



**HIST 5300 HISTORY OF CHRISTIANITY
EARLY-MEDIEVAL
NEW ORLEANS BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
DIVISION OF THEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL STUDIES
FALL 2022
TUESDAY & THURSDAY 12:30pm-1:50pm**

JOSHUA C. LAY

layjosh@gmail.com

Office: Leavell Center CP Office
205-478-1945

I hope you are as excited about studying 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, text me, or email 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 before 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. Tests: There will be six (6) tests, each worth 25 points, given throughout the semester. 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. Exams 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 unit requirements must be completed is as follows:

Unit 1: September 16

Unit 2: September 30

Unit 3: October 21

Unit 4: November 4

Unit 5: November 18

Unit 6: December 6

B. Assigned Reading: Students are expected to read the assigned pages listed for each unit. A report is due on the last day of each unit on the percentage completed (in 20% increments) of that unit's assigned reading. Each report is worth up to 5 points.

An additional 5-point bonus will be awarded to students who have completed **all** the assigned reading by **December 6**. This allows you to catch up on the 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 subjects are listed below, and 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. The **Book Review of the Biography is due on September 20.**

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. Send me your top three choices by email. 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 documents 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 the Book Review of a Movement or Event, which is **due on November 11.**

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 Exams and Reading Reports will be conducted on Canvas. Unit Tests and Reading Reports are under each respective unit.
2. You will submit the Book Reviews under Assignments.
3. Written assignments are to be submitted as PDFs. **Assignments submitted as anything other than a PDF will be assessed a 5-point penalty.**
4. 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 I will find it if you follow the correct procedures. I enjoy hearing from my students, but my Inbox fills up quickly with attachments, and then I have to shift them to the proper location.

VIII. Penalties:

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

Tardiness: A late written assignment will be assessed a **10 percent penalty if 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 failing that assignment, the course, or even expulsion from the Seminary.**

IX. Possible Points & Grading Scale:

<u>Possible Points</u>	<u>Grading Scale</u>
Reading:	30 pts. A = 275-255 pts.
Tests (5 x 25):	125 pts. B = 254-232 pts.
1 st Book Review:	60 pts. C = 231-211 pts.
2 nd Book Review:	60 pts. D = 210-189 pts.
	275 pts. F = 188 - 0 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.)

Canvas.NOBTS.com Click on the “Help” button for technical questions/support requests regarding the NOBTS Canvas System. You can also email questions to Canvas@nobts.edu.

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 a hurricane or any other emergency, go to the seminary website for information: www.nobts.edu.

The administration will communicate information related 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 an emergency, communication is essential, and our best means of staying connected is through the seminary's website and Canvas.

XII. Attendance Policy

Students are expected to attend and participate in the class sessions. Any student missing more than nine hours may receive an automatic grade of "F" for the course. Three tardies will count as one absence

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 the 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	G: Chapters 5-6 B: Tacitus, <i>Annales</i> 15.44; Correspondence of Pliny and Trajan I: Ignatius, Letter to the Romans http://www.ccel.org/ccel/schaff/anf01.v.v.html
Week 3	Aug 29	Persecution & Martyrdom	G: Chapters 10 & 12 B: <i>Martyrdom of Polycarp</i> I: <i>Passion of Perpetua and Felicitas</i> https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/source/perpetua.asp
Week 4	Sep 5	Ante-Nicene Leaders & Church Heresy & Orthodoxy	G: Chapters 7-9 & 11 I: Tertullian, <i>Apology</i> (Chapters 2, 20) http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/text/tertullian01.html B: Cyprian, <i>On the Unity of the Church</i>

Week 5	Sep 12	Heresy & Canon	Unit One Assignments B: The Apostle's Creed; Muratorian Canon I: Athanasius, Paschal Epistle http://www.ccel.org/ccel/schaff/npnf204.xxv.iii.iii.xxv.html
Week 6	Sep 19	Church & State Council of Nicea	Biography Book Review G: Chapters 13-18 B: Heresies concerning the Person of Christ B: Creed of Nicea and Nicene Creed; Athanasius, <i>On the Incarnation</i>
Week 7	Sep 26	Councils 2-4 Nicene & Post-Nicene Leaders	Unit Two Assignments G: Chapters 19-23 B: Eutychianism
FALL BREAK	OCT 3-7		
Week 8	Oct 10	Augustine Early Church Worship	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 9	Oct 17	Overview of Medieval Church Western & Eastern Church	Unit Three Assignments G: Chapters 27-28 B: Rule of Benedict
Week 10	Oct 24	Rise of Islam Medieval Politics	G: Chapter 29 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 11	Oct 31	Monastic Reform Papacy through Gregory VII	Unit Four Assignments G: Chapter 30
Week 12	Nov 7	Crusades	Event or Movement Book Review G: Chapter 31

Week 13	Nov 14	Papacy: Zenith to Decline Monastic Developments	Unit Five Assignments G: Chapters 32-33 B: Pope & Imperial Elections; Bull “Clericis Laicos”; Bull “Unam Sanctam” B: Rule of Francis of Assisi
THANKSGIVING BREAK		Nov 21-25	
Week 14	Nov 28	Scholasticism Renaissance & Humanism Dawn of the Reformation	G: Chapter 34-35 B: Anselm, The Ontological Argument from <i>Proslogion</i> ; <i>Cur Deus Homo?</i> B: Thomas Aquinas, <i>Summa Theologica</i> 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
Finals Week	DEC 5-7		Unit Six Assignments

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.*

Hanson, R. P. C. *Saint Patrick: His Origins and Career.*

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*.

Grabner, Sigrid. *In the Eye of the Storm: A Biography of Gregory the Great*.

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*.

Hutton, William Holden. *Thomas Becket: Archbishop of Canterbury*.

Knowles, David. *Thomas Becket*.

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

Lloyd, Roger Bradshaigh. *Peter Abelard: The Orthodox Rebel*.

Gilson, Etienne. *Heloise and Abelard*.

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

Colish, Marcia L. *Peter Lombard*.

Rosemann, Philipp. *Peter Lombard*.

Butcher, Carmen Acevedo. *Hildegard of Bingen*.

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*.

Healy, Nicholas M. *Thomas Aquinas: Theologian of the Christian life*.

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

Geisler, Norman L. *Thomas Aquinas: An Evangelical Appraisal*.

Parker, G. H. W. *The Morning Star*.

Stacey, John. *John Wyclif*.

Lahey, Stephen E. *John Wyclif*.

Kenny, Anthony. *Wyclif in his Times*.

Spinka, Matthew. *John Hus: A Biography*.

Schaff, David S. *John Huss: His Life, Teachings, and Death, After Five Hundred Years*.

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*.

Litfin, Bryan M. *After Acts: Exploring the Lives and Legends of the Apostles*.

Shelton, W. Brian. *Quest for the Historical Apostles: Tracing Their Lives and Legacies*.

Litfin, Bryan M. *Early Christian Martyr Stories: An Evangelical Introduction with New Translations*.

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

Metzger, Bruce M. *The Canon of the New Testament*.

Hartog, Paul, ed. *Orthodoxy and Heresy in Early Christian Contexts: Reconsidering the Bauer Thesis*.

Trevett, Christine. *Montanism: Gender, Authority, and the New Prophecy*.

McGrath, Alister. *Heresy: A History of Defending the Truth*.

Köstenberger, Andreas J. and Michael J. Kruger. *The Heresy of Orthodoxy*.

Whilhite, David E. *The Gospel According to Heretics*.

Jenkins, Philip. *The Lost History of Christianity*.

Litfin, Bryan. *Getting to Know the Church Fathers: An Evangelical Introduction*.

Oden, Thomas C. *How Africa Shaped the Christian Mind: Rediscovering the African Seedbed of Western Christianity*.

Wilken, Robert L. *The Spirit of Early Christian Thought: Seeking the Face of God*.

Hurtado, Larry W. *Destroyer of the Gods: Early Christian Distinctiveness in the Roman World*.

Daunton-Fear, Andrew. *Healing in the Early Church*.

Ferngren, Gary. *Medicine and Health Care in Early Christianity*.

McGowan, Andrew B. *Ancient Christian Worship*.

Stewart, Columba. *Prayer and Community: The Benedictine Tradition*.

Lawrence, C.H. *Medieval Monasticism*.

Greg Peters, *The Story of Monasticism*.

Southern, R. W. *Western Society and the Church in the Middle Ages*.

Braswell, George W. Jr. *Islam: Its Prophet, Peoples, Politics, and Power*

Reynolds, Gabriel Said. *The Emergence of Islam: Classical Traditions in Contemporary Perspective*.

Riley-Smith, Jonathan. *The Crusades: A History*.

Stark, Rodney. *God's Battalions: The Case for the Crusades*.

Ware, Timothy. *The Orthodox Church*.

Cross, Richard. *The Medieval Christian Philosophers: An Introduction*.

Oberman, Heiko A. *The Dawn of the Reformation: Essays in Late Medieval and Early Reformation Thought*.