Course Description
This course will be an overview of Modern Church History from the 18th C. to the present with concentration on American Christianity and the development of the Evangelical Movement. Presbyterianism will serve as a case study of American religious experience during these centuries. The course goal is for students to gain a deeper understanding of what it means to be a 21st C. Evangelical Christian.

Required Texts

Course Requirements
1. Weekly Assignments
   A. Reading - Students should keep up with required reading during the term. *The American Evangelical Story* and *Colonial Presbyterianism* should be read in their entirety. *Introduction to the History of Christianity* reading is page 485 to the end; reading in *Historical Theology* is page 214 to the end of the book.

   B. Weekly Quiz - At the beginning of each class session there will be a short cumulative quiz on dates that have been assigned. The dates will be included as part of the final exam.

2. Research Paper - Students will write a 10-15 page research paper on an event, movement, controversy or person in American Christian history. The paper should include research into primary sources as well as secondary sources. Lectures and text books will help students identify a paper topic. Get approval from the professor for your topic. Please write the paper in 12-point font, double-spaced with footnotes and bibliography. The paper is due on the last day of class.
3. Final Exam  The examination will include essay questions from the required reading and lectures. There will also be short-answer sections on important dates, people and ideas. The Professor will distribute a list of potential exam essay questions at the end of the term. The final may be taken any time during Exam Week.

4. Reading Report – The Reading Report will be due to the Professor the last day of Exam Week (see attached). This report will indicate the amount of Required Reading that has been completed during the semester.

4. Class participation: Per seminary policy, it is required that students be present for all class sessions. In an emergency, you may notify professor that you have been “providentially hindered” from attendance. It is expected that students will complete assignments on time. Failure to comply with these standards will result in grade reduction.

**Grading**
Weekly Quizzes - 10%
Research Paper - 30%
Reading Report - 30%
Final Exam - 30%

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

**Assignment 1 – Feb. 14**
1620  Mayflower Compact
1636  Harvard College founded
1649  Cambridge Platform
1682  Francis Makemie comes to America

**Assignment 2 – Feb. 21**
1706  First Presbytery meets in Philadelphia
1729  Adopting Act
1740  Great Awakening peaks
1758  Reunion of Synods of Philadelphia and New York

**Assignment 3 – Feb. 28**
1768  John Witherspoon, President of College of New Jersey
1789  First Presbyterian General Assembly
1801  Plan of Union between Congregationalists and Presbyterians

**Assignment 4 – March 6**
1810  American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
1812  Princeton Seminary is established by the General Assembly
1818  General Assembly Declaration on Slavery
1835  Charles Finney’s *Lectures on Revivals*
Assignment 5 – March 13
1838     Old School/New School Schism
1855     D.L. Moody converted
1859     Charles Darwin’s *Origin of Species*
1861     Presbyterian Church, C.S.A. (OS) – Southern Church
1864     Reunion OS/NS in the South

Assignment 6 – March 27
1865     Hudson Taylor founds China Inland Mission
1870     Reunion OS/NS in the North (PCUSA) – Northern Church
1885     Julius Wellhausen’s *Documentary Hypothesis*
1893     Trial of Professor Charles Briggs
1896     Billy Sunday begins revival meetings

Assignment 7 – April 10
1903     Two chapters added to WCF - missions, Holy Spirit
1906     Azusa Street revival
1906     Albert Schweitzer’s *Quest for the Historical Jesus*
1910     General Assembly adopts Five “Essential and Necessary” doctrines

Assignment 8 – April 17
1919     Karl Barth’s *Commentary on Romans*
1924     Auburn Affirmation is signed by liberal clergy
1925     “Scopes Monkey Trial” prosecuted by William Jennings Bryan
1929     Westminster Theological Seminary is founded

Assignment 9 – April 24
1942     National Association of Evangelicals
1948     World Council of Churches
1949     Billy Graham crusade in Los Angeles
1964     Ordination of Women in PCUS
1967     *Book of Confessions & Confession of 67*

Assignment 10 – May 1
1973     Presbyterian Church in America (PCA)
1974     Lausanne Congress on World Evangelization
1981     Evangelical Presbyterian Church (EPC)
1982     RPCES joins PCA
1983     Reunion of UPUSA and PCUS – PC (U.S.A.)
BIBLIOGRAPHY

GENERAL CHURCH HISTORY


CHRISTIANTIY IN AMERICA


1987.
_____. Understanding Evangelicalism and Fundamentalism. Grand Rapids:
Noll, Mark A. A History of Christianity in the United States and Canada. Grand Rapids:
_____. America’s God: From Jonathan Edwards to Abraham Lincoln. New York:
_____. et.al. ed. Eerdmans Handbook to Christianity in America. Grand Rapids:
Eerdmans Publishing, 1983
_____. The Old Religion in a New World. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans Publishing Co.,
2002.
Downers Grove, IL: Intervarsity Press, 2003
Smith, H. Shelton, Robert T. Handy and Lefferts A. Loetscher, eds. American
Christianity: An Historical Interpretation with Representative Documents. 2
Sweeney, Douglas A. The American Evangelical Story. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic,
2005.

AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN HISTORY

Armstrong, Maurice, Lefferts A. Loetscher and Charles A. Anderson. ed. The
Presbyterian Enterprise: Sources of American Presbyterian History. Philadelphia:
Balmer, Randall and John R. Fitzmier. The Presbyterians. Westport, CT: Praeger
Clements, Don K. Historical Roots of the Presbyterian Church in America. Narrows,
Fortson, S. Donald. ed. Colonial Presbyterianism. Eugene, OR: Pickwick Publications,
2007.
Hall, David. ed. The Practice of Confessional Subscription. Lanham, MD: University
Loetscher, Lefferts. The Broadening Church: A Study of Theological Issues in the
Longfield, Bradley. The Presbyterian Controversy: Fundamentalists, Modernists, &
Marsden, George. Evangelical Mind and New School Presbyterian Experience. New
Melton, Julius. Presbyterian Worship in America: Changing Patterns Since 1787.
Noll, Mark A. The Princeton Theology, 1812-1921: Scripture, Science and Theological
Church & the World

Reading Report

Please state the percentage of the Required Reading that you have completed.

Dowley, Introduction to the History of Christianity  ________%

McGrath, Historical Theology  ________%

Sweeney, American Evangelical Story  ________%

Fortson, Colonial Presbyterianism  ________%

___________________________________________         ____________________
Name               Date
A. **Know all dates in all Assignments**

B. **Review course texts and class notes for individual identification and list of questions below.**

C. **Be able to identify these individuals:**

- Rene Descartes  
- John Locke  
- Thomas Paine  
- Bartolome de Las Casas  
- John Wintrop  
- Lord Baltimore  
- Roger Williams  
- Anne Hutchinson  
- Francis Makemie  
- William Tennent  
- Gilbert Tennent  
- Jonathan Dickinson  
- Samuel Davies  
- John Witherspoon  
- Jonathan Edwards  
- George Whitefield  
- Francis Asbury  
- William E. Channing  
- Samuel Hopkins  
- Nathaniel Taylor  
- Lyman Beecher  
- James McGready  
- Barton Stone  
- Charles Stone  
- Samuel Miller  
- Charles Hodge  
- Archibald Alexander  
- Albert Barnes  
- James H. Thornwell  
- Robert L. Dabney  
- Adoniram Judson  
- Henry B. Smith  
- D. L. Moody  
- Phoebe Palmer  
- Friedrich Schleiermacher  
- B. B. Warfield  
- Albrecht Ritschl  
- Walter Rauschenbusch  
- Charles A. Briggs  
- Billy Sunday  
- Ashbel Simonton  
- Shelton Jackson  
- William Jennings Bryan  
- Robert Speer  
- Harry Emerson Fosdick  
- Clarence McCartney  
- J. Gresham Machen  
- Henry Sloane Coffin  
- Richard Allen  
- William Seymour  
- John Keble  
- Horace Bushnell  
- William Booth  
- John Nelson Darby

D. **Be prepared to write a one-page essay on the following:**

1. How did the Old World faith influence the new American context?
2. Describe Roman Catholic missions in the New World.
3. What was the Puritan vision for New England?
4. Why is Francis Makemie important for Colonial Presbyterianism?
5. What was the outcome of the 1729 Adopting Act?
6. Describe the work of John Witherspoon at the College of New Jersey?
7. What was the Log College?
8. What were the issues behind the Old Side/New Side Presbyterian schism?
9. How did the Great Awakening shape Evangelicalism in America?
10. What was New England Theology?
11. Why is Francis Asbury important for American Methodism?
12. What happened at Cane Ridge?
13. What were the issues that divided the Old School and New School?
14. What was distinctive about Charles Finney’s revivalism?
15. Who was Albert Barnes and why was he a controversial figure?
16. What was the attitude of Princeton toward the New School?
17. What happened at the 1837 Presbyterian General Assembly?
18. What is the Holiness Movement?
19. Describe the origins of the Black Church in America?
20. How did Higher Criticism and Darwinism have an impact upon the faith?
21. What was the Briggs trial about?
22. What was Old Princeton’s perspective on Holy Scripture?
23. What were the 1903 revisions to the Westminster Confession of Faith?
24. What is the origin of the modern Pentecostal movement?
24. Describe the meaning of the Auburn Affirmation?
25. Why were the ideas of Harry Emerson Fosdick controversial?
26. What was the genesis of Westminster Seminary?
27. Why is Vatican II significant for contemporary Roman Catholicism?
28. What is “The Next Christendom” according to Philip Jenkins?