**ALPS COS**

**Online March 14-15 and April 4-5, 2022**

**Assignment and Course Requirements**

**Course: COS224‐Polity and Administration**

**Instructor:** Philip Jamieson

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Your prework for Session One is to be submitted by noon on the first Friday of the course (March 14). Please submit it to me via email. Include the MTH Cover Sheet. Additional work will be due by the second Friday night of the course (April 4).

In replacement for in-person class, you will participate in Zoom meetings and will respond to videos that will be emailed to you. This is all required work.

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

Texts:

Janet and Philip Jamieson, *Ministry and Money: A Practical Guide for Pastors*

Laceye Warner, *The Method of Our Mission*

Lovett Weems, *Leadership in the Wesleyan Spirit*

**Reference:** *2016 Book of Discipline*

**Assignments First Weekend:**

1. Read *The Method of Our Mission* by Laceye C. Warner.

2. In the light of your reading, write a 2-3 page paper on your understanding of the relationship between the annual conference and the local church. What does it mean to you that the “annual conference is the basic body in the church” (p. 139)?

3. In the light of your reading (particularly chapters 4-5), write a 2-3 page paper on the pastoral role in the United Methodist Church. How do you understand itineracy and your relationship to the bishop?

4. In the light of your reading (particularly chapters 2-3), write a 2-3 page paper on our doctrinal standards. How would you summarize what is unique about this aspect of United Methodism?

**Mid Course Assignment:**

1. Read *Leadership in the Wesleyan Spirit* by Lovett Weems. In the light of your reading, write a 4-5 page paper on what you believe is the distinctive nature of leadership in the United Methodist Church.

2. Read *Ministry and Money: A Practical Guide for Pastors* by Janet and Philip Jamieson. In 5-6 pages, answer the discussion questions on pp. 70-71, 115, 130 and 175.

**Grade Percentages:**

Prework 40%

Midwork 30%

Course Participation 30%