to request an extension.
- 4. You will be punctual and participate actively in all activities of the course.

My commitments to you are:

- 1. I will prepare carefully for each week of study and participate in online discussion forums as helpful to further the conversations in a fruitful direction.
- 2. I will promote active learning and a respectful environment in online discussion forums, and video calls where you are free to share and explore your perspectives and questions as part of the learning process.
- 3. I will respond to questions received by email or through the online platform by the end of the following day after the message is received, or by the end of Monday if received on a Friday or at the weekend.
- 4. I will provide constructive feedback and assessment of your work within five business days after the assignment's due date.

Applicable Academic Policies

Please refer to the EuNC Academic Catalogue for the specific policies on Academic Integrity, Intellectual Property, Language Proficiency and Academic Style, Late Submission of Assignments, Class Participation, and Course Assessment.

Appendix 1: Final Paper (Comprehensive Assignment)

This final paper is a research piece. You should consult not only your textbooks but also the additional reading and any other works you may have (in this case you need to get them pre-approved by the teacher). In your paper, you are supposed to <u>do an in-depth exploration of the cardinal doctrines of the Wesleyan-Arminian tradition which reflect its optimism of grace and explain how they impact the everyday life of believers individually and in the context of the church...</u>

Your paper should be 1700-1900 words in length. This paper should reflect the academic style format adopted by the Learning Centre. Citations of all works used are expected, as you are supposed to use the ideas of different works. These should be clearly marked, throughout the paper. As a result, there should be a Works Cited page at the end (please review the instructions for a research paper from your academic proficiency courses).

Start working on this paper early in the course. The insight that comes from good research seldom, if ever, comes from last-minute preparation. Complete most of your research before writing.

	Excellent to Good Work	Adequate to Poor Work	Unsatisfactory Work	Total
Insight and Analysis of the Topic	Focused thought on the researched subject and interacts with ideas and theological concepts, grounding conclusions on a theologically sound method.	Several examples of citations/paraphrases are provided, but limited interaction with them.	There is no interaction with theological concepts and uses mainly one source for the paper.	
Points	30-24	23-18	17-0	
Clarity and Flow of Thought	Clear introduction, proposition(s), and well-articulated paper. There's a clear flow of thought through the use of transitions and the conclusion is clear.	The paper is clear and proves the ideas and concepts, however, lacks the articulation of those ideas through the use of an introduction, transitions, and a conclusion.	The paper lacks clarity of thought in what the student is trying to prove or demonstrate. There is no clear unified sense of the flow of the student's thoughts.	
Points	22-18	17-14	13-0	
Research Breadth	Paper evidences a wide-range use of sources in the dialogue developed by the student.	Paper evidences the use of the minimum required sources for the development of the paper.	Paper fails to enter into dialogue with the necessary resources for investigation.	
Points	8-7	6-5	4-0	
Theological Reflection/Critique	Paper integrates personal/church experiences and insights very well, and	Paper integrates/synthesizes personal/church experiences and	Very little or no attempt to integrate personal/church experiences and the	

The final paper (Comprehensive Assignment) will be evaluated according to the following rubric:

	comes up with deep theological insights.	insights with hardly noticeable inconsistencies.	research findings.	
	30-24	23-18	17-0	
Language Proficiency and Academic Style	1% or less of grammar and/or spelling errors, in relation to word count. Demonstrates ability to communicate clearly. Correct formatting.	2% or less of grammar and/or spelling errors, in relation to word count. Could communicate more clearly. Essentially correct formatting.	More than 2% of grammar and/or spelling errors in relation to word count. Not communicated clearly. Flawed formatting.	
Points	10-8 points	7-6 points	5-0 points	
Total Points				100%

Appendix 2: Basic Format for Reflection Papers

Elements

A suggested weighing of the elements (for a total of 400 words) is:

- Summary and presentation of author's material (250 words)
- Reflection and critique from your own cultural background (150 words)

Basic Format

Papers should all be written as follows:

- Your writing should reflect the requirements of the adopted writing style for your Learning Centre.
- Assignments need to be submitted to the teacher by e-mail or using the Moodle platform
- Citation of sources (if you quote material from your reading)

Appendix 3: Basic Format for Theological Journal

Basic Format

Papers should all be written as follows:

- Your writing should reflect the requirements of the adopted writing style for your Learning Centre.
- Assignments need to be submitted to the teacher using the Moodle platform
- Citation of sources (if you quote material from your reading)

Content

Please consider the following question as you write your journal entry, without using them as the structure for your reflection. Your journal should be about 100 words/week in length and have a clear flow of thought:

- What was new to you as you studied the theological concepts of this week? Or how was your understanding of Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit, the Wesleyan *ordo salutis,* the church, the sacraments, divine healing, and/or the last things enlarged this week?
- What implications for your understanding of Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit, the *Wesleyan ordo salutis*, the church, the sacraments, divine healing, and/or the last things were raised by the new theological concepts? Anything needs to be corrected or completely changed? Why?
- How is your Christian life impacted by the new doctrines studied this week?