

**History of Christianity II – 6HT504**  
**Reformed Theological Seminary – Washington D.C.**  
**Spring 2007**

Instructor:

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Not to know the events that happened before one was born  
is to remain always a child.

-Marcus Tullius Cicero

**I. PURPOSE OF THE COURSE**

The purpose of this course is to provide a general introduction to Christian History from the Reformation to the dawn of the Twentieth Century. Special emphasis will be given to significant figures and the historical development of theological doctrines as articulated by the Christian Church. Additionally, attention will be given to the contemporary relevance of historical theology.

**II. REQUIRED BOOKS**

Euan Cameron, *The European Reformation* (Oxford, 1991), pp. 1-48, 79-167, 19-318, 361-388.

Bengt Hägglund, *History of Theology* (St. Louis, 1968), pp. 211-298, 325-410.

Denis R. Janz (ed.) *A Reformation Reader: Primary Texts with Introductions* (Minneapolis, 1999), pp. 38-44, 52-53, 81-85, 90-105, 154-60, 162-163, 226-367.

William C. Placer, *Readings in the History of Christian Theology, Volume 2: From the Reformation to the Present* (Philadelphia, 1988), pp. 66-76, 82-106.

John E. Smith, Harry S. Stout, and Kenneth P. Minkema (eds.), *A Jonathan Edwards Reader* (New Haven, 1995), 89-136, 192-243.

Douglas Sweeney, *The American Evangelical Story* (Grand Rapids, 2005).

### **III. COURSE SCHEDULE**

February 16, 17 – Introduction to Church History, the Forerunners of the Reformation (Medieval Continuity), the Renaissance and the Early Reformation

March 16, 17 – The German, Swiss and Radical Reformation

April 27, 28 – The English Reformation, Catholic Counter-Reformation, post-Reformation

May 11, 12 – Colonial North America to the Nineteenth Century

### **IV. EXAM AND ASSIGNMENT**

There will be a 3 hour take home final examination covering all the material (lectures and readings). It will not be open note or open book. Please see the RTS proctoring requirements.

In addition one 10-12 page research paper comparing one historical figure from the Reformation with an individual from the Modern Church era.

Examples:

1. Compare Martin Luther and Charles Finney on free will.
2. Compare Turretin and Charles Spurgeon on predestination.
3. Compare John Owen and Karl Barth on the atonement.

### **V. ASSESSMENT**

Final Exam: 50% of grade

Paper: 50% of grade