

Assemblies of God Theological Seminary
 Doctor of Ministry Program
 PTH 909: The Future of Pentecostalism
 Core 3, March 8-12, 2010
 Dr. Vinson Synan

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Pentecostalism has reached the centenary mark, an event that would have been unimaginable to its first generation. In many respects the movement has changed. Not surprisingly, Pentecostals face major challenges related to cherished theological, spiritual, and liturgical distinctives that once uniquely unified them. This course examines and evaluates dynamics of the early movement, the nature of the crucial changes that have occurred and what Pentecostalism may look like in its second century of existence.

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES

Integrating Cognition, Character, and Competencies. Upon completion of this course, students will demonstrate, through assignments, class interaction and personal reflection, the following:

1. Understanding of the key issues – past and present – that confront Pentecostal and Charismatic ministries.
2. Familiarity with some of the thought leaders writing about Pentecostal issues.
3. Personal integration of community spirituality, theological reflection, and leadership obligations.
4. A maturing acceptance that change is expected and that effective leaders anticipate it and learn to rely on the work of the Holy Spirit to lead them and their organizations into a new chapter.
5. Capabilities to instruct and mentor using the insights gained from the reading and reflections.
6. Ability to cast vision for being a twenty-first century, global-focused Pentecostal leader.
7. Appreciation for the unity-in-diversity of Pentecostal-Charismatic Christianity.

TEXTBOOKS (For all the work of the course, pre-, intra- and post-session)

- Blumhofer, Edith. “Revisiting Azusa Street: A Centennial Retrospect.” *International Bulletin of Missionary Research* (April 30, 2006): 59-64.
- Demptser, Murray, Byron Klaus, and Douglas Peterson, eds. *The Globalization of Pentecostalism: A Religion Made to Travel*. Irvine, CA: Regnum, 1999. ISBN 1870345290
- Miller, Donald E., and Tetsuano Yamamori. *Global Pentecostalism: The New Face of Christian Social Engagement*. Irvine: University of California Press: Lexington Books, 2007. ISBN 0520251946

- Patterson, Eric, and Edmund Rybarczyk, eds. *The Future of Pentecostalism in the United States*. Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, 2007. ISBN 0739121030
- Robeck, Jr., Cecil M. *The Azusa Street Mission and Revival: The Birth of the Global Pentecostal Movement*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 2006. ISBN 1418506249
- Synan, Vinson. *The Holiness-Pentecostal Tradition*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1997. ISBN 0802841031
- Yong, Amos. *The Spirit Poured Out on All Flesh: Pentecostalism and the Possibility of Global Theology*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2005. ISBN 0801027705

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

PRE-SESSION READING AND REFLECTION:

Two thousand (2000) pages of reading fulfill the reading requirement for this AGTS doctoral course. Please read the required texts first. Then, choose books from the suggested bibliography to complete any remaining reading requirements. Please substitute books from the bibliography if you have read any of the required texts for a previous course.

- In preparation for the March 8-12, 2010 class experience, **the following reading should be completed:**
 - Blumhofer's article on Azusa Street
 - Dempster, *Globalization of Pentecostalism*
 - Miller and Yamamori, *Global Pentecostalism*
 - Synan, *The Holiness-Pentecostal Tradition*
 - Yong, *The Spirit Poured Out on All Flesh*
- **Reading Reports (20 points each; 100 total):** For each of the five items in the pre-session reading requirements, the student will prepare a two-page, double-spaced Reading Report with the following: 1) Full bibliographic reference; 2) An affirmation that the book has been read; 3) Three key ideas/insights from the reading as well as an overall summary statement; 4) The value of the book to the student's understanding of Pentecostalism. These reports should be submitted together by email or brought to class.
- **Reflection Essay I (4-5 pages, 100 points):** From your reading and reflection, answer the following two questions: 1) What challenges face Pentecostals in the twenty-first century? 2) Why are Pentecostals uniquely positioned to make a positive impact in the coming decades?

WHILE IN SESSION

- Actively participate in all class activities

- **Reflection Essay II (4-5 pages, 100 points) due Friday, March 12, 2010:** “The Future of Pentecostalism and My (Our) Calling/Ministry.” Explain what insights from the course will have *immediate* impact on your current Kingdom service and what arenas need adjustment.
- **Monday, March 8:** Pentecostal Roots. Wesley and Methodism; Britain and America
- **Tuesday, March 9:** The Holiness and Keswick Movements
- **Wednesday, March 10:** Pentecostalism: Cullis, Parham, and Seymour
- **Thursday, March 11:** Challenges: Worldwide growth, Finished Work, Oneness, Black Pentecostals
- **Friday, March 12:** The Charismatic Movement; Televangelists, Neo-Charismatics, The Prosperity Gospel

POST-SESSION REQUIREMENTS

- Read Robeck, *Azusa Street*
- Read Patterson, *The Future of Pentecostalism in the United States*
- **10-12 page Research Paper (150 points) due June 4, 2010.** “Back to the Future: How Azusa Street and Current Trends Inform Present Pentecostal Leadership” There is great flexibility within the topic here. The aim is to assess the principles of Azusa Street (include Blumhofer and Robeck’s diverse perspectives) and the trends of Dempster, Miller, Patterson and Yong and the broader concerns of Drane with a view to understanding what will constitute healthy Pentecostal leadership in the twenty-first century. Obviously exhaustive evaluation is not aim – integration of key ideas with application for communities and mission is the goal.
- *I recommend that students submit an outline to the instructor and share some emails to make this assignment as meaningful (and potentially publishable) as possible.*

GRADING (Standard AGTS percentages apply for final grade – see the academic catalogue)

- Reading Reports (100 points) = 20%
- Reflection Essays (2 @100 points, 200 total) = 40%
- Paper (150 points) = 30%
- Participation in Session Discussions (50 points) = 10%

SPECIFIC DATA

Syllabus prepared by Vinson Synan, January 2010

GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR EXCELLENT PAPERS

1. Prepare a detailed outline and discuss it with the Instructor if helpful.
2. State your basic thesis clearly and concisely – tell the reader what you are going to say and how you are going to say it.

3. You are writing, not talking, so be concise and clear and avoid unnecessary repetition.
4. Keep paragraphs focused!
5. Once you introduce a person, use only their last name in successive allusions, unless there are two or more with the same last name or you sight a new work.
6. Use the ACTIVE voice and as few verbs of being (am, is, are, etc.) as possible.
7. Short, clear sentences are better than long, convoluted ones.
8. Use “I” sparingly, but avoid “we” and “you” and speak about others in the third person singular and plural.
9. Always use gender-inclusive language except when referring to the Trinity.
10. Avoid plagiarism and overuse of direct quotations. At this level, the writer’s analysis – yes, your insights – are the critical factor, with solid support from the sources.
11. PROOFREAD two ways: 1) Read it out loud once or twice and do the grammar/spell-check; and 2) have a colleague/friend read it for clarity. Submission of a page or two by email to the Instructor is welcome for feedback.
12. You are encouraged to secure the services of one of the approved D.Min. editors. See <http://www.agts.edu/dmin/project/index.html> for the most recent contact list.

SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY (In addition to the required texts)

Blumhofer, Edith L. *The Assemblies of God, Pentecostalism and American Culture*. Chicago: University of Illinois Press, 1993.

Blumhofer, Edith L., Russell P. Spittler, and Grant Wacker, eds. *Pentecostal Currents in American Protestantism*. Chicago: University of Illinois Press, 1999.

Cleary, Edward J., and Hannah W. Stewart-Gambino, eds. *Power, Politics and Pentecostals in Latin America*. Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 1997.

Cox, Harvey. *Fire from Heaven: The Rise of Pentecostal Spirituality and the Reshaping of Religion in the Twenty-First Century*. Reading, MA: Addison-Wesley Publishing Co., 1994.

Epstein, Daniel Mark. *Sister Aimee: The Life of Aimee Semple McPherson*. San Diego: Harcourt, Brace and Co., 1993.

Hardesty, Nancy A. *Faith Care: Divine Healing in the Holiness and Pentecostal Movements*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, 2003.

Hocken, Peter. *The Glory and the Shame: Reflections on the 20th Century Outpouring of the Holy Spirit*. Guildford, Surrey, UK: Eagle, 1994.

Hollenweger, Walter J. *Pentecostalism: Origins and Developments Worldwide*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, 1997.

Jacobsen, Douglas. *Thinking in the Spirit: Theologies of the Early Pentecostal Movement*. Bloomington, Indiana: University Press, 2003.

Kay, William K., and Anne E. Dyer, eds. *Pentecostal and Charismatic Studies: A Reader*. London: SCM Press, 2004.

Lee, Edgar R., ed. *He Gave Apostles: Apostolic Ministry in the 21st Century*. Springfield, MO: Assemblies of God Theological Seminary, 2005.

Martin, David. *Pentecostalism: The World Their Parish*. Oxford: Blackwell Publishers, 2002.

McGee, Gary B. *People of the Spirit: The Assemblies of God*. Springfield, MO: Gospel Publishing House, 2004.

———. *Initial Evidence: Historical and Biblical Essays on the Pentecostal Doctrine of Spirit-Baptism*. Eugene, OR: Wipf & Stock Publishers, 2008.

Reed, David A. *“In Jesus Name”: the History and Beliefs of Oneness Pentecostals*. Blandford Forum, Dorset, UK: Deo Publishing, 2008.

Robeck, Cecil M., and Harold D. Hunter, eds. *The Azusa Street Revival and Its Legacy*. Cleveland, TN: Pathway Press, 2006.

Rodgers, Darrin J. *Northern Harvest: Pentecostalism in North Dakota*. Bismarck, ND: North Dakota District Council of the Assemblies of God, 2003.

Synan, Vinson, ed. *The Century of the Holy Spirit: 100 Years of Pentecostal and Charismatic Renewal*. Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 2001.

Walker, Michael, ed. *The Work of the Spirit: Pneumatology and Pentecostalism*. Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 2006.

Wilson, Everett A. *Strategy of the Spirit: J. Philip Hogan and the Growth of the Assemblies of God Worldwide 1960-1990*. Irvine, CA: Regnum Books, 1997.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Alternative email: vinssyn@regent.edu

Alternative phones: 757-549-1159 (H) 858-574-8245 (C)