

HISR9301 Early-Medieval Christianity
New Orleans Baptist Theological
Seminary
Division of Theological & Historical
Studies
Fall 2020



Rex Butler
Professor of Church History & Patristics
Occupying the John T. Westbrook Chair of
Church History
rbutler@nobts.edu

DODD 105
504-282-4455 X. 3214

Mission Statement

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

Core Value Focus

The seminary has five core values: Doctrinal Integrity, Spiritual Vitality, Mission Focus, Characteristic Excellence, and Servant Leadership. The core value focus for this academic year is Mission Focus.

Curriculum Competencies

All graduates of NOBTS are expected to have at least a minimum level of competency in each of the following areas: Biblical Exposition, Christian Theological Heritage, Disciple Making, Interpersonal Skills, Servant Leadership, Spiritual and Character Formation, and Worship Leadership. The curriculum competency addressed in this course is Christian Theological Heritage.

Course Description

This colloquium is designed for and led by Doctor of Philosophy and Masters of Theology students under the supervision of the faculty of Theological and Historical Division, with focused readings in Early and Medieval Christianity.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Each student will read from various texts dealing with early and medieval Christianity, including some significant primary sources.
2. Students will demonstrate their understanding of readings in classroom presentations.
3. Students will demonstrate their ability to offer creative critique and synthesis of the material in classroom discussions.

Technical Assistance

For assistance regarding technology, consult ITC (504-816-8180) or the following websites:

1. Selfserve@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the Selfserve.nobts.edu site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.)
2. BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Blackboard Learning Management System NOBTS.Blackboard.com.
3. ITCSupport@nobts.edu - Email for general technical questions/support requests.
4. www.NOBTS.edu/itc/ - General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.

Help for Writing Papers at “The Write Stuff”

NOBTS maintains a Writing Center designed to improve English writing at the graduate level. Students can receive writing guides, tips, and valuable information to help in becoming a better writer.

Plagiarism on Written Assignments

NOBTS has a no tolerance policy for plagiarism. Plagiarism in certain cases may result in expulsion from the seminary. See the NOBTS Student Handbook for definition, penalties, and policies associated with plagiarism.

Statement on Biblical Authority

In order to develop competent theological researchers for the twenty-first century church and academy, students in this course will be exposed to seminal works in Christian theology from a wide array of theological perspectives, including the influential works of many prominent non-evangelical theologians. Students are expected to become familiar with and demonstrate advanced, biblically guided critical engagement with the works of these thinkers.

The course instructor operates under the assumption that the Bible is the inspired, totally true and trustworthy Word of God which is “profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness” (2 Tim. 3:16). The Baptist Faith and Message (2000) provides the confessional framework in which I lead the course.

Reading Assignments (100%)

Each student will read the secondary text, W. H. C. Frend, *The Rise of Christianity*, and the primary text, Eusebius, *Church History*. Each student will be assigned other secondary and primary sources and will lead discussions of those books. For each class meeting, students will prepare and present book reviews based on the texts assigned to them. These book reviews should be 2-4 single-spaced pages in length and should include a bibliographic entry, brief biographical data about the author, a summary, and discussion questions. Students are recommended but not required to read every source included in the colloquium.

Fall Colloquium Reading List

Meeting 1

Frend, <i>The Rise of Christianity</i> , pp. 1-517	S	Both	N/A
Eusebius, <i>Church History, Books 1-5</i>	P	Both	N/A
Musurillo, <i>Acts of the Christian Martyrs</i>	P	Landon	379
McGowan, <i>Ancient Christian Worship</i>	S	Tommy	305
Augustine, <i>City of God</i>	P	Landon	272

Meeting 2

Frend, <i>The Rise of Christianity</i> , pp. 522-906	S	Both	N/A
Eusebius, <i>Church History, Books 6-10</i>	P	Both	N/A
Cohick & Hughes, <i>Christian Women in the Patristic World</i>	S	Landon	336
Maximus the Confessor, <i>On the Ecclesiastical Mystagogy</i>	P	Tommy	104
John of Damascus, <i>Three Treatises on the Divine Image</i>	P	Tommy	163

Meeting 3

Cannon, <i>History of Christianity in the Middle Ages</i>	S	Tommy	352
Collins, <i>Keepers of the Keys of Heaven</i>	S	Landon	600
Riley-Smith, <i>The Crusades</i>	S	Tommy	387
Allen & Amt, <i>The Crusades: A Reader</i>	P	Landon	430
Lawrence, <i>Medieval Monasticism</i>	S	Tommy	345
Brother Lawrence, <i>The Practice of the Presence of God</i>	P	Landon	158

Meeting 4

Knowles, <i>The Evolution of Medieval Thought</i>	S	Tommy	379
Van Nieuwenhove, <i>An Introduction to Medieval Theology</i>	S	Landon	307
Fairweather, ed., <i>A Scholastic Miscellany: Anselm to Ockham</i>	P	Tommy	456
Thomas à Kempis, <i>Imitation of Christ</i>	P	Tommy	169
Erasmus, <i>Praise of Folly</i>	P	Landon	224

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