



**HIST 5300 HISTORY OF CHRISTIANITY
EARLY-MEDIEVAL
INTERNET
FALL 2022**

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I hope that you are as excited about the study of church history as I am! If not, I hope that my enthusiasm will affect you positively. One of the reasons I love teaching is the opportunity to relate to students. Please feel free to contact me by email or phone or to come by my office. I want to help you in any way I can. **Call me if you have a problem or a question. Do not wait until it is too late for me to help!** This syllabus is subject to minor, necessary or beneficial changes during the semester.

I. Mission Statement

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Leavell College prepare servants to walk with Christ, proclaim His truth, and fulfill His mission.

II. Course Description:

This course provides a general historical survey of the Christian movement from its inception through the Medieval period. A brief introduction to historical method and historiography is followed by the study of significant ideas, individuals, movements, and institutions in the rise and development of Christianity prior to the Protestant Reformation.

III. Student Learning Outcomes:

- The student demonstrates an understanding of significant individuals, movements, institutions, and theological concepts in the history of Christianity.
- The student demonstrates an ability to apply principles learned from the study of the history of Christianity to church and ministry today.
- The student demonstrates an ability to communicate understanding and application of principles learned from the study of the history of Christianity.

IV. Required Texts:

There are three required textbooks for this class:

Justo González, *The Story of Christianity*, vol. 1, *The Early Church to the Dawn of the Reformation*, rev. ed. (New York: HarperOne, 2010).

Henry Bettensen and Chris Maunder, eds., *Documents of the Christian Church*. 4th ed. (New York: Oxford University Press, 2011).

There will be additional required reading from primary sources that are available on the Internet.

VII. Requirements:

- A. *Unit Tests*: There will be six (6) tests, each worth 25 points, given throughout the semester. Bonus points are available on each test. The lowest test grade will be dropped. Tests will be available throughout the course and must be completed by midnight on the last day of the unit. Each test will last 20 minutes and be timed. Tests should be taken without notes in front of you. Please study for the test, then take it "open memory." You are on the honor system. The final day by which each Unit Test must be completed is as follows:

Unit 1 Test: August 29
Unit 2 Test: September 12
Unit 3 Test: September 26
Unit 4 Test: October 24
Unit 5 Test: November 7
Unit 6 Test: December 5

- B. *Assigned Reading*: Students are expected to read the assigned pages listed for each week. A Reading Report is due on the Monday following each week's assignment based on the percentage completed (in 20% increments) of that unit's assigned reading. Each report is worth up to 2 ½ points.

An additional 5-point bonus will be awarded to students who have completed **all** the assigned reading by **December 5**. This allows you to catch up on reading you have missed during the semester. You will have an opportunity to report your bonus reading online.

- C. *Book Review of a Biography*: Each student will read and review a biography of a subject located within the parameters of the early church and medieval era of the church. Suggested biographies are included in the Selected Bibliography. Other books are allowed with the permission of the professor.

The Book Review should be between six to eight double-spaced typewritten pages in length and contain:

- (1) a bibliographical entry at the top of the first text page of the review;
- (2) a **brief** biographical sketch of the author;
- (3) a summary of the contents of the entire book;
- (4) an evaluation of the impact of this person's life and ministry on the student's personal life and ministry.

All quotations and direct references to sections in the book should be indicated by page numbers within parentheses. Citations or paraphrases from other sources should be noted and documented using either footnotes or endnotes. **Book Review of the Biography is due on September 19.**

Suggested subjects are:

- Ignatius
- Justin Martyr
- Irenaeus
- Tertullian
- Clement of Alexandria
- Origen
- Cyprian
- Athanasius
- Arius
- Constantine
- Basil the Great
- Jerome
- John Chrysostom
- Augustine

- Pelagius
- Patrick of Ireland
- Benedict of Nursia
- Gregory I the Great
- Mohammed
- Charlemagne
- Anselm of Bec
- Thomas Becket
- Peter Abelard
- Bernard of Clairvaux
- Peter Lombard
- Hildegard of Bingen
- Innocent III
- Francis of Assisi
- Dominic de Guzman
- Catherine of Siena
- Thomas Aquinas
- John Wycliffe
- Jon Huss

You may choose a subject not on this list for your biography, but you must have prior approval from the professor. Make your choice on Canvas. **DUPLICATIONS ARE NOT ALLOWED.** First come; first served.

Safe Assignment: Canvas offers a service known as “Turn-It-In.” If you click on “Assignments” on the left menu, you will be directed to “Major Research Paper – First Draft.” Follow the instructions there to submit a draft of your paper for review.

A paper submitted through this service will be compared to other papers in the database and checked for the percentage of copying from other sources. Your work will not be used for any purpose other than preventing plagiarism in the Seminary and other participating institutions. Ownership of the intellectual property contained in your written work will not be transferred to any third party.

Your paper will be assessed for the amount of material copied from other sources and returned to you. The highlighted passages do not indicate plagiarism necessarily, but they point out the percentage of your paper that can be found in other sources. You need to be sure that you properly quote and cite such passages, and you may need to put more of your paper in your own words.

By the way, you probably will find that your footnotes and bibliographical entries are highlighted. That should be expected, since the papers in the database also cite the same sources that you use.

- D. *Book Review of a Movement or Event:* Each student will read and review a book written about a movement or event located within the parameters of the early church and medieval era of the church. Suggested books are included in the Selected Bibliography. Other books are allowed with the permission of the professor.

See above for instructions about this Book Review of a Movement or Event, which is **due on November 14.**

- E. *Application Points:* Each student will participate in a Discussion in each of the six units. You will consider the lessons that you learn during each unit and compose an application point – a sermon illustration, an application to your ministry, or a lesson learned for your personal life.

After studying all assigned reading, lecture material, and bonus features in each unit, open the discussion question forum and create your own thread. Your thread should be 150-300 words. Based on your study of each unit, provide the class with ONE of the following:

- 1) A sermon illustration or teaching point that you learned from this period of church history. How could you use specific stories or examples from this unit in your preaching/teaching?
- 2) An insight learned from this period that you plan to apply in your ministry, now or in the future. How can events from this unit teach us to serve better?
- 3) An experience from this period that is inspiring to your personal devotion to Christ. How has studying this unit impacted your personal Christian life?

Each Application Point is worth 15 points. The schedule for Application Points is as follows:

- Unit 1 Application: August 22**
- Unit 2 Application: September 6**
- Unit 3 Application: September 19**
- Unit 4 Application: October 10**
- Unit 5 Application: October 31**
- Unit 6 Application: November 28**

VI. Writing Assistance

NOBTS Writing Center: Students have access to *Write Stuff, the NOBTS Writing Center*. Information about the Writing Center and the process for submitting papers can be found at <http://www.nobts.edu/writing>. The writing center staff will review the paper and work with the student as necessary to improve it before the final paper is submitted. Working with the writing center should help you in all of your academic writing, as well as help you produce an excellent biography for this course.

NOBTS Style Guide: A copy of the approved NOBTS Style Guide can be found in the course Canvas shell, or can be located online at the Writing Center's page on the seminary website at: https://www.nobts.edu/_resources/pdf/writing/StyleGuide.pdf

VII. Submission of Assignments

1. The Unit Tests, Reading Reports, and Application Points will be conducted on Canvas.
2. You will submit the Book Reviews on Canvas.
3. Please do not send your assignments to me as email attachments unless I request you to do so or unless there is a compelling reason. You may send me an email announcing that you have submitted an assignment, but, if you follow the correct procedures, I will find it. I enjoy hearing from my students, but my Inbox fills up pretty quickly with attachments, and then I have to shift them over to the proper location.

VIII. Penalties:

Unit Tests & Reading Reports: Unit Tests and Reading Reports must be submitted by the date of the unit completion. After the deadline, Unit Tests and Reading Reports will NOT be re-opened. One unit test grade will be dropped.

Application Points: Failure to participate adequately with your Application Points and to do so in a timely manner will affect the amount of points awarded.

Tardiness: A late written assignment will be assessed a **10 percent penalty** if it is **submitted after the deadline** and a **20 percent penalty** after five days. After one week past the deadline, the penalties become very severe.

Plagiarism: New Orleans Baptist Seminary maintains high academic standards and is not tolerant of plagiarism. If you copy another author's work and present it as your own, you will be caught, and the penalty could be failure on that assignment or the course or expulsion from the Seminary.

IX. Possible Points & Grading Scale:

<u>Possible Points</u>		<u>Grading Scale</u>
Reading:	35 pts.	A = 340-370 pts.
Tests (5 x 25):	125 pts.	B = 310-339 pts.
1 st Book Review:	60 pts.	C = 280-309 pts.
2 nd Book Review:	60 pts.	D = 220-279 pts.
Discussions:	<u>90 pts.</u>	F = 219 - 0 pts.
	370 pts.	

X. Need technical assistance? Contact the ITC today!

Selfserve@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the Selfserve.nobts.edu site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.)

CanvasHelpDesk@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests to this email.

ITCSupport@nobts.edu - Email for general technical questions/support requests.

504.816.8180 - Call for any technical questions/support requests.

www.NOBTS.edu/itc/ - General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.

XI. Emergency Plan

In case of hurricane or any other emergency, go to the seminary web site for information: www.nobts.edu

The administration will communicate information that relates to the seminary: the nature of the emergency, instructions for responses, evacuation, contingency plans, duration of the emergency, and plans to return to campus and/or resume the schedule.

Also, check Canvas for instructions related to this class. Because this class is available on Canvas, there should be minimal disruption unless the emergency affects electrical power and connection to the Internet.

In any emergency, communication is important, and our best means of staying connected is through the seminary's web site and Canvas.

COURSE SCHEDULE

[G] Gonzalez, Justo L. *The Story of Christianity*.

[B] Bettenson, Henry and Chris Maunder. *Documents of the Christian Church*.

[I] Some primary sources will be accessed via Internet.

Week	Week Starting	Topic	Assignments Due
Week 1	Aug 15	Context of Early Church	G: Introduction & chapters 2-4
Week 2	Aug 22	Persecution & Martyrdom Ante-Nicene Leaders & Church	Unit 1 Application G: Chapters 5-7, 9-12 B: Tacitus, <i>Annales</i> 15.44; Correspondence of Pliny and Trajan B: <i>Martyrdom of Polycarp</i> B: Cyprian, <i>On the Unity of the Church</i> I: Ignatius, Letter to the Romans http://www.ccel.org/ccel/schaff/anf01.v.v.html I: Tertullian, <i>Apology</i> (Chapters 2, 20) http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/text/terullian01.html I: <i>Passion of Perpetua and Felicitas</i> https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/source/perpetua.asp
Week 3	Aug 29	Heresy & Orthodoxy	Unit 1 Test G: Chapter 8 B: The Apostle's Creed; Muratorian Canon I: Athanasius, Paschal Epistle http://www.ccel.org/ccel/schaff/npnf204.xxv.iii.iii.xxv.html
Week 4	Sep 5 <i>Labor Day</i>	Church & State Council of Nicea	Unit 2 Application (due Sep 6) G: Chapters 13-18 B: Heresies concerning the Person of Christ B: Creed of Nicea
Week 5	Sep 12	Councils 2-4 Nicene & Post-Nicene Leaders	Unit 2 Test G: Chapters 19-23; pp. 295-301 B: Nicene Creed; Athanasius, <i>On the Incarnation</i> ; Eutychianism
Week 6	Sep 19	Augustine Early Church Worship	1st Book Review Unit 3 Application G: Chapters 24-26 I: Augustine, <i>Confessions</i> (Book 8) http://www.ccel.org/ccel/augustine/confessions.xi.html B: Augustine vs. Pelagius

Week 7	Sep 26	Overview of Medieval Church Western Church	Unit 3 Test G: pp. 263-288 B: Rule of Benedict
FALL BREAK	Oct 3-7		
Week 8	Oct 10	Eastern Church Rise of Islam	Unit 4 Application G: pp. 289-294; 302-314 I: Excerpt from Qur'an http://www.hti.umich.edu/cgi/k/koran/koran-idx?type=DIV0&byte=1320 You are responsible only to read verses 2.105-140, which include what the Qur'an says about Christians.
Week 9	Oct 17	Medieval Politics	G: Chapter 29
Week 10	Oct 24	Monastic Reform Papacy through Gregory VII	Unit 4 Test G: Chapter 30
Week 11	Oct 31	Crusades Papacy: Zenith to Decline	Unit 5 Application G: Chapter 31; pp. 363-368; 380-410 B: Pope & Imperial Elections; Bull "Clericis Laicos"; Bull "Unam Sanctam"
Week 12	Nov 7	Monastic Developments Scholasticism	Unit 5 Test G: pp. 357-362; 369-379 B: Rule of Francis of Assisi B: Anselm, The Ontological Argument from <i>Proslogion</i> ; <i>Cur Deus Homo?</i> B: Thomas Aquinas, <i>Summa Theologica</i>
Week 13	Nov 14	Sacraments Renaissance	2nd Book Review G: Chapters 32-33; 35 I: Thomas à Kempis, <i>The Imitation of Christ</i> (Book 1, Chapter 1) http://www.leaderu.com/cyber/books/imitation/imb1c01-10.html#RTFToC13
THANKSGIVING BREAK	Nov 21-25		
Week 14	Nov 28	Dawn of the Reformation	Unit 6 Application G: pp. 411-432
Finals Week	Dec 5		Unit 6 Test Bonus Reading Report

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Early Church & Medieval Era Biographies

Damick, Andrew Stephen. *Bearing God: The Life and Works of Ignatius of Antioch, the God-Bearer.*

Barnard, Leslie W. *Justin Martyr: his life and thought.*

Karl Gottlob Semisch, *Justin Martyr: His Life, Writings, and Opinions.*

Robert Grant, *Irenaeus of Lyons.*

Barnes, Timothy David. *Tertullian: A Historical and Literary Study.*

Osborn, Eric. *Tertullian: First Theologian of the West.*

Daly, Cahal B. *Tertullian : the Puritan and his influence.*

Ferguson, John. *Clement of Alexandria.*

Heine, Ronald E. *Origen : scholarship in the service of the Church.*

Trigg, Joseph Wilson. *Origen.*

Arnold, Brian J. *Cyprian of Carthage : his life & impact.*

Leithart, Peter J. *Athanasius.*

Weinandy, Thomas G. *Athanasius and his legacy.*

Williams, Rowan. *Arius : heresy and tradition.*

Leithart, Peter J. *Defending Constantine.*

Eusebius of Caesarea. *The Life of the Blessed Emperor Constantine.*

Smith, Richard Travers. *St. Basil the Great.*

Jones, Marvin. *Basil of Caesarea: His Life and Impact.*

Kelly, J. N. D. *Jerome : his life, writings, and controversies.*

Kelly, J. N. D. *Golden mouth : the story of John Chrysostom--ascetic, preacher, bishop.*

Peter Brown, *Augustine of Hippo.*

James O'Donnell, *Augustine.*

Bonner, Gerald. *St. Augustine of Hippo : life and controversies.*

Ferguson, John. *Pelagius : a historical and theological study.*

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De Paor, Mair B. *Patrick: The Pilgrim Apostle of Ireland.*

McCann, Justin. *Saint Benedict.*

Lindsay, Thomas Fanshawe. *Saint Benedict : his life and work.*

Butcher, Carmen Acevedo. *Man of Blessing: A Life of St. Benedict.*

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Markus, R. A. *Gregory the Great and His World.*

Ali Dashti: *23 Years: A Study of the Prophetic Career of Mohammad.*

Almedingen, E. M. *Charlemagne: A Study.*

Lamb, Harold. *Charlemagne : the legend and the man.*

Winston, Richard. *Charlemagne : from the hammer to the cross.*

Evans, G. R. *Anselm.*

Wilmot-Buxton, E. M. *Anselm.*

Cunnington, Susan. *The story of Thomas Becket : Archbishop of Canterbury.*

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Abelard, Peter. *The Story of My Misfortunes.*

Lloyd, Roger Bradshaigh. *Peter Abelard : the orthodox rebel.*

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Evans, G. R. *Bernard of Clairvaux.*

Colish, Marcia L. *Peter Lombard.*

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Maddocks, Fiona. *Hildegard of Bingen : the woman of her age.*

Flanagan, Sabina. *Hildegard of Bingen, 1098-1179 : a visionary life.*

Smith, Charles Edward. *Innocent III : church defender.*

Thompson, Augustine. *Francis of Assisi : a new biography.*

Higgins, Christopher. *Joy in the journey an introduction to the life & thought of Francis of Assisi.*

Robson, Michael. *St. Francis of Assisi : the legend and the life*.

Jarrett, Bede. *Life of Saint Dominic : 1170-1221*.

Lehner, Francis C. *Saint Dominic : biographical documents*.

Raymond of Capua. *The Life of St. Catherine of Siena*.

Curtayne, Alice. *Saint Catherine of Siena*.

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O'Meara, Thomas F. *Thomas Aquinas theologian*.

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Spinka, Matthew. *John Hus : a biography*.

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Early Church & Medieval Era Movements & Events Resources

Cohick, Lynn H. and Amy Brown Hughes. *Christian Women in the Patristic World: Their Influence, Authority, and Legacy in the Second through Fifth Centuries*.

Hartog, Paul, ed. *The Contemporary Church and the Early Church: Case Studies in Ressourcement*.

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Butler, Rex D. *The New Prophecy and "New Visions": Evidence of Montanism in "The Passion of Perpetua and Felicitas"*.

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