

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
HIS 549: History of Modern Revivals
Meets Thursdays, 6-8:45 PM

Rev. Charles E. Self, Ph.D.
cself@agts.edu
drcharlieself@yahoo.com

Spring 2010
417-268-1077
408-499-8814

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The focus of this course is a critical examination of Christian revivals throughout the world from the 18th century birth of Evangelicalism to the 21st century Pentecostal movements. The locales are selected with a view to seeing the common and diverse facets of Christian revival and its impact on individuals, churches and the cultural and sociopolitical dynamics of the nations and peoples involved. Historical reflection is united with Biblical assessment of revival with a view toward focusing expectations on what constitutes authentic Christian awakening in the 21st century and what expectations God's people should have as they pray and work globally for the advancement of the Kingdom of God.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: Upon successful completion of this course student will, through oral discussion, reading and reflection and written assignments, demonstrate

- Understanding of the significant roots of modern revivals found in the five renewals of the Reformation era.
- The ability to establish Biblical criteria and practical expressions for what constitutes authentic personal and community revival.
- Understanding the distinctions between spiritual renewal, reformation, revivalism and awakening.
- Knowledge of significant global revivals and their points of cohesion and divergence from other such awakenings in global Christianity.
- The capacity to articulate what facets of revival involve 1) the total sovereignty of Almighty God; 2) the active agency of human kind, and 3) the synergistic partnership of the Spirit with the community.
- An appreciation for the current need for awakening in Europe and North America.

METHODOLOGIES

- Lecture, media, small-group discussion and class presentations will all facilitate learning.

TEXTBOOKS: these are required reading

David Martin, *Pentecostalism: The World is Their Parish*. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell, 2008.
ISBN: 0631231219

Richard K. McMaster and Donald R. Jacobs, *A Gentle Wind of God: The Influence of the East Africa Revival*. Herald Press: 2006. ISBN: 0836193183

Mark Noll, *The Rise of Evangelicalism: The Age of Edwards, Whitefield and the Wesleys*.
Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2004. ISBN: 0830825819

S.B. Shaw, *The Great Revival in Wales*. Christian Life Books. 2002. ISBN: 193139301X
Vinson Synan, *Century of the Holy Spirit: 100 Years of Pentecostal and Charismatic Renewal*.
Nashville: Thomas Nelson. 2001. ISBN: 0785245502
Geoff Waugh, *Flashpoints of Revival: History's Mighty Revivals*. BookSurge Publishing, 2nd
Edition, 2009. ISBN: 1439237243

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- *Attendance and participation* are vital for learning. Apart from severe emergencies and in accordance with AGTS policy, credit cannot be given if a student is absent more than two weeks.
- *Reading Reports* are due on the dates designation is the Course Schedule below. These will be 4-5 page analytical essays that have three facets: 1) summarizing the author's main concerns and methodologies; 2) highlighting the central events of revival (selectivity is expected here); and 3) evaluating the lessons of these revivals for the renewal of the church and her mission in the 21st century. These reports will cover the works of every author except Waugh.
- *A Research Paper of 10-12 pages* with at least five outside sources will be due on the date given below. The focus of this paper will be on a particular revival or a revival leader. The choice of subject is up to the student, but it must be one of the leaders or movements that are part of the purview of this course.
- *A 4-5 page Final Essay* will be due on the last day of the course. The focus/title will be, "Back to the Future: 21st Century Lessons from Revival History." The student will denote insights and principles that can contribute to the vitality of the Church and her mission.

GRADING

- Attendance and Participation: 50 points
- Reading Reviews: 5 @ 25 points each = 150 points
- Research paper: 100 points (**Note the early date this is due – 3-4-10**)
- Final essay: 50 points
- Total points: 350 points

Insights about grades: A "C" grade demonstrates fairly rote repetition of facts and decent writing, but little analysis or reflection. A "B" grade is a good grade, with evidence of clear writing, contextual placement of data and some mature analysis. An "A" grade is well above the norm, with excellent writing, insightful comments and evidence of integration. A full "A" grade means the writing is close to publishable quality. Minuses and pluses DO count toward the GPA and are gradations of the general guidelines enumerated here.

COURSE AND ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE (An * denotes that a Reading Review is due)
Reading Guide: M = Martin; MC = McMasters; N = Noll; S = Shaw; SY = Synan; W = Waugh

1-07: Back to the Future: Understanding the Nature and Scope of Revival (**Chapel 6-7:15 PM**)

1-14: Reformation and Pietistic Roots of Modern Revivals; W: 1-17 N: 1st half

1-21: The Great Awakening the Birth of Evangelicalism N: 2nd half

1-28: 19th Century Revivals: Religious and Theological Issues; W: 17-30* **Review of Noll**

2-04: 19th Century Revivals: Spirituality and Social Transformation

2-11: The Welsh Revival: Preparation and power; Shaw (all) * **Review of Shaw**

2-18: Preparation for Pentecost SY: 1-38

2-25: Study Week – No Class

3-04: The Pentecostal Explosion **Research Paper Due**; SY: 39-148; W: 31-50

3-12: Revival in East Africa MC (all) * **Review of McMasters and Jacobs**

3-18: Global Pentecostalism and Revival; M: 1st half; W: 51-82

3-25: Global Pentecostalism and Revival; M: 2nd half; * **Review of Martin (Chapel 6-7:15 PM)**

4-01: Pentecostals and Charismatics; SY: 149-292; W: 83-102

4-08: Renewals from the 1980s to the present; SY: 293-414 * **Review of Synan**

4-15: Authentic Christian Experience – assessment principles; W: 103-148

4-22: Preparing for Awakening; W: 149-154 **Final Essay due**

GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR WRITING

- Excellent grammar, spelling and syntax are the norm for graduate work. Please proofread and perhaps have a friend review your work.
- Inclusive language is essential, except when referring to the Holy Trinity.
- Avoid passive voice and first person singular and plural, unless quoting a source or the context demands it. State your ideas in clear, short sentences.
- APA or Turabian are acceptable when citing references and giving bibliographical information.
- 10 to 12 point type, preferably Times New Roman, is expected.
- As a rule, do not use long quotations. Summarize and give attribution to key ideas. If you do quote more than one sentence, indent and single-space the quotation.
- Wikipedia is NOT acceptable as a historical source.

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

The textbooks contain extensive bibliographies and the instructor will give constant updates in class for online and journal sources.

LEARNING RESOURCES

Students who need special learning accommodations should fill out the requisite forms and inform the instructor. Everything possible within the AGTS Academic Guidelines will be done to assist learning.

Syllabus Prepared by Dr. Charlie Self, October 3, 2009