H651 HISTORY OF AMERICAN PRESBYTERIANISM
Spring Semester 2006
Reformed Theological Seminary
Dr. W. Andrew Hoffecker

PURPOSE OF THE COURSE: This course surveys the history of American Presbyterianism from its roots in Calvinist reformed tradition to events in the 20th cent. It will focus on several elements: key historical events and controversies that shaped Presbyterian denominations; major leaders who influenced Presbyterian theology and its prominent institutions; movements which reflected Presbyterian leadership of American religion; and the reciprocal relation between Presbyterianism and American culture. Each of the preceding should help students gain an appreciation of Presbyterianism’s role in relation to other denominations and American life as a whole.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. TEXTS: The following texts are required for the course:
   Balmer and Fitzmier, The Presbyterians
   Armstrong, Maurice A, Lefferts A. Loetscher, Charles A. Anderson, The Presbyterian Enterprise: Sources of American Presbyterian History

   Use the schedule of lectures below to direct your reading from week to week. In addition to the texts, students will read other selections of their choice from suggested readings that appear with each lecture topic. In all, 1000 pages are required for the course. Keep a record of your reading on the attached Reading Report Sheet and submit it before or along with your final exam.

2. EXAMS: There will be midterm and final exams containing both objective and essay questions. The tests will cover readings assigned and lecture material. Additional information about the exams will be given at a later date so that students may successfully prepare for them.

3. WRITING ASSIGNMENT: Students will select a topic in the history of American Presbyterianism as the subject of a 15-20 page term paper. This paper can focus on an event, person, movement or controversy relevant to the history of Presbyterianism. Use the lecture titles listed below along with the suggested reading for the lecture in making your choice. You will present the results of your research in class at the point in the semester when your topic appears in the schedule of lectures. Since your paper will of necessity be more narrow than the lecture titles, your classroom presentation will introduce the larger context to the rest of the class before focusing on the topic you have chosen.

   Format for submitting paper:
   1. Include a title page which includes your name and mailbox number.
   2. Do not submit your case study in a plastic binder.

4. GRADES: Grades for the course will be based upon the following elements:
   Midterm exam  30%
   Paper and class presentation  30%
   Report on assigned pages  10%
   Final exam  30%

5. CLASS ATTENDANCE: Given the amount of material to be covered in the time allotted, students should make every effort to attend all classes. Each student is responsible for establishing his/her own attendance policy and study habits.

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES AND DUE DATES
Class meets on Wednesdays 3:00 - 5:00 pm

Feb  1 INTRODUCTION; HISTORIC ROOTS
Suggested Readings:
Leith, John. An Introduction to the Reformed Tradition: A Way of Being the Christian Community
McNeill, John T. The History and Character of Calvinism
Reid, W. Stanford, John Calvin: His Influence in the Western World

COLONIAL PRESBYTERIANISM
Suggested Readings -- Books:
Barkley, John Montieth. Francis Makemie of Ramelton: Father of American Presbyterianism
Hardman, Keith J. Jonathan Dickinson and the Course of American Presbyterianism: 1717-1747 [PhD Diss]
LeBeau, Bryan F. Jonathan Dickinson and the Formative Years of American Presbyterianism
Page, Isaac Marshall. The Life of Rev. F. Makemie
Pilcher, George W. Samuel Davies: Apostle of Dissent in Colonial Virginia
Samworth, Herbert L. Those Astonishing Wonders of His Grace: Jonathan Dickinson and the Great Awakening [PhD Diss]

Journal Articles:

Feb 8

THE GREAT AWAKENING: THE TENNENT FAMILY; OLD/New Side Schism

Suggested Readings -- Books:
Alexander, Archibald. The Log College: Biographical Sketches of William Tennent
Balmer, Randall. A Perfect Babel of Confusion: Dutch Religion and English Culture in the Middle Colonies
Bonomi, Patricia. Under the Cope of Heaven: Religion, Society, and Politics in Colonial America
Coulter, Milton J. Gilbert Tennent, Son of Thunder: A Case Study of continental Pietism’s Impact on the First Great Awakening in the Middle Colonies
Harper, Miles D. Gilbert Tennent, Theologian of the “New Light”
Heimart, Alan E. Religion and the American Mind from the Great Awakening to the Revolution
______ and Perry Miller, eds. The Great Awakening
LeBeau, Bryan F. Jonathan Dickinson and the Formative Years of American Presbyterianism
Lodge, Martin Ellsworth. The Great Awakening and the Middle Colonies
Shereshewsky, Murray S. Academy Keeping and the Great Awakening: The Presbyterian Academies, College of New Jersey
Smith, Elwyn Allen. The Presbyterian Ministry in American Culture
Tennent, Mary A. Light and Darkness: The Story of Wm Tennent, Sr and the Log College
Westerkamp, Marilyn J. Triumph of the Laity: Scots-Irish Piety and the Great Awakening

Journal Articles:
Hardman, Keith J. The Spiritual Awakeners
FOUNDING OF THE COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY (PRINCETON): JOHN WITHERSPOON

Suggested Reading – Books:
Bartley, David. John Witherspoon and the Right of Resistance
Fechner, Roger Jerome. The Moral Philosophy of John Witherspoon and the Scottish-American Enlightenment
LeBeau, Bryan F. Jonathan Dickinson and the Formative Years of American Presbyterianism
Wertenberger, Thomas Jefferson. Princeton, 1746-1896
Witte, Wayne William. John Witherspoon: An Exposition and Interpretation of his Theological Views as the Motivation of his Ecclesiastical, Educational and Political Career in Scotland and America

Journal Articles

Feb 15

AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE: “THE PRESBYTERIAN CONSPIRACY”??

Suggested Readings – Books
Levy, Leonard. The Establishment Clause: Religion and the First Amendment
Curry, Thomas J. The First Freedoms: Church and State in America to the Passage of the First Amendment

Journal Articles

EXPANSION WESTWARD AND SOUTHWARD; THE PLAN OF UNION

Suggested Reading – Books
Davis, Robert P. et. al. Virginia Presbyterians in American Life: Hanover Presbytery

Journal Articles

Feb 22

THE SECOND GREAT AWAKENING: REVIVALISM AND SCHISM IN THE WEST

Suggested Reading – Books
Barrus, Benjamin. A Study of the Factors Involved in the Origin of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church
Boles, John B. The Great Revival, 1787-1805
Bruce, Dickson D. And They All Sang Hallelujah: Plain-folk Camp-Meeting Religion, 1800-1845
Campbell, Thomas H. Good News on the Frontier: A History of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church
Conkin, Paul K. Cane Ridge, America’s Pentecost
Matthews, Donald G. Religion in the Old South
Oliver, Lon D. A Guide to the Cane Ridge Revival
Rogers, James R. The Cane Ridge Meeting House
Scott, John T. James McGready: Son of Thunder, Father of the Great Revival
Journal Articles:

THE SECOND GREAT AWAKENING: NORTHERN REVIVALISM – FINNEY AND NETTLETON
Suggested Reading – Books
Fraser, James W. Pedagogue for God’s Kingdom: Lyman Beecher and the 2nd Great Awakening
Hardman, Keith J. Charles Grandison Finney, 1792-1875: Revivalist and Reformer
Henry, Stuart C. Unvanquished Puritan: A Portrait of Lyman Beecher
Hewitt, Glenn A. Regeneration and Morality: A Study of Charles Finney, Charles Hodge, John Nevin and Horace Bushnell
McLoughlin, William G. Modern Revivalism: Charles Grandison Finney to Billy Graham
Smith, Timothy L. Revivalism and Social Reform: American Protestantism on the Eve of the Civil War
Thornbury, John F. God Sent Revival: The Story of Asahel Nettleton

Journal Articles

Mar 1 NEW LEBANON CONVENTION; URBAN REVIVALISM
Suggested Reading: See last lecture

PRINCETON THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY: OLD SCHOOL IN THE SOUTH
Suggested Reading – Books
Bozeman, Theodore D. Protestants in an Age of Science
Calhoun, David B. Princeton Seminary (2 vols)
Holifield, E. Brooks. The Gentlemen Theologians: American Theology in Southern Culture
Kerr, Hugh T. Sons of the Prophets: Leaders in Protestantism from Princeton Seminary
Loetscher, Lefferts A. Facing the Enlightenment and Pietism: Archibald Alexander and the Founding of Princeton Theological Seminary
Noll, Mark A. The Princeton Theology, 1812-1921: Scripture, Science, and Theological Method from Archibald Alexander to Benjamin Warfield
Thornwell, James Henley. The Collected Writings of James Henley Thornwell 4 vols., ed by John B. Adger and John L. Giradeau
Vander Stelt, John C. Philosophy and Scripture: A Study in Old Princeton and Westminster Theology
Wells, David F. Reformed Theology in America: A History of its Modern Development

Journal Articles
Farmer, James O. The Metaphysical Confederacy: James Henley Thornwell and the Synthesis of Southern Values

Spring Break: No Classes

Midterm Exam

Mar 29


Suggested Reading – Books:
Bailey, Alvin K. The Strategy of Sheldon Jackson in Opening the West for National Missions
Beecher, Lyman. A Plea for the West
Foreman, Kenneth J. Continuing Problems of American Presbyterian Board and Agency Administration in the 19th and 20th Centuries
Genovese, Eugene. “James Henry Thornwell,” in History and Politics in the Cultural War
Harris, J. Henry. Robert Raikes: The Man Who Founded the Sunday School
Hirrel, Leo P. The Ideology of Antebellum Reform within the New School Calvinist Community
Hodge, Charles. The Church and its Polity
Marsden, George M. The Evangelical Mind and the New School Presbyterian Experience: A Case Study of Thought and Theology in Nineteenth-Century America
Rice, Edwin W. The Sunday School Movement 1780-1917 and the American Sunday School Union
Smith, H. Shelton. “The Church and the Social Order in the Old South as Interpreted by James H. Thornwell,” in Finkleman, P. Religion and Slavery
Spring, Gardiner. Memoir of Samuel J. Mills
Journal Articles:

NEW SCHOOL - OLD SCHOOL I: ALBERT BARNES AND LyMAN BEECHER
Suggested Reading – Books
Barnes, Albert. *The Church and Slavery*
Beecher, Lyman. *Views in Theology*
Davis, E. Bradford. *Albert Barnes - 1798-1870: An Exponent of New School Presbyterianism*
Kuklick, Bruce. *Churchmen and Philosophers*
Marsden, George M. *The Evangelical Mind and the New School Presbyterian Experience: A Case Study of Thought and Theology in Nineteenth-Century America*

Journal Articles

NEW SCHOOL - OLD SCHOOL II: HENRY BOYNTON SMITH; SCHISM
Suggested Readings – Books
Handy, Robert T. *A History of Union Theological Seminary*
Marsden, George M. *The Evangelical Mind and the New School Presbyterian Experience: A Case Study of Thought and Theology in Nineteenth-Century America*
Smith, Henry Boynton. *Faith and Philosophy*
Smith, Henry Boynton. *System of Christian Theology*
Smith, Henry Boynton. *The Reunion of the Presbyterian Churches, Called New School and Old School: A Reply to the Princeton Review*

Journal Articles

NEW SCHOOL - OLD SCHOOL III: DIVISION OVER SLAVERY AND ABOLITIONISM
Suggested Readings – Books
Engelder, Conrad J. *The Churches and Slavery: A Study of Attitudes in Major Protestant Denominations*

Farmer, James O. *The Metaphysical Confederacy: James Henley Thornwell and the Synthesis of Southern Values*

Fox, Early L. *The American Colonization Society*


Howard, Victor b. *The Anti-Slavery Movement in the Presbyterian Church*

Lesick, Lawrence T. *The Lane Rebels*

Marsden, George M. *The Evangelical Mind and the New School Presbyterian Experience: A Case Study of Thought and Theology in Nineteenth-Century America*

Thompson, Ernest Trice. *Presbyterians in the South*, 3 vols

Weeks, Louis B. *The Story of Southern Presbyterians*

**Journal Articles**


**NORTHERN PRESBYTERIANISM DURING CIVIL WAR**

*Suggested Reading – Books*

See previous lecture

**Journal Articles**


**SOUTHERN PRESBYTERIANISM DURING CIVIL WAR**

*Suggested Readings*


Hickey, Doralyn. B.M. Palmer: Churchman of the Old South

Parker, Harold M. *The United Synod of the South: The Southern New School Presbyterian Church*

Palmer, Benjamin. *The South: Her Peril and Her Duty*

Smith, Morton H. *Studies in Southern Presbyterian Theology*

Thompson, Ernest Trice, *Presbyterians in the South*, 3 vols

Wells, David A. *Reformed Theology in America: A History of its Modern Development*
Journal Articles

POST-CIVIL WAR REUNION
Suggested Reading – Books
Miller, Samuel. *Presbyterian Reunion: A Memorial Volume, 1857-1871*
Parker, Harold M. *The Independent Presbyterian Church and Reunion in the South*
Smith, Joseph T. *Address on the Acts and Deliverances of the General Assembly of the Old School Presbyterian Church*

Journal Articles

PRESBYTERIANS AND 19TH CENTURY SCIENCE: GEOLOGY AND DARWINISM
Suggested Reading – Books
Bozeman, Theodore D. *Protestants in an Age of Science: The Baconian Ideal and Antebellum American Religious Thought*
Hovenkamp, Herbert. *Science and Religion in America, 1800-1860*
Johnston, Deryl F. *The Attitudes of the Princeton Theologians Toward Darwinism and Evolution from 1859-1929*
Kelley, Delores Goodwin. *A Rhetorical Analysis of an 1884-88 Controversy in American Religious Thought: Response within the Presbyterian Church in the US to Evolutionism [PhD Diss]*
Noll, Mark A. and David Livingstone, eds. *Charles Hodge: What is Darwinism & Other Writings on Science and Religion*
Lewis, Tayler. *The Six Days of Creation, or, the Scriptural Cosmology*
Livingstone, David N. *Darwin’s Forgotten Defenders*
Upham, Francis W. *The Debate between the Church and Science; or the Ancient Hebraic Idea of the Six Days of Creation with an Essay on the Literary Character of Tayler Lewis*
Wells, John C. *Charles Hodge’s Critique of Darwinism: The Argument to Design*

Journal Articles

RISE OF LIBERAL THEOLOGY; HERESY TRIALS
Suggested Reading – Books
Halsey, Leroy J. A History of the McCormick Theological Seminary of the Presbyterian Church
Briggs, Charles A. Inaugural Address and Defense, 1891/1893, Authority of Holy Scripture, Whither? A Theological Question for the Times
Hutchison, W. R. The Modernist Impulse in American Protestantism
Loetscher, Lefferts. The Broadening Church: A Study of Theological Issues in the Presbyterian Church Since 1869
Noll, Mark A. Between Faith and Criticism: Evangelicals, Scholarship and the Bible in America
Shriver, G.H., ed. American Religious Heretics

Journal Articles

Presbyterian Seminaries; The Social Gospel
Suggested Reading – Books
Gladden, Washington. Christianity and Socialism
Handy, Robert T. The Social Gospel in America, 1870-1920
Rauschenbusch, Walter. A Theology for the Social Gospel
Smith, Willard H. The Social and Religious Thought of William Jennings Bryan

Journal Articles

Confessional Revision
Suggested Reading – Books
McClanahan, James S. Benjamin B. Warfield: Historian of Doctrine in Defense of Orthodoxy, 1881-1921
Warfield, Benjamin B. The Confession of Faith as Revised in 1903
___ The Significance of the Westminster Standards as a Creed

Journal Articles
FUNDAMENTALISM: J. GRESHAM MACHEN

Suggested Reading – Books

Dennison, Charles G. and Richard C. Gamble, eds. “Part III: Perspectives on the Orthodox Presbyterian Church” in Pressing Toward the Mark: Essays Commemorating Fifty Years of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church

Hutchison, William R. The Modernist Impulse in American Protestantism

Loetscher, Lefferts. The Broadening Church: A Study of Theological Issues in the Presbyterian Church Since 1869

Longfield, Bradley J. The Presbyterian Controversy: Fundamentalists, Modernists, and Moderates

Machen, J. G. Christianity and Liberalism

Marsden, George M. Evangelicalism and American Culture

________________. Fundamentalism and American Culture: The Shaping of Twentieth-Century Evangelicalism

Miller, Robert M. Harry Emerson Fosdick: Preacher, Pastor, Prophet

Rian, Edwin H. The Presbyterian Conflict

Sandeen, Ernest R. The Origins of Fundamentalism: Toward an Historical Interpretation

________________. The Roots of Fundamentalism: British and American Millenarianism

Journal Articles


MODERNIST VICTORY

Suggested Reading – Books

Hart, D.G and John Muether, Fighting the Good Fight: A Brief History of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church

Hutchison, William R. The Modernist Impulse in American Protestantism

Loetscher, Lefferts. The Broadening Church: A Study of Theological Issues in the Presbyterian Church Since 1869

Longfield, Bradley J. The Presbyterian Controversy: Fundamentalists, Modernists, and Moderates

Marsden, George M. Reforming Fundamentalism: Fuller Seminary and the New Evangelicalism

________________. Understanding Fundamentalism and Evangelicalism

Mathews, Shailer. The Faith of Modernism

Rian, Edwin H. The Presbyterian Conflict

Thompson, Murray F. The Auburn Betrayal

Journal Articles


THE WAR YEARS AND BEYOND

Suggested Reading – Books

Hutchison, William R. Between the Times: The Travail of the Protestant Establishment in America, 1900-1960


Wuthnow, Robert. The Restructuring of American Religion: Society and Faith since World War II

Journal Articles
OTHER WRITINGS FOR STUDYING AMERICAN PRESBYTERIANISM

Ahlstrom, Sydney E. A Religious History of the American People

Bowden, Henry W. Dictionary of American Religious Biography

Burr, Nelson R. A Critical Bibliography of Religion in America

Coalter, Milton, et. al. eds. The Presbyterian Presence: The Twentieth-Century Experience

Conkin, Paul K. The Uneasy Center: Reformed Christianity in Antebellum America

Dennison, Charles G. and Richard C. Gamble, eds. Pressing Toward the Mark: Essays Commemorating Fifty Years of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church

Gaustad, Edwin S. A Documentary History of Religion in America, 2 vols

________________. Historical Atlas of Religion in America

________________. A Religious History of America


Hutchison, William R. The Modernist Impulse in American Protestantism

Loetscher, Lefferts A. A Brief History of Presbyterians

________________. The Broadening Church: A Study of the Theological Issues in the Presbyterian Church since 1869

Parker, Harold M. Bibliography of Published Articles on American Presbyterianism, 1901-1980

Piepkorn, A. C. Profiles in Belief (vol 2)

Reid, Daniel G. et. al. Dictionary of Christianity in America

Smith, H. Shelton, Robert T. Handy, and Lefferts A. Loetscher, American Christianity: An Historical Interpretation and Representative Documents


________________. A Brief History of the Presbyterians

Trinterud, Leonard. A Bibliography of American Presbyterianism During the Colonial Period

Wells, David F. Reformed Theology in America: A History of its Modern Development
READING REPORT FOR H651 AMERICAN PRESBYTERIANISM

Complete and sign this form and return along with final exam.

Assigned reading:  # of pages read
Balmer and Fitzmeier, The Presbyterians
Armstrong, et. al., The Presbyterian Enterprise: Sources of American Presbyterian History

The total number of pages I have read for this course is ____________ [include above books and readings listed below]

Signed: __________________________ Date: ____________
Student’s Name

Please Print: __________________________
Student’s Name

List sources of additional reading below; indicate whether primary / secondary work and number of pages read.

Author  Title  Primary / Secondary  # pages read