

Witness & Ministry in a Global Context--General Conference 2024 – XS 8321

Instructor—D. Max Whitfield, Retired Bishop, United Methodist Church

General Conference 2024 “shall have full legislative power over all matters distinctively connectional.”¹ General Conference 2024 is scheduled April 23-May 3 in Charlotte, NC. Students will observe both the Legislative Committees and Plenary Session of the General Conference, meet daily with the instructor to reflect on observations and experiences, meet with students from other theological schools, and anticipate the implications for the future of congregations and the denomination because of adopted legislation.

Pre-requisite: Students shall be enrolled or have completed United Methodist Polity to enroll in this class.

Course Requirements:

1. Students will meet three (3) times between January and April by means of Zoom to receive assignments, expectations, and prepare for the General Conference. The arranged timing of these one and one-half class sessions will occur through an electronic survey for a convenient time for most students.
2. Students will meet daily between April 23-May 2 at the General Conference site in Charlotte, NC. Each student will observe an assigned Legislative Committee as the Committee makes their recommendations to the General Conference Plenary.
3. Each student will keep and submit (by May 6) a journal (diary) of his/her experiences and theological reflection.

Housing and transportation shall be arranged through the Office of Global Theological Education, Dr. Robert Hunt.

¹ *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church 2016*, ¶16, p. 29. The United Methodist Publishing House, 2016.