

THE-1043: Exploring Christian Holiness
Syllabus - Winter 2024

PROFESSOR

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

An introduction to the study of the doctrine of Christian Holiness. The study will explore the biblical development and the emphasis of the doctrine within the Church of the Nazarene.

INTENDED COURSE OUTCOMES

The following learning outcomes for this course will enable the student to:

1. Articulate and explain the Doctrine of Christian Holiness from a Wesleyan perspective
2. Teach and nurture ethical behavior in the Christian community based upon a biblical and Wesleyan theological foundation
3. Understand and articulate the differences between Wesleyan and Reformed or Calvinistic understandings of the Doctrine of Holiness
4. Teach and preach the doctrine of Entire Sanctification as embraced by the Church of the Nazarene with clarity
5. Apply the Doctrine of Holiness/Entire Sanctification to the issues of practical living and public witness

The following competencies as outlined in the *Sourcebook on Ordination: United States of America Edition, 2006* to meet the educational requirements for Ordination within the Church of the Nazarene will be achieved by completing this course:

- Ability to identify and explain the Doctrine of Holiness from a Wesleyan perspective. (CN-23)
- Ability to apply basic understanding of ethical theories to teach and nurture ethical behavior in the Christian community. (CH-1)
- Ability to discern and make theologically based ethical decisions in the midst of a complex and/or paradoxical context. (CH-2)
- Ability to apply Christian ethics to the issues of the integrity of the minister and the congregation for authentic Christian faithfulness and public witness. (CH-5)
- Ability to apply understanding of his or her ongoing developmental needs across the life course of the minister to the pursuit of holy character. (CH-9)

COURSE TEXTBOOKS/RESOURCES

LeClerc, Diane. *Discovering Christian Holiness: The Heart of Wesleyan-Holiness Theology*. Kansas City, MO: Nazarene Publishing House/Beacon Hill Press, 2009. Print. ISBN: 9780834124691

Knight, John A. *The Holiness Pilgrimage*. Kansas City, MO: Beacon Hill Press, 1973.

Church of the Nazarene Manual: Articles of Faith – click [Here](#)

Church of the Nazarene Manual: The Covenant of Christian Conduct – click [Here](#)

ASSIGNMENT CALENDAR AND DUE DATES

	<u>Due Date</u>	<u>Assignment</u>
<u>Pre-Class</u>		
1. Order	1.20	<i>Discovering Christian Holiness</i> and <i>The Holiness Pilgrimage</i>
<u>Week 1: Scripture</u> (Jan 20-27)		
1. Attend	1.20	Zoom Discussion Group – 6:30PM-8:00PM
2. Read		<i>Discovering Christian Holiness</i> Part I: Biblical Holiness (Chapters 1-2)
3. Write	1.26	My Understanding of Holiness: Part I
4. Write	1.26	Reading Observations for chapters 1 -2
<u>Week 2: Tradition</u> (Jan 27 – Feb 2)		
1. Attend	1.27	Zoom Discussion Group - 6:30-8:00PM
2. Read		<i>Discovering Christian Holiness</i> Part II: Holiness History (Chapters 3-4)
3. Read		Nazarene Manual: Articles of Faith – click here
4. Write	2.2	Reading Observations for chapters 3-4
<u>Week 3: Reason</u> (Feb 3-10)		
1. Read		<i>Discovering Christian Holiness</i> Part III: Holiness Theology (Chapters 5-7)
2. Write	2.9	Reading Observations for chapters 5-7
<u>Week 4: Experience</u> (Feb 10-16)		
1. Read		<i>Discovering Christian Holiness</i> Part IV: Holiness Living (Chapters 8 - 10)
2. Read		Nazarene Manual: The Covenant of Christian Conduct – click here
3. Write	2.16	Reading Observations for chapters 8 -10
<u>Week 5: Experience II</u> (Feb 17-23)		
1. Attend	2.17.	Zoom Lecture (Take Notes)
2. Read		<i>Discovering Christian Holiness</i> Part IV: Holiness Living (Chapters 11-12)
3. Write	2.23	Reading Observations for chapters 11-12
<u>Week 6: Lecture – Part I</u> (Feb 24-March 2)		
1. Attend	2.24	Zoom Lecture (Take Notes)
2. Read.		<i>The Holiness Pilgrimage</i> (Whole Book)
3. Write	3.2	Reading Observations for <i>The Holiness Pilgrimage</i>
<u>Week 7: Writing Week</u> (March 3-9)		
1. Write	3.9	Myths of Entire Sanctification
<u>Week 8: Lecture – Part II</u> (March 10-16)		
1. Attend	3.10.	Zoom Lecture (Take Notes)
<u>Week 9: March 17-23</u>		
1. Write	3.23	My Understanding of Holiness: Part II

COURSE GRADING

Each zoom class must be attended to pass the class.

My Understanding of Holiness: Part I	10%
Reading Observations (13)	20%
My Understanding of Holiness: Part II	25%
Myths of Entire Sanctification	25%
Class Participation	20%

A: 90-100

B: 80-89

C: 70-79

D: 60-69

F: 0-59

WBI INCOMPLETES POLICY

1. Incompletes are given only for family or medical emergencies and at the digression of instructor.
2. A student must request an incomplete from the instructor prior to the end of the class.
3. A student has three months to complete the course after the original due date.
4. It is the student's responsibility to arrange to make up the material with the instructor.
5. A student cannot start additional classes until incomplete courses are completed.
6. Without an incomplete granted, all course material must be submitted at the end of the course term.

ASSIGNMENTS

My Understanding of Holiness: Part I

You are to submit a paper of 500 - 1000 words titled: My Understanding of Holiness. This is to be from your current understanding and in your own words and will be used to contrast in the Part II due later in the course. You do not need to cite sources and do not use anything from the text or lectures. You are to use the following outline:

- 1) What Is Holiness? (Explain your understanding of biblical holiness.)
- 2) What Does God Do to Make Me Holy? (Explain: What did Jesus do? What does the Holy Spirit do?)
- 3) My Response to the Spirit (Answer the question: What is my response to the Holy Spirit?)

Email the paper to me by **midnight on January 27.**

Reading Observations

Write a 500–750-word paper for each week’s reading assignment of *Discovering Christian Holiness* by Diane Leclerc

- 1) Per entry,
 - a. Share one interesting thing you learned from each chapter
 - b. Answer the following prompts each week
- 2) Do not include an introduction, conclusion, or citation
- 3) **Email the paper to me by midnight on Sunday each week.**

Week 1: *Discovering Christian Holiness* – Part I: Biblical Holiness (Chapters 1-2)

- 1) How does Wesleyan interpretation of Scripture differ from other traditions?
- 2) What themes of holiness in Scripture resonate most with you? Which resonate least?
- 3) Have some texts been pushed too far to support holiness and sanctification? Why or why not?

Week 2: *Discovering Christian Holiness* Part II: Holiness History (Chapters 3-4)

- 1) How did the Holiness movement differ from Methodism at the end of the 19th Century?
- 2) Is theological fidelity to Wesley important? Why or why not?
- 3) “What are some issues that the Holiness Movement faces in the present-day, postmodern world?”

Week 3: *Discovering Christian Holiness* Part III: Holiness Theology (Chapters 5-7)

- 1) How does the Wesleyan-Holiness tradition’s emphasis on God’s love differ from other traditions? What are some of the different theological conclusions?
- 2) What are new metaphors for entire sanctification that could be more readily understood in/culturally relevant to the 21st century?”
- 3) Does your conversion experience fit better into either the Pietistic or Anglican model?

Week 4: *Discovering Christian Holiness* Part IV: Holiness Living (Chapters 8 -10)

- 1) How should we view denominational codes of conduct?
- 2) Can you think of other wording to substitute in place of "Christian perfection" that retains its deeper truth while also making it relevant for the 21st century?
- 3) What is the connection between Pentecost and holiness?

Week 5: *Discovering Christian Holiness* – Part IV: Holiness Living (Chapters 11-12)

- 1) What means of grace have been the most helpful in your spiritual growth?
- 2) According to this chapter, what ways does love work?
- 3) What characteristic of love in this chapter 12 stood out to you the most? Why?

Myths of Entire Sanctification Project

In chapter seven, on pages 178 - 184 of *Discovering Christian Holiness*, Dr. LeClerc presents the myths and facts about Entire Sanctification. These myths often lead to what we refer to as "folk theology" and "faulty preaching". Perhaps you grew up with some of these myths. Choose any four of the myths listed and provide the correct understanding of entire sanctification as presented in the text. Your project paper should be 2000-2500 words in length.

- 1) Title your project: What Sanctification Is and Is Not
- 2) First list the Myth (What it is not) and then correct the myth with the truth (What it is.) about Entire Sanctification
- 3) Share one myth you have been exposed to and how it has impacted you.
- 4) You do not have to cite the text, since this assignment is based upon the text.

Email the paper to me by midnight on March 30.

Understandings of Holiness: Part II

At the beginning of this course, you were asked to submit a paper sharing your understanding of holiness theology. Now, you will be asked to do the same thing again. This time, however, your paper will be influenced by the texts, the instructor and the interactions with others. There should be some differences in your theological understanding as a result of having taken this course. Your final project paper should be at least 2000-2500 words in length. Answer the following questions:

- 1) What Is Holiness? (Explain holiness as Purity, Perfection, Power, Character and Love)
- 2) What Does God Do to Make Me Holy? (Explain: Prevenient Grace, Justification, Regeneration, Adoption, Redemption, Reconciliation, and Initial Sanctification)
- 3) My Response to the Spirit (Answer the question: What is my response to the Holy Spirit?)
- 4) What does the Church of the Nazarene mean by "Entire Sanctification?" (Review: *Discovering Christian Holiness* pages 178-184 and Article X in the *Manual of the Church of the Nazarene*)

In addition to resources used in class, use three resources not used in class. Online research suggestions are:

- 1) Google Scholar – click [here](#)
- 2) Wesleyan-Holiness Digital Library – Click [Here](#)

Please cite your sources.

- 1) Use the B.T. citation format: in parenthesis next to quote, give name of book or url, and page number

- Book Example: Larry Dunlap said, “Nazarene Church History...” (Nazarene Church History, page 5).
- Internet Example: Larry Dunlap said, “Nazarene Church History...” (larrydunlap@holiness.com).
- Do not include a bibliography

Email the paper to me by midnight on **March 30**.

GRADING RUBRIC

Criteria	Excellent	Good	Below Average	Ineffective
<u>ALL ASSIGNMENT</u>				
Main Idea	Main idea is clear and concise.	Main idea is present.	Main idea is unclear-not specifically stated in the writing.	The main idea is not present.
Organization	Ideas are in logical order and very easy to follow.	Ideas are in logical order and somewhat easy to follow.	Ideas are in random order and not logical.	Ideas are not in a logical order.
Content	Demonstrates clear understanding of information in the text.	Demonstrates adequate understanding of the text.	Demonstrates basic understanding of information in text.	Demonstrates little or no understanding of the text.
Grammar	Contains few, if any spelling or grammatical errors.	Contains several spelling or grammar errors that do not interfere with meaning.	Contains several spelling or grammar errors that interfere with meaning.	Contains many spelling or grammar errors.
Word Count	Writing is within the word count.	Writing is slightly above/below the word count.	Writing is above/below the word count.	Writings are too long or too short.
<u>RESEARCH PAPER</u>				
References	Compelling evidence from professionally legitimate sources are given to support claims.	Legitimate sources that support claims are generally present.	Although attributions are occasionally given, many statements seem unsubstantiated	There are virtually no sources that are professionally reliable.
<u>FORUM POSTS</u>				

Contribution to Learning Community	Effectively contributes to the learning community.	Contributes to the learning community.	Somewhat contributes to the learning community but the focus is generally on own	Negligible contribution to the learning community.
Connection to Course Material	Strong, direct connections are made to course materials and are clearly stated.	Some direct connections are made to course materials.	Minimal direct connections are made to other course materials.	No connections are made course materials.