

UNION UNIVERSITY
MCS 531—CHURCH HISTORY II: REFORMATION AND MODERN
CHRISTIANITY

October 22-December 10, 2009 [including Wednesday, October 28]

Thursdays 5:30-9:30 p.m.
White Hall 262 (TV Connection to HSBC)

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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

A survey of the history of Christianity from the early sixteenth century to the early twenty-first century, focusing on the development of pivotal doctrines and ecclesiastical institutions in the Reformation and Modern periods.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- (1) Students will deepen their analytical and historical thinking skills.
- (2) Students will develop a broad outline of the historical development of Christian theology, institutions, and lifestyles from the Reformation through the early twenty-first century.
- (3) Students will be exposed to the diverse historical expressions of Christianity.
- (4) Students will gain greater understanding of the historical relationship between the church and culture.
- (5) Students will evaluate the church's faithfulness to Scripture in the Reformation and Modern periods.
- (6) Students will apply knowledge of the church's past to contemporary ministries and issues in local congregations.

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION: The instruction in this course will consist of lectures (with PowerPoint), discussion, maps, videos, exams, and guidance in preparing a project.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Askew, Thomas A. and Richard V. Pierard. *The American Church Experience: A Concise History*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2004; or Eugene, Ore.: Wipf & Stock, 2008.

Nichols, Stephen J. *The Reformation: How a Monk and a Mallet Changed the World*. Wheaton, Ill.: Crossway Books, 2007.

A reference bibliography is provided later in this syllabus.

COURSE OUTLINE:

I. Introduction to the Course and the Study of Church History

II. The Reformation (1517-1648): Luther; Zwingli; Calvin; the Anabaptists; the Counter-Reformation; the English Reformation; Religious Wars.

QUIZ: October 29.

READ by November 5: Nichols, pp. 11-155.

MID-TERM EXAM: November 12.

III. The Modern Period (1648-present): Puritanism; the Baptists; Pietism; Revivalism; American Christianity; Theological Trends; Global Christianity.

QUIZ: December 3.

PROJECT DUE: December 3.

READ by December 10: Askew & Pierard, pp. 15-240.

TEXTBOOK READING REPORT DUE: December 10.

FINAL EXAM: December 10.

GRADING DISTRIBUTION (see grading scale in the 2008-2009 *Graduate Catalogue*, p. 9):

Quizzes:	10%
Mid-Term Exam:	25%
Final Exam:	30%
Project	25%
Attitude/Attendance/Class Participation/ Textbook Reading Report:	10%

PROJECT:

In addition to the reading assignments in the textbooks, each student is required to complete a course project. There are two options: (1) design a five-week presentation or class (e.g., lesson plans) on Reformation and Modern Christianity for a local church; or (2) write a short history of the church where you are presently active. The project will be submitted in a written format and should be 10-12 pages in length (double-spaced in a standard size font like New Times Roman 12 pt.). Criteria sheets for the grading of these

projects are included in this syllabus. Projects are due **December 3**. Late projects will be penalized **3** percentage points for each day late (excluding weekends). No projects will be accepted after the final exam **December 10**. Further information will be given in class. Conferences with the professor are encouraged.

ATTENDANCE:

As noted above, regular class attendance and participation are factors in the grading for this course (see also the University attendance statement in the *Graduate Catalogue*, p. 9). To have an absence recorded as excused, the student must bring to the professor a written excuse at the next class attended after being absent. Legitimate reasons for absence include emergencies, illness, or bereavement. An excused absence will be required to take make-up exams. Whenever a student has advance knowledge that a scheduled exam will be missed, the professor should be informed. In the case of an unexpected absence from an exam, the student must notify the professor at the earliest opportunity, before the exam if possible. Apart from significant extenuating circumstances, more than two absences in this class will result in automatic failure. Please remember that 10% of the course grade depends in part on class attendance.

CHEATING AND PLAGIARISM:

The professor will enforce the University policy on cheating and plagiarism, as set forth in the *Graduate Catalogue*, p. 9. Any student guilty of cheating or plagiarism will fail the course and be reported to the Dean of the School of Christian Studies.

OTHER RELEVANT UNIVERSITY POLICIES:

The last day to drop this course without special permission from the Registrar is **November 12**.

The official method of communicating with students is the @my.uu.edu email account. You are responsible for any information submitted to your email account.

BLACKBOARD:

This course is included in Blackboard (eclass.uu.edu). Grades for each required course item (exams, papers, etc.) will be posted there. Syllabi, PowerPoint files, and handouts are available there, as well as a calendar of important dates and any necessary announcements. Blackboard also has an email function.

CELL PHONES/LAPTOPS/RECORDINGS:

Cell phones or pagers should be turned off during class except in a potential emergency situation for which you have informed the professor. Laptops are fine for note taking and other **class-related** uses. Use for exams requires prior clearance from the professor. No audio or video recordings of classes are permitted without approval from the professor.

GRADING CRITERIA FOR PROJECT OPTION 1

1. **GRAMMAR AND STYLE**—spelling; sentence and paragraph development; punctuation; etc. _____/25

2. **CONTENT**—material for presentation/class; focus; coverage; etc. _____/25

3. **HISTORICAL INSIGHT**—factual awareness; sensitivity to historical significance, contexts, and sequence; relating material to current issues; etc. _____/25

4. **METHODS/CREATIVITY**—how material will be presented. _____/25

LATE PENALTY - _____

TOTAL _____

GRADING CRITERIA FOR PROJECT OPTION 2

- | | | |
|--------------|---|---------|
| 1. | GRAMMAR & STYLE —spelling; sentence and paragraph development; punctuation; etc. | ____/25 |
| 2. | CONTENT —accuracy; clarity; coherence; organization; etc. | ____/25 |
| 3. | RESEARCH —bibliography; type and variety of sources; use of primary sources (when accessible); critical use of secondary sources (church historian Richard Lovelace notes: “Special grace does not guarantee the inevitable trustworthiness of Christian historians, and. . . Common Grace shows up in some very unlikely places.”); show familiarity with at least 5 sources in a 10-12 page paper. | ____/25 |
| 4. | HISTORICAL INSIGHT —factual awareness; sensitivity to historical significance, context, and sequence; relating church’s past to current issues; etc. | ____/25 |
| LATE PENALTY | | -____ |
| TOTAL | | ____ |

SELECTIVE BIBLIOGRAPHY

General:

- Bowden, Henry W. *Dictionary of American Religious Biography*. 2d ed. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood, 1993.
- Benedetto, Robert, ed. *The New Westminster Dictionary of Church History*. vol. 1. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2008.
- Bradley, James E., and Richard A. Muller. *Church History: An Introduction to Research, Reference Works, and Methods*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1995.
- Cross, F. L., and E. A. Livingstone, eds. *The Oxford Dictionary of the Christian Church*. Rev. 3d ed. New York: Oxford, 2005. [paper version Peabody, Mass.: Hendrickson, 2007].
- Curtis, A. Kenneth, et al. *The 100 Most Important Events in Christian History*. Grand Rapids: Revell/Baker, 1998.
- Douglas, J. D., ed. *The New International Dictionary of the Christian Church*. Rev. ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2001.
- Dowley, Tim, ed. *Introduction to the History of Christianity*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2006. [with CD-ROM]
- Galli, Mark, and Ted Olsen, eds. *131 Christians Everyone Should Know*. Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 2000.
- Hammack, Mary. *A Dictionary of Women in Church History*. Chicago: Moody, 1984.
- Hart, Trevor A. ed. *The Dictionary of Historical Theology*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2000.
- Hastings, Adrian, ed. *A World History of Christianity*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1999.
- Hill, Jonathan. *Zondervan Handbook to the History of Christianity*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2007.
- Hillerbrand, Hans J., ed. *The Encyclopedia of Protestantism*. 4 vols. New York: Routledge, 2003.
- Jenkins, Philip. *The Next Christendom: The Coming of Global Christianity*. Rev. and expanded ed. New York: Oxford, 2007
- Leith, John H., ed. *Creeds of the Churches*. 3d ed. Atlanta: John Knox, 1982.

- Marthaler, Berard, ed. *The New Catholic Encyclopedia*. 15 vols. 2d ed. Detroit: Gale Group, 2002.
- Marty, Martin E. *The Christian World: A Global History*. New York: Modern Library, 2008.
- McGrath, Alister E. *Historical Theology: An Introduction to the History of Christian Thought*. Malden, Mass.: Blackwell, 1998.
- McManners, John, ed. *The Oxford Illustrated History of Christianity*. New York: Oxford, 1990.
- Mullin, Robert Bruce. *A Short World History of Christianity*. Louisville: Westminster Knox, 2008.
- Noll, Mark A. *The New Shape of World Christianity: How American Experience Reflects Global Faith*. Downers Grove, Ill.: IVP Academic, 2009.
- _____. *Turning Points: Decisive Moments in the History of Christianity*. 2d ed. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2000.
- Olson, Roger E. *The Story of Christian Theology: Twenty Centuries of Tradition and Reform*. Downers Grove, Ill.: InterVarsity Press, 1999.
- Pelikan, Jaroslav and Valerie Hotchkiss, eds. *Creeds and Confessions of Faith in the Christian Tradition*. 5 vols. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2003.
- Peterson, Susan Lynn. *Timeline Charts of the Western Church*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1999.
- Pinn, Anne H. and Anthony B. *Fortress Introduction to Black Church History*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2001.
- Reid, Daniel G., et al., eds. *Dictionary of Christianity in America*. Downers Grove, Ill.: InterVarsity, 1990.
- Sanneh, Lamin and Joel A. Carpenter, eds. *The Changing Face of Christianity: Africa, The West, and the World*. New York: Oxford, 2005.
- Schmidt, Alvin J. *Under the Influence: How Christianity Transformed Civilization*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2001.
- Shaw, Mark. *Ten Great Ideas from Church History: A Decision-Maker's Guide to Shaping Your Church*. Downers Grove, Ill.: InterVarsity, 1997.

Shelley, Bruce L. *Church History in Plain Language*. Updated 2d ed. Dallas: Word, 1995.

Spickard, Paul R., and Kevin M. Cragg. *A Global History of Christians: How Everyday Believers Experienced Their World*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2001.

Tomkins, Stephen. *A Short History of Christianity*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2006

Wainwright, Geoffrey and Karen B. Westerfield Tucker, eds. *The Oxford History of Christian Worship*. New York: Oxford, 2005.

Walton, Robert C. *Chronological and Background Charts of Church History*. Rev. and expanded ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2005.

Weaver, C. Douglas. *A Cloud of Witnesses: Sermon Illustrations and Devotionals from the Christian Heritage*. Macon, Ga.: Smyth & Helwys, 1993.

Maps:

Anderson, Charles S. *Augsburg Historical Atlas of Christianity in the Middle Ages and Reformation*. Minneapolis: Augsburg, 1967.

Brierley, Peter, and Heather Wraight. *Atlas of World Christianity: 2000 Years*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1998.

Chadwick, Henry, and Gillian Evans, eds. *Atlas of the Christian Church*. New York: Facts on File, 1987.

Dowley, Tim, ed. *The Baker Atlas of Christian History*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1997.

Gaustad, Edwin S. and Philip L. Barlow. *New Historical Atlas of Religion in America*. 3d ed. New York: Oxford, 2000.

Johnson, Todd M., and Kenneth R. Ross, eds. *Atlas of Global Christianity*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2009.

Journals:

Church History.

Fides et Historia.

READING REPORT

This report must be submitted to the professor no later than **December 10**.

I have checked the category below that best reflects the amount of assigned reading that I have completed in Nichols, *The Reformation*:

___ All of it.

___ Most of it.

___ Some of it.

___ Little or none of it.

I have checked the category below that best reflects the amount of assigned reading that I have completed in Askew & Pierard, *The American Church Experience*:

___ All of it.

___ Most of it.

___ Some of it.

___ Little or none of it.

Name (print): _____

Signed: _____

Date: _____