UNITED METHODIST HISTORY
Advanced Course
Summer Course of Study School
July 6-16, 2015

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About this course:
This course will explore biblical roots, ecclesiastical contexts, and the persons and events that have shaped the United Methodist experience. Class members will seek to identify threads in United Methodist history that help form the fabric of today’s denominational journey.

Course requirements:
Attend and participate in class … give evidence of having completed the assigned readings … prepare a paper (approximately 2000 words) on self-selected topic related to United Methodist history … complete satisfactorily two tests: a brief one at mid-course and a full one toward the end of the course … complete “History Told in Art” project

Textbooks:
Heitzenrater, Wesley and the People Called Methodists (Abingdon)
Richey, Campbell, Lawrence, Marks of Methodism (Abingdon)
Rowe, Richey, Schmidt, American Methodism (Abingdon)
United Methodist Hymnal 1989
The Book of Discipline  2012
PLUS: Choose a book that focuses on one part of the United Methodist story, such as UMC in countries other than US, Native Americans in UMC, Hispanic ministry in UMC, Role of Women in UMC, African American experience in UMC, Asian American journey in UMC, history of EUB, biography of Asbury, Otterbein, Albright, Matthews, Susannah Wesley, et al

Pre-assignments (before the first class)
(1) Read Heitzenrater, Wesley and the People Called Methodists; (2) read Richey, Campbell, Lawrence, Marks of Methodism—be prepared to discuss which of these marks is most nearly absent in today’s United Methodism ; (3) begin reading in the book you chose in the item above labeled PLUS (e-mail me if you have trouble finding such a book); (4) write a paper of approximately 500 words (bring to first class) in which you summarize the history of the setting to which you are appointed, identifying at least two persons who are central to the story.

Grading:
Mid-term 15% … Final exam  40% … Essay  35% … Art Project 10%
“History Told in Art” project—explore the photographs and other art that hang in the rooms and on the walls of the Divinity School... drawing upon your study of the photographs and other art, prepare a paper of at least 500 words in which you address the topic: “How Do We Tell Our Story?” *(This assignment allows us to meet the required number of hours without a class session on July 31.)*

**ONE POSSIBLE FLOW FOR THE COURSE**

Review of tools for the course  
Biblical roots of United Methodist history  
    Early church history  
    Role of Protestant reformation  
    John and Charles Wesley  
    Philip William Otterbein  
    Christmas Conference 1784  
    Splintering United Methodist family  
Formation of The United Methodist Church  
Current Issues in United Methodism  
Future of The United Methodist Church

**DATES TO NOTE**

July 6---pre-assignment paper due on history of your setting for ministry  
July 10---open book quiz on Heitzenrater and Richey, Campbell, Lawrence  
July 16---closed book final exam on all course material  
July 16---essay due on your self-selected topic  
July 16---“History Told in Art” project due

**ONE WAY TO GET ALL THE READING DONE**

By yesterday---complete Heitzenrater  
By tomorrow---complete Richey, Campbell, Lawrence  
By July 10---complete Rowe, Richey, Schmidt  
By July 15---complete self-selected book