

THCM 2350 Survey of Church History I

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
South Florida Extension Center
Professor: Dr. Joseph J. Finn
Fall Term, 2014
Monday, 8:00 pm – 10:00 pm
ISBN - 10:0805432884

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Course Description:

The purpose of this course is to trace the history of Christianity from its beginnings through the Protestant Reformation. Special attention will be given to the origins, expansions, key figures, theological development and institutional growth of Christianity, as well as, the relationship of church and state.

Student Objectives:

At the conclusion of the course, the student will:

1. Be able to identify major dates and events in Church History;
2. Be able to identify major personalities in Church History;
3. Be able to identify major themes and emphases in Church History;
4. Be able to relate past events to current situations; and
5. Possess a greater appreciation for historical studies.

Textbooks:

Baker, Robert A. *A Summary of Christian History*, rev. ed. Nashville: Broadman, 1994.

Course Methodology:

This course will consist of lectures, group discussions, Power Point presentations, audio-visual presentations and student delivered oral reports.

Course Requirements:

1. School policies concerning absences and tardiness will be strictly enforced. Any student missing more than one-fourth of the classroom hours (9 hours) **will automatically receive a grade of "F" for the course.** Every three occasions of arriving late for class or leaving early from class will be counted as one absence. Roll will be taken at the beginning of each period. It is the responsibility of the student to contact the professor if he/she is tardy and roll has already been taken.
2. Two examinations will be given during the semester, a **Mid-term** and a **Final** exam. These tests will cover both materials discussed in class and material taken from the readings. These tests will consist of objective sections (matching, true/false, and multiple answer questions) and subjective sections (identification and essay questions). Each exam will only cover material from that particular section including the Final exam. Any student who misses the Mid-term exams is expected to schedule a make-up exam within one week of the missed exam. All make-up exams are assessed a 5 point penalty and are essay in form. Any mid-term exam not made-up within two weeks of the original exam date **will be given the grade of zero.** Each of these exams will count for 30% of the semester average.
3. Each student will construct a class notebook which will be due on the day of the Final exam. The notebook will be made up of the following 6 independent sections: Class Reflection Papers, Class notes, Lesson Outlines (downloaded from Blackboard), Biographical Reports, Reading Questions, Handouts and Reading Notes. Each notebook is to be placed in a three-ring binder and **must contain all six sections. You may keep your notebook, but make sure the professor sees it for your 10% of the semester grade. The notebook will compose 10% of the semester average.**

4. Each student will write a **6–10 page** (produced on a computer) Biographical Report on a specific historical figure (which will be assigned by the professor). This report ought to provide biographical information about the individual, as well as discuss his/her historical significance. Each student is expected to use a least 5 different sources, with at least one source being an electronic document. If possible, students should make use of the writings of the specific historical figure. A bibliography will be included in the report to be turned in to the professor, but it is not necessary for the reports to be distributed to the class. Each student will produce enough copies of their report to distribute a copy to everyone in the class. Each student will then present a 5-minute oral report which will discuss the historical figure written about in their report. The student should discuss the significance of the individual and be prepared to answer any questions about the individual that the class may have. **The reports will be given on November 17th, 2014.** The report will be graded on both content and delivery. **Any student who is absent will receive a grade of zero** for the assignment and will be unable to make-up the grade. **The report will compose 20% of the Final semester grade.**
5. **Time Line:** Each student will construct a time line of church history from the Early Church up to the English Reformation (people, places, events and dates are to be included and examples will be provided.)

6. The Final Grade for the course will consist of the following:

Mid-Term Exam	30%
Final Exam	30%
Time Line	10%
Notebooks	10%
<u>Biographical Report</u>	20%

Final Grade	100%
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Course Schedule:

Week 1: Aug. 18

Introduction

The World of the First Century

Week 2: Aug. 25

Early Writings of the Church

The Persecution of the Church

Early Heresies

Week 3: Sept. 1 – Off, Labor Day, No Class

The Ecumenical Councils

The Ecumenical Councils

Week 4: Sept. 8

Early Ideas Surrounding the Sacraments

Early Worship

Augustine of Hippo

Week 5: Sept. 15

Augustine of Hippo

Introduction to the Medieval Period

Barbarian Invasions

Week 6: Sept. 22

Rise of Islam

Division between the East and West

Monasticism

Week 7: Sept. 29

Feudalism

Rise of the Papacy

Crusades

Week 8: Oct. 6

Crusades

Review Day

Mid-Term Examinations

Readings

Handouts-Mary and The 1st
Century Church

Baker 1-12

Baker 13-26

Handouts-The Incarnation

Baker 26-42

Baker 43-56

Handouts-Finding The Truth

Baker 57-72

Baker 73-84

Baker 85-101

Baker 103-114

Handouts-Christians and
Muslims

Baker 115-122

Handouts-Christians and
Muslims

Baker 123-138

Handouts-A Deadly Give and
Take

Week 9: Oct. 13

The Decline of Papal Authority
The Inquisition
Scholasticism

Handouts-Homeland Defense
Baker 139-159

***Fall Break: Oct. 13-17**

Week 10: Oct. 20

The Mendicant Orders
Early Church Reformers
Early Reformer

Baker 161-181
Handouts-The War of Religion
Baker 183-192
Handouts-Jan Hus

Week 11: Oct. 27

Context of the Reformation
The Work of Martin Luther
Luther continued

Baker 193-202
Handouts-Luther
Handouts-Tempo of Worship

Week 12: Nov. 3

Week 13: Nov. 10

Baker 203-214
Handouts-Allies or Enemies?

Week 14: Nov. 17

The Work of John Calvin
The Counter-Reformation
The English Reformation

Baker 215-225
Baker 239-267
Baker 269-278

**Week 15: Nov. 24 Thanksgiving Break
No Class**

Baker 239-267

Week 16: Dec. 1

Final Exam Review

Baker 215-278

Final Exam: 8 pm Monday, December 8th

Bibliography

Baker, Robert A. *A Summary of Christian History*, rev. ed. Nashville: Broadman, 1994.

Bettenson, Henry. *Documents of the Christian Church*, 2nd. ed. London : Oxford University Press, 1967.

Cross, F.L., and E.A. Livingstone, ed. *The Oxford Dictionary of the Christian Church*, 3rd. ed. London: Oxford University Press, 1997.

George, Timothy. *Theology of the Reformers*. Nashville: Broadman, 1988.

Gonzalez, Justo. *The Story of Christianity*. San Francisco: Harper and Row, 1984.

Kelly, J.N.D. *Early Christian Doctrines*. San Francisco: Harper and Row, 1978.

Latourette, Kenneth Scott. *A History of Christianity*. New York: Harper and Row, 1953.

**For Additional Bibliographic Sources,
Please See The Professor**