

**COURSE OF STUDY SCHOOL OF OHIO
HYBRID COURSES AT UNITED THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**

**COURSE 513 – Our Mission from God: Transforming Agent
Spring 2014
SYLLABUS**

This syllabus has been designed to provide for student planning. It includes information on the course instructor, books required, and meeting dates. It will be replaced by a full syllabus prior to the course start date

This course will begin on campus March 21, 2014; then continue and conclude online May 10, 2014.

Instructor:

Rev. Dr. Tom Hanover, Lead Pastor at Sulphur Grove UMC, Dayton, Ohio
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Course Description and Objectives:

The mission of the church is to serve God and neighbor by proclaiming the gospel for the redemption of the world. Redemption is God's holy activity that transforms individuals, societies, and all of life. When faithful to its mission, the church serves as an agent of God's transforming redemption. Based upon this understanding of the nature of the church and its mission, this course seeks to help pastors gain theological understanding and practical ministry skills for leading congregations to carry out the mission of the church as God's agents of transformation.

Objectives:

1. Development of a biblical and theological framework for Christian mission
2. Consideration of the Wesleyan understanding of personal piety and social holiness
3. Examination of unjust social realities—such as racism, sexism, and classism—that impact society and thus impact the mission of the church
4. Exploration of the growing influence of social, economic, and political globalization in the world and its implications for the mission of the church
5. Exposure to United Methodist ecumenical, interreligious, and community programs that model effective social transformation in the spirit of the gospel
6. Analysis of the context of ministry in local congregations for the development of strategies and leadership skills for the transforming mission of the church

Required Textbooks:

1) Theodore W. Jennings, Jr. - *Good News to the Poor: John Wesley's Evangelical Economics* (Abingdon Press, 1990; ISBN 9780687155286)

2) Peter John Storey – *With God in the Crucible: Preaching Costly Discipleship* (Abingdon Press, 2002; ISBN 9780687052530)

3) Alan J. Roxburgh and Fred Romanuk – *The Missional Leader: Equipping Your Church to Reach a Changing World* (Jossey-Bass, 2006; ISBN 0-7879-8325-X)

(Students are responsible for obtaining their own books):

Course Schedule:

Online Environment: **March 23-May 10, 2014.**

☞ This course *concludes* with work online. Typical work online includes reading assigned books or documents, engaging in on-line discussion groups, and writing reflections on case studies. All online engagement will be complete by **May 10, 2014.**

On Campus Weekend: March 21-22, 2014

☞ The On-Campus Weekend will begin at 2:30 on Friday and end by 2:30pm on Saturday. Friday class is 2:30 pm to 8:30 pm, with a dinner break at 5:00 pm; Saturday resumes at 8:30 am, with chapel at 11:15 am, lunch at noon, and class concludes at 2:30

Final Semester Project/Paper:

☞ Final Paper (8-10 pages) is due by **May 10, 2014.**

ACADEMIC HONOR POLICY

The Course of Study School of Ohio requires that all material submitted by a student in fulfilling academic requirements must be the original work of the student. Violations of academic honor include any action by a student indicating lack of integrity in academic ethics. Violations include, but are not limited to, cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes seeking, acquiring, receiving or passing on information about the content of an examination prior to its authorized release or during its administration. Cheating also includes seeking, using, giving or obtaining unauthorized assistance in any academic assignment or examination. Plagiarism is the act of presenting the published or unpublished words or ideas of another [including online resources] as if it were one's own work. A writer's work should be regarded as his or her own property. Any person who knowingly (whether intentionally or unintentionally) uses a writer's distinctive work without proper acknowledgement is guilty of plagiarism. A student found guilty of a violation of the academic honor policy, after a review of the case, may be subject to one or more of the following actions:

- (1) warning
- (2) probation
- (3) suspension for the remainder of the course
- (4) dismissal from the Course of Study School of Ohio
- (5) failing grade for the course.

Regardless of the outcome, a letter will be sent to the student's District Superintendent and Board of Ordained Ministry.