Course Description
This general introduction to Christianity in the Reformation and Post-Reformation eras focuses on the key persons, movements and ideas that have made significant contributions to the history of the Church. Special attention will be given to exploring how experiences and insights from the Christian past inform contemporary faith and practice. As an outcome of the course, students should have a general grasp of Christian history during these periods and a basic knowledge of the major personalities and ecclesiastical issues of the 15th – 18th C. of Church History in Europe and Britain.

Required Texts

Course Requirements
1. Weekly Assignments
   A. Reading - Students will have weekly assignment sheets with readings from the required texts and Scripture that are due by the next class period.

   B. Weekly Quiz - At the beginning of each class there will be a short cumulative quiz on dates from the assignment sheets. The dates will also be included as a part of the final exam.

   C. Discussion Questions - Students will write a one-page typed response to the discussion questions for each assignment. Discussion question responses will be due at the end of class each week.

2. Biographical Paper  Each student will choose an individual from Christian history that lived during the 15th – 18th C. and write a 10 -12 page typed paper on this person. A least one major biography (200 page minimum) on the person should be read. The paper should include commentary on the person’s contribution to the Church and reflection on insights from the
person’s life that might be useful today. A list of sources should be attached. The paper is due the last day of class.

3. Final Exam  The final 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 final may be taken anytime during the exam periods on campus.

4. Reading Report – This report will indicate the amount of Required Reading that has been completed during the semester. The Reading Report is due the last day of the exams.

Grading
Weekly Quizes and Discussion Questions - 25%
Biographical Paper - 25%
Reading Report - 25%
Final Exam - 25%

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<th>MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Rubric</th>
<th>Mini-Justification</th>
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| **Articulation (oral & written)** | Strong | 1. Memorization of dates  
2. Development of doctrine  
3. Biographical studies |
| Significant knowledge of the original meaning of Scripture. Also, the concepts for and skill to research further into the original meaning of Scripture and to apply Scripture to a variety of modern circumstances. (Includes appropriate use of original languages and hermeneutics; and integrates theological, historical, and cultural/global perspectives.) | Minimal | 1. Discuss church’s interpretation of Bible throughout course  
2. Differences among Reformers  
3. Solo Scriptura in Reformation |
| **Reformed Theology** | Strong | 1. Calvin and Geneva  
2. Reformed tradition in France, Netherlands, England  
3. Presbyterians in colonial America |
| Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards. | Strong | 1. Calvin’s view of Chr. Life  
2. Spener and Pietism  
3. Zinzendorf and Wesley  
4. English Puritan piety |
| **Sanctification** | Strong | 1. Calvin’s view of Chr. Life  
2. Spener and Pietism  
3. Zinzendorf and Wesley  
4. English Puritan piety |
| Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student’s sanctification. | Strong | 1. Calvin’s view of Chr. Life  
2. Spener and Pietism  
3. Zinzendorf and Wesley  
4. English Puritan piety |
| **Desire for Worldview** | Minimal | 1. Niebuhr’s Christ and Culture  
2. Views of Reformers |
| Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God. | Minimal | 1. Niebuhr’s Christ and Culture  
2. Views of Reformers |
| **Winsomely Reformed** | Strong | 1. Diff. Branches of Reformation  
2. R.C. Reform  
3. Emergence of Evangelicalism  
4. Great Awakening ecumenism |
| Embraces a winsomely Reformed ethos. (Includes an appropriate ecumenical spirit with other Christians, especially Evangelicals; a concern to present the Gospel in a God-honoring manner to non-Christians; and a truth-in-love attitude in disagreements.) | Strong | 1. Diff. Branches of Reformation  
2. R.C. Reform  
3. Emergence of Evangelicalism  
4. Great Awakening ecumenism |
| **Preach** | Minimal | 1. Calvin as a preacher  
2. G. Whitefield’s preaching |
| Ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm. | Minimal | 1. Calvin as a preacher  
2. G. Whitefield’s preaching |
| **Worship** | Moderate | 1. Liturgy in Lutheran, Reformed, Anabaptist and Anglican Traditions |
| Knowledgeable of historic and modern Christian-worship forms; and ability to construct and skill to lead a worship service. | Moderate | 1. Liturgy in Lutheran, Reformed, Anabaptist and Anglican Traditions |
| **Shepherd** | Moderate | 1. Reformation ecclesiology  
2. RC and Moravian missions  
3. Preaching in Great Awakening |
| Ability to shepherd the local congregation: aiding in spiritual maturity; promoting use of gifts and callings; and encouraging a concern for non-Christians, both in America and worldwide. | Moderate | 1. Reformation ecclesiology  
2. RC and Moravian missions  
3. Preaching in Great Awakening |
Course Units

Unit I  Understanding the Protestant Reformation
Unit II Luther’s Reform of the Church
Unit III Zwingli and the Anabaptists
Unit IV Calvin and the Reformed Tradition
Unity V  Reformation in England and Scotland
Unit VI  Roman Catholic Reform
Unit VII English Puritans and Separatists
Unit VIII Pietists and Methodists
Unit IX  The Enlightenment
Unit X  Christianity in the New World
Unit XI Colonial Presbyterians
History of Christianity II
Assignment 1 – February 10

Reading:


Dates to Remember:

1418 Thomas a Kempis writes *Imitation of Christ*

1453 Fall of Constantinople

1456 Guttenburg’s printed Bible

1512 Michelangelo, Sistine Chapel frescoes

1516 Erasmus’ Greek New Testament

Discussion Questions:

1. Should Christians be involved in the Arts? What challenges do Christians face in this arena?

2. How do you respond to this statement: “All truth is God’s truth”? What are the implications of this idea?
Reading:


4. Eph. 2:8-9
   Romans 1:17; 3:24,28; 5:1
   2 Tim. 3:16
   1 Tim. 2:1-6
   Heb. 10:19-22.

Dates to Remember:

1517 Martin Luther posts 95 Theses
1521 Diet of Worms
1530 *Augsburg Confession*
1555 Peace of Augsburg
1577 *Formula of Concord*

Discussion Questions:

1. How would you explain to a Roman Catholic friend Luther’s understanding of justification by faith alone? What is the role of “good works?”

2. What is the meaning of the phrase, “priesthood of believers?” Is every Christian his or her own priest?
Reading:


3. Col. 2:11-12
   1 Cor. 1:16; 7:14; 11:23-29
   Acts 16:31-33; 18:8
   John 14:26; 16:8-15

Dates to Remember:

1518   Ulrich Zwingli comes to Zurich
1525   Anabaptist movement begins
1529   Marburg Colloquy
1536   Memo Simons baptized as Anabaptist

Discussion Questions:

1. What part of the Anabaptist vision are you attracted to? Why?

2. With so many Protestant differences over the sacraments, how can we demonstrate unity in Christ?
History of Christianity II
Assignment 4 – March 3

Reading:

1. Introduction to History of Christianity, pp.378-383.


3. Historical Theology, pp.168-172, 199, 205-213.

   Rom. 8:29
   Eph. 1:4; 2:1-10

Dates to Remember:

1536 First edition, John Calvin’s Institutes of the Christian Religion

1563 Heidelberg Catechism

1572 St. Bartholomew’s Day Massacre

1598 Edict of Nantes

1618 Synod of Dordt

Discussion Questions:

1. Is the doctrine of predestination a comforting or disturbing doctrine to you? Why?

2. Do you consider church discipline a mark of the true church? Explain your answer.
Reading:

1. *Introduction to History of Christianity*, pp. 386-400.


Dates to Remember:

- 1534: Act of Supremacy, Henry VIII
- 1549: Thomas Cranmer’s *Book of Common Prayer*
- 1559: John Knox returns to Scotland
- 1563: *Thirty-Nine Articles*

Discussion Questions:

1. Is a Prayer Book helpful for Christian worship today? Why or why not?

2. What are the advantages/disadvantages of a state Protestant Church?
History of Christianity II
Assignment 6 – March 24

Reading:


4. Romans 12

Dates to Remember:

1540  Ignatius Loyola and Jesuits

1545  Council of Trent convenes

1549  Francis Xavier’s mission to Japan

Discussion Questions:

1. What is your evaluation of the Roman Catholic Counter-Reformation and what do you think we can learn from it?

2. What is your perspective on Evangelical / Catholic dialogue and cooperation on social issues?
Reading:


2. *Historical Theology*, pp. 174-175.

   Phil. 3:2,3
   Col. 3:12-17

Dates to Remember:

1609    John Smyth baptizes the first English Baptists
1611    King James Bible
1643    Westminster Assembly begins
1678    John Bunyan writes *Pilgrim’s Progress*
1793    William Carey sails for India

Discussion Questions:

1. How important is it for Christian worship to conform to the norms of Scripture?

2. In what areas do evangelical churches need to be “purified” today?
Reading:

1. *Introduction to Hist. of Christianity*, pp. 444-461, 475-484


3. Matt. 28:19,20
   Rom. 12:1
   Eph. 1:4
   1 Pet. 1:15,16

Dates to Remember:

- 1675 Jacob Spener writes *Pia Desideria*
- 1707 Isaac Watts publishes *Hymns and Spiritual Songs*
- 1732 First Moravian missionaries
- 1738 John and Charles Wesley’s evangelical conversions
- 1771 Francis Asbury comes to America

Discussion Questions:

1. Has Christianity in America lost its holiness? What’s wrong?

2. How important is evangelism and world missions for the life of the church? Explain.
History of Christianity II
Assignment 9 – April 14

Reading:

1. Introduction to History of Christianity, pp.485-517.


3. 1 Tim. 1:5-11
   2 Tim. 3:16,17
   2 Tim. 4:1-4

Dates to Remember:

1781  Kant publishes Critique of Pure Reason

1789  French Revolution begins

1799  Friederich Schleiermacher’s Lectures on Religion

Discussion Questions:

1. How would you answer a non-Christian who asked you why you believe the Bible is unique compared to any other religious book?

2. How has the Enlightenment had an impact on Christianity?
History of Christianity II
Assignment 10 – April 21

Reading:

1. *Introduction to History of Christianity*, pp.436-444.

Dates to Remember:

- 1620    Mayflower Compact
- 1636    Harvard College founded
- 1649    Cambridge Platform
- 1682    Francis Makemie comes to America

Discussion Questions:

1. How realistic was the Puritan vision for the New World?
2. Should American believers emphasize the Christian heritage of our forefathers? Why or why not?
History of Christianity II
Assignment 11 – April 28

Reading:

Colonial Presbyterianism, pp. 113-218.

Dates to Remember:

1706    First Presbytery meets in Philadelphia
1729    Adopting Act
1740    Great Awakening peaks
1789    1st Presbyterian General Assembly

Discussion Questions:

1. Is ecclesiastical compromise a necessity for the peace of the church? Why or why not?
2. If the U.S. experienced another “awakening” in the 21st C., what would it look like?
A. Know all dates in all Assignments and review text pp. 352 – 517.
B. Review the “blue blocks” – biographical sketches – matching questions on exam
C. Be prepared to write a one-page essay on the following:

1. How did Luther understand the place of “tradition”?
2. What kinds of corruption were prevalent in the 16th C. Roman Catholic Church?
3. How did the Renaissance help pave the way for the Protestant Reformation?
4. Why is Erasmus important for any study of the 16th C.?
5. What topics did Luther address in the three treatises of 1520?
6. What happened at the Diet of Worms in 1521?
7. Describe the contributions of Philip Melancthon to the Lutheran reform.
8. Describe Zwingli’s ministry in Zurich.
9. What happened at the Marburg Colloquy?
10. Who were the Anabaptists and what did the Schleitheim Confession teach?
11. What were the contributions of Menno Simons to the Anabaptist movement?
12. How did Calvin reform the city of Geneva?
13. What was the historical setting of the St. Bartholomew’s Day Massacre?
14. What were the concerns of Jacob Arminius and how did the Synod of Dordt respond?
15. Describe the 1534 Act of Supremacy and the 1539 Six Articles Act.
16. What were Thomas Cranmer’s contributions to the English Reformation?
17. How was the Protestant cause furthered in England under Edward VI?
18. What was accomplished in the Elizabethan Settlement?
19. How did John Knox reform the church in Scotland?
20. What were some of the major decisions of the Council of Trent?
21. Discuss the goals of the Elizabethan Puritan movement?
22. What were Jacob Spener’s proposals for reforming the Lutheran Church?
23. What were the key emphases of John Wesley’s ministry?
24. How did the Enlightenment challenge Christianity?
25. What was the Puritan vision for the New World?
26. What happened in the Adopting Act of 1729?
History of Christianity II

Reading Report

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

McGrath, *Historical Theology* 

Dowley, *Introduction to the History of Christianity* 

Fortson, *Colonial Presbyterianism* 

Noll, *Confessions and Catechisms of the Reformation* 

___________________________________________            ________________________
Name                                                  Date
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Church History Surveys


History of Doctrine


McGrath, Alister. *Historical Theology*. Oxford: Blackwell Publisher, 2001


Forell, George W. ed. Christian Social Teachings. Minneapolis: Augsburg
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Brauer, Jerald C. ed. The Westminster Dictionary of Church History. Philadelphia:
Cross, F.L. and E. A. Livingstone ed. The Oxford Dictionary of the Christian Church,
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Douglas, J.D., ed. The New International Dictionary of Church History. Grand
Ferguson, Sinclair B.; Wright, David F.; and Packer, J.I., ed. New Dictionary of
Harrison, Everett F., ed. Baker's Dictionary of Theology. Reprint., Grand Rapids:
Hastings, James, ed. Encyclopedia of Religion and Ethics. 12 vols. NY: Scribners, 1908-
34. Reprint. Scribners, 1961
New York: Funk and Wagnalls Co., 1908-1914
McClintock, J. and Strong, J., ed. Cyclopedia of Biblical Theological and
1967.
Muller, Richard A. Dictionary of Latin and Greek Theological Terms. Grand Rapid:
Richardson, Alan and Bowen, John, eds. The Westminster Dictionary of Christian