

WYT2608H
Summer 2016

**Christian Healing:
From Early Church to Alternative Therapies**

SYLLABUS

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. David A. Reed, Professor Emeritus of Pastoral Theology and Research Professor

WELCOME

Welcome to this course on “Christian Healing: From Early Church to Alternative Therapies.” It is listed here as a theology course but may be taken in history or pastoral as well. I hope you find the learning experience of working online to be both enjoyable and worthwhile. I look forward to sharing this course with you.

PERSONAL INTRODUCTION

I was introduced to Christian healing as a child, having been reared in the Pentecostal tradition in New Brunswick. After a brief teaching career at New Brunswick Institute of Technology, at age 26 my wife and I became Episcopalians while studying in Rhode Island. Following ordination, I pastored for 18 years in Massachusetts and Connecticut. In 1987 I joined the faculty of Wycliffe College in Pastoral Theology and as Director of Field Education. Since 2007 I have been Professor Emeritus and Research Professor.

Somewhat to my own surprise, my doctoral work on a Pentecostal topic has led to a continuing and broader involvement in Pentecostal-charismatic studies. That in part explains my personal interest in this course, as well as the reason why I give the Pentecostal-charismatic movement more attention within what is surely a much broader and equally worthy topic of healing. I would only add that the global Pentecostal-charismatic phenomenon has been in our time a major factor in the openness to, as well as skepticism of, the viability of spiritual or “divine” healing in the church today. In recent years I have carried out modest research on healing and deliverance in the Global South, especially Africa.

DESCRIPTION

This is a survey course combining historical and theological-praxis themes. Although there is a concentration on the 19th and 20th centuries, we will begin much earlier. As a course in Christian healing, we very briefly locate healing within its biblical framework, particularly the ministry of Jesus and the early church. We then catch a glimpse of specific practices and trends in the church’s history that help us understand the place of healing in our own time.

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We then turn to the theological and practical expressions of Christian healing in the church. Particular attention will be given to the 19th century, the Pentecostal and later charismatic healing movements, the practice of healing—including sacramental and liturgical approaches—in mainline churches, and the challenge of recent alternative therapies.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

1. the student will grasp the basic meaning and purpose of the healing ministry of Jesus and the early church;
2. the student will gain an introductory knowledge of the attitudes and role of healing practices in the history of the church, especially the use of relics in the early Patristic period, the waning of healing in the wake of the Enlightenment, and its revival in the 19th- century Evangelical healing movement;
3. the student will acquire a fundamental knowledge of the theology and practice of healing in Pentecostalism, including its formative roots in the late 19th century Holiness movement;
4. the student will be familiar with the various trajectories of the mid-20th century healing evangelists, healing in the charismatic movement, inner healing, signs and wonders, and deliverance ministry;
5. the student will understand, analyse and evaluate the relationship of Christian healing to the emerging new alternative therapies and the challenge of disability.

READING

All Readings are available electronically, posted in the UofT portal and hyperlinked to your Syllabus. Any additional books you may wish to purchase can be ordered through Crux Books, 416-599-2749 or email at: crux_books@hotmail.com

ASSIGNMENTS and GRADING

1. Complete the assigned readings each week.
2. Contribute to class discussion which will consist of weekly assignments. You will be placed in groups of 3-4, which will be shuffled from time to time. Each week you will (1) submit an initial response of at least 250 words to a question posed in my brief presentation at the beginning of the week, and (2) respond to one other person's post (no word limit). The value of the initial response is 6 and response to another student is value of 4, totaling 10 points per week, or 80 points for the course. Your total points will constitute 40% of the course grade.

Please note: Each of my weekly presentations will be uploaded by no later than Sunday evening.

3. Write a 5-page book review of a book by a healing practitioner. 20%

DUE: Friday, July 22, posted by 12 midnight

-Book Review Guidelines are posted

-Book selection in consultation with the professor

4. Write either (1) a final 10-12 page essay on a topic of your choice, or 40%
(2) two 5-6 page papers, both in consultation with the professor.

DUE: (1) The 10-12 page essay due Friday, September 2, posted by 12 midnight

(2) For the two papers option: Paper #1 due Friday, August 19, posted by 12 midnight; Paper #2 due Friday, September 2, posted by 12 midnight

COURSE CONTENT

Week of:

June 27 **Introduction**

Reading:

David Basinger, 'What is a Miracle?' Graham Twelftree, ed., chapter 1, *The Cambridge Companion to Miracles* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2011), 19-35

Healing in New Testament and Early Centuries

Readings:

Barry L. Blackburn, Chapter 6, 'The Miracles of Jesus,' *Miracles*, 113-130

Ronald A.N. Kydd, "Jesus, Saints and Relics: Approaching the Early Church through Healing," *Journal of Pentecostal Theology* 2 (1993): 91-104

James E. Bradley, "Miracles and Martyrdom in the Early Church: Some Theological and Ethical Implications," *Pneuma* 13:1 (1991): 65-81

Augustine, *City of God*, Book XXII, chap. 8 (*passim*)

July 4 **Historical--Post-Reformation, Enlightenment, 19th-Century Evangelical Healing Movement**

Readings:

Richard B. Gaffin, Jr., 'Challenges of the Charismatic Movement to the Reformed Tradition,' two lectures [**passim**]

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Jon Ruthven, "Answering the Cessationists' Case Against Continuing Spiritual Gifts," *Pneuma Review* 3/2 (Spring 2000)

http://www.pneumafoundation.org/article_archive.jsp;jsessionid=12D115F4873ABD066C564B7DB163DB2A

Donald Dayton, "The Rise of the Evangelical Healing Movement in Nineteenth Century America," *Pneuma* 4/1 (Spring 1982): 1-18

July 11 **20th-Century Pentecostal Healing Teaching and Practice**

Readings:

Kim Ervin Alexander, "Two Models: Early Pentecostal Theologies of Healing," chapter 4 in *Pentecostal Healing: Models in Theology and Practice*, pp. 195-224

Mid-Century Salvation Healing Movement

Readings:

David Harrell, chapter 3, "Two Giants," *All Things Are Possible*, 25-52

Richard Riss, "The Latter Rain Movement of 1948," *Pneuma* 4/1 (Spring 1982): 32-45

July 18 **Charismatic Healing and Deliverance Ministries**

Readings:

Henry H. Knight, III, "God's Faithfulness and God's Freedom: A Comparison of Contemporary Theologies of Healing," *JPT* 2 (April 1993): 65-89

Max Turner, chapter 19, "Healing Today," *Holy Spirit and Spiritual Gifts*, 329-46

Linda Malia, "A Fresh Look at a Remarkable Document: *Exorcism: The Report of a Commission Convened by the Bishop of Exeter*," *Anglican Theological Review* 83/1(Winter 2001): 65-88

David W. Van Gelder, "A Case of Demon Possession," *Journal of Pastoral Care*, LXI/2 (June 1987): 151-61 (*passim*)

James Wright, "Profiles of Divine Healing: Third Wave Theology Compared with Classical Pentecostal Theology," *Asian Journal of Pentecostal Studies* 5/2 (2002): 271-287

July 25 **Inner Healing**

Readings:

Charles Hummel, chapter 10, "Inner Healing," *Fire in the Fireplace: Charismatic Renewal in the Nineties*, IVP, 1993, 159-177, 300-301

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De Arteaga, William D. "Agnes Sanford: Apostle of Healing, and First

Theologian of the Charismatic Renewal,” Paper read at 2002 Meeting of the Society for Pentecostal Studies

Aug. 1 **Ecclesial/Liturgical/Sacramental Healing**

Readings:

Morris Maddocks, “Part Two: Healing in the Church,” *The Christian Healing Ministry*, 97-160. 224-27

Lizette Larson-Miller, "Healing: Sacramental or Prayer?" *Anglican Theological Review* 88:3 (1 January 2006): 361-74

Aug. 8 **Healing and Positive Confession Theology**

Readings:

Geir Lie, “The Theology of E. W. Kenyon: Plain Heresy or Within the Boundaries of Pentecostal-Charismatic ‘Orthodoxy’?” *Pneuma* 22/1 (Spring 2000): 85-114

Keith Warrington, “Healing and Kenneth Hagin, *Asian Journal of Pentecostal Studies* 3/1 (2000): 119-138

Nico Koopman, “Curing or Caring? Theological Comments on Healing” *Religion and Theology* 13/1 (2006): 38-53

<http://www.swetswise.com.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/eAccess/vjewAbstract.do?articleID=30077441&titleID=173575>

Aug. 15 **Healing-Alternative Therapies and Disability**

Readings:

Karla Poewe, chapter 11, “Rethinking the Relationship of Anthropology to Science and Religion,” *Charismatic Christianity as Global Experience*, 234-58

Sharon Fish, “Therapeutic Touch—Healing Science or Psychic Midwife?” *Christian Research Journal* (Summer 1995)

[Sharon Fish-Therapeutic Touch - Christian Research Institute.htm](http://www.christianresearchinstitute.com/therapeutic-touch)

David A. Reed, “Christian Healing: Therapeutic Touch and the Church’s Healing Ministry” (Unpublished paper)

Amos Yong, "Many Tongues, Many Senses: Pentecost, The Body Politic, and the Redemption of Dis-Ability," *Pneuma* 31 (2009): 167-188

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