



Pentecostal Theological Seminary Certificate Program

In collaboration with Accredited Ministries Development

HT 200 – History and Polity of the Church of God of Prophecy

Spring 2020, Session 1

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Description of the course:

The history component of this course deals with the cultural and theological influences, founders, historical development, major disruption in 1923, and the contemporary denomination. The polity component examines the biblical pattern of church polity and is designed to give the student a working knowledge of the Church of God of Prophecy in its local, district, state, national, and international dimensions.

Objectives of the course:

1. Define and analyze the philosophical concepts of the theological currents related to the history of the Church of God of Prophecy, as well as other related terms.
2. Learn the various stages by which the Church of God had to pass to become the denomination of today.
3. Affirm our biblical values in a way that helps us to exercise a more efficient role in advancing the kingdom of God.
4. Awaken a spiritual hunger and a personal revival like that of our first ancestors, which were not satisfied until they saw the purpose of God fulfilled through their lives.

Required Textbooks:

Varlack, Adrian *Foundations: Church of God of Prophecy Concise History, Polity, Doctrine, and Future*.
Cleveland, TN: White Wing Publishing House,

General Assembly Minutes 1906-1914. Cleveland, TN: White Wing Publishing House, 2013. (GAM)

(Available from the White Wing Bookstore, whitewingbooks.com)

Required Reading: COGOP Statement of Faith (Provided to student)

Course Requirements:

Attendance and Participation:

It is expected that the student will meet the attendance requirement through active participation in the online forums (i.e. discussions, additional assignments, etc.). Therefore, it is important that the student completes, prior to the deadlines, all the readings, online discussions, and additional assignments required each week. Students must submit at least one 300-word comment on each week's discussion forum (**note deadline on Populi**). These initial posts will reflect student attendance for each week. Subsequent to the initial comment, two replies to other student's initial posts must be submitted before the end of the week. Students should check the bulletin board and discussions daily to keep up with developments in the class. The student must complete the required assignments according to the deadlines on Populi.

Readings/Weekly Student Journal:

Read all assigned material for the week. Turn in a 2-page paper discussing lessons learned from a historical figure/event/theme from the textbook readings and how you might apply them within your personal/ministry context. (double-spaced, 12-pt, Times New Roman, 1-inch margins). Due the last day of each academic week via upload to Populi.

Booklet Analysis Final Paper:

Students will write a 5-7-page paper on a major historical event highlighted in the textbook readings. The student must discuss how the themes/developments of the event have shaped the Wesleyan-Pentecostal movement. The student must discuss the influence this event has had on the Church of God of Prophecy today. The content covered in this paper must include the following:

- a. Description (Contextual background of the event)
- b. Analysis (Significance of the influence of the event)
- c. Construction ("Why" and "How" this event's contributions/influence are/is significant for contemporary Pentecostalism and Christianity.)
- d. Comparison and Contrast ("What" are the differences and similarities between the themes emphasized in this event and other themes that have developed within Christianity.)

The deadline for the paper is 11:59 PM on the last day of course. All papers must be double spaced, Times New Roman, 12-point font size, with 1-inch margins. Must be written in Turabian format for paper writing.

Criteria for Course Evaluation:

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| 1. Attendance and Participation | 35% |
| 2. Readings/Weekly Student Journal | 35% |
| 3. Final Paper | 30% |

Course Schedule

- Week 1** **Introduction, Beginning, Church Name, 1st GAM**
Varlack - Introduction, Chs. 1,2; GAM- 1st GA
- Week 2** **Search for Greater Truth, 2nd GAM**
Varlack - Ch. 3; GAM- 2nd GA
- Week 3** **Failures and Opportunities, 3rd GAM**
Varlack - Ch. 4; GAM- 3rd GA
- Week 4** **Stability, Transition, New Millennium, 4th GAM**
Varlack - Chs. 5,6,7; GAM- 4th GA
- Week 5** **Polity and Practice, 5th GAM**
Varlack - Ch. 8; GAM- 5th GA
- Week 6** **Doctrine, 6th GAM**
Varlack - Ch. 9; GAM- 6th GA
- Week 7** **Future, Conclusions, 7th GAM**
Varlack - Chs. 10,11; GAM- 7th GA
- Week 8** **Statement of Faith, 8th GAM**
GAM- 8th GA; COGOP Statement of Faith

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Accredited Ministry Development seeks to create an environment that encourages continued growth of moral and ethical values, which include personal honesty and mutual trust. The program places the highest value on academic integrity and regards any act of academic dishonesty as a serious offense. Academic dishonesty is considered unethical and in violation of AMD's academic standards and Christian commitment. If such an incident occurs, students, faculty, and/or staff are obligated to initiate appropriate action in cooperation with the disciplinary procedures of our partnering institutions. Depending upon the seriousness of the offense, sanctions could include failure of the assignment, failure of the course, or dismissal from the program/institution. All required assignments in this course may be checked for plagiarism using various resources provided to the instructor by AMD or our partnering institutions.