

APPLACHIAN LOCAL PASTOR'S SCHOOL
COURSE OF STUDY 224 – POLITY AND ADMINISTRATION
Sept. 15-16 & Oct. 13-14, 2017, Hiwassee College,
Madisonville, Tennessee
INSTRUCTOR: DR. REX T. KANEY

Course Description:

This course focuses on developing the student's competency as an administrator in a United Methodist congregation.

Course Target Outcomes: Students will be able to:

1. Articulate a biblical and theological understanding of polity.
2. Understand and explain the polity of The United Methodist Church, including conferencing, oversight, and discipline.
3. Articulate the nature of stewardship biblically and theologically.
4. Identify techniques and develop skills as effective administrators of local churches, including financial management.

Required texts:

Warner, Lacey. The Method of Our Mission. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2014.
(ISBN 9781426767173)

Weems, Lovett. Leadership in the Wesleyan Spirit. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1999.
(ISBN 0687046920)

The 2012 Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church. Nashville: Abingdon, Press, 2013.
(ISBN 9781426718120)

Supplementary texts:

Dudley, Carl S. Effective Small Churches in the Twenty First Century. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2003.
(ISBN 0687090903)

Percy, Harold. Your Church Can Thrive. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2003. (ISBN 0687022568)

Willimon, William H. & Hauerwas, Stanley. Lord Teach Us: The Lord's Prayer and Christian Life.
Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1996. (ISBN 0687006147)

Expectations:

A letter grade will be deducted for each day an assignment is late unless Dr. Nye grants an extension. Attendance is expected at all classes. **If a student is absent more than 20% of class time a grade cannot be received.**

All work should be typed, double-spaced and in the student's own words. Avoid plagiarism by citing all sources used. Please utilize spell check and grammar check to assist in clarity of writing.

Pre-Course Assignments:

Read entirely The Method of Our Mission by Lacey C. Warner and summarize what you believe to be the most important points of each chapter. With the focus of this course being polity and administration, let the majority of your writing center on parts II through IV. (approximately five pages)

Read Part VI, chapters one, two, three, and four and chapters six and seven of The Book of Discipline, 2012. Outline what you consider to be the essential elements in those chapters, and briefly describe any new discoveries about the Church you may have gained. (approximately five pages)

Read and summarize Leadership in the Wesleyan Spirit by Lovett Weems. At the end of your summary reflect on what you understand to be the relationship between the Lovett text and the Warner text. (approximately five pages)
Bring to class Sept. 15, 2017

In addition to that work, prepare and bring to class Sept. 15 a description of the actual decision making processes of your local congregation. Include a complete section on how funds for ministry are raised and disbursed. (approximately four pages)

Grading:

Grading will be based upon the following format: pre-work 25%, classroom participation and any classroom assignments 25%, and final examination 50%. The final examination will be "open book" all will cover all classroom lectures and textbooks. The exam will be sent via email directly to the instructor and will be due no later than 7 days following the last day of class.