

The Church's History: To the Reformation
CH 3312.120 (online)
Austin Graduate School of Theology
Fall 1, 2019

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I want you to do well in this course, so please let me know if you are having difficulty with the class material.

Course Description:

An overview of the history of Christianity from its beginnings through the Reformation, highlighting major developments.

Core Values:

Because we love God, we love the church he created and redeemed. Because we love his church, we take her history seriously.

Course Objectives:

In light of the school's mission and objectives, the student who successfully completes this course will be able to:

1. Identify significant turning points in the history of the church.
2. Define vocabulary and concepts foundational in the history of doctrine.
3. Identify particular historical figures, events, and theological trajectories that affect the church today.
4. Evaluate current issues of faith and practice in the church from an informed historical perspective.
5. Understand the identity of today's church in continuity with its past.

Required Course Textbooks:

Ferguson, Everett. *Church History, Volume One: From Christ to Pre-Reformation*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2013. ISBN 978-0-310-51656-9.

A Bible will also be helpful for consultation.

Academic Honesty:

AGST places a high priority on honesty and a biblical commitment to truth. Incidents of **cheating, plagiarism**, or any other activities deemed dishonest will result in penalties. These penalties may range from receiving a zero (0%) on the assignment to failing the course or dismissal from the school. (According to Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, to "plagiarize" is to steal and use as one's own the ideas, words, etc., of another. Copying content from the internet without citation, as well as turning in work done for another class, would fall under this category of dishonesty.)

Course Requirements:

The course requirements will be fulfilled as one progresses through the 8 modules of the course. Each module begins on Monday. Specifically, the following exercises will be required of each student:

1. Reading, viewing, and preparation. You are responsible for completing all the readings assigned for each module. You are expected to complete all assigned readings prior to engaging in online discussion. The textbook readings ("Ferguson") for each module are indicated by chapter numbers in the syllabus. Note important people and ideas (for some guidance, see the "Who's Who and What's What" below). Supplemental readings and online videos will be available through website links or provided by the instructor through the course platform. The instructor will also provide brief handouts in each module on important topics that will provide a supplement to the textbook material.

Lecture videos with power points will accompany some of these handouts. These lectures, which will not recapitulate the textbook, will assume that you have read the assignments and know the material. Supplemental videos will occasionally be required as well. Be prepared to take notes on the readings and the lectures.

Participation. Although there will be discussion questions to answer and engage (see 2. below), students may wish to raise other questions and make additional comments based on the course material. The best place to do this is through a "conversation," accessed through "Inbox." As with all interaction in this course, comments must be thoughtful and respectful.

2. Online discussion. The class will engage in ongoing dialogue about the material. Five modules (1, 2, 4, 6, 7) are accompanied by a question for discussion. After completing the respective readings and lecture, you are *required* to post an answer to each question. Your post should be thoughtful and substantive, interacting with the readings (especially the primary sources) and lecture. Your post must be at least 200 words. You will not be able to read other replies until you have posted your own original and unique answer.

After you have posted your own response, then you are free to read other students' responses. You are free to comment on as many as you like, but you are *required* to offer thoughtful and substantive comments on at least two different posts. The two comments must be at least 100 words each.

The forum discussion is a means for "classroom" peer interaction, and it may carry on into the next week. In order to receive full credit, responses to the initial question and to one another must be thoughtful, substantive, and grammatically and stylistically proper. (These are not text messages to

your loved one.) (10 pts. each = **50 pts.**)

In addition to the designated discussion questions, students may initiate a “conversation” for any kind of questions and comments on the readings and lectures. As noted in 1. above, you may participate in this ongoing discussion as frequently as you like.

3. Quizzes. Connected to the lectures in five modules (1, 2, 4, 6, 7), a quiz will be given over the vocabulary words. See the list of vocabulary words (divided into five lists) in the Course Home module. **You may not use the lists while taking the quiz.** (total of **35 pts.**) There will be no make-up quizzes, so make sure each is completed before the deadline.

One of the statements in Module 1 will ask you to agree that you will not use any of the prohibited aids on quizzes and exams.

4. Exams: 65, 66, and 75 pts. (**206 pts.** total). Three unit exams will cover material from lectures, outlines, and the textbook. Exams will normally consist of objective questions, vocabulary definitions from the quizzes, a few short answer questions, and an essay. Study outlines and lecture notes. **No aids** (books, notes, or online resources) **may be used on the exams.** Exams must be completed before the deadline. In certain emergency cases, though, I reserve the right to allow make-ups, but only with a significant deduction of points.

Exam 1 will cover Vocabulary lists 1-2 and material from Modules 1-3.

Exam 2 will cover Vocabulary lists 1-3 and material from Modules 4-5.

Exam 3 will cover Vocabulary lists 1-5 and material from Modules 6-8.

5. Research paper: **100 pts.** Write an original research paper (1,800-2,200 words, double-spaced) on the topic of your choice, within the scope and chronological boundaries of the course.

a) You may examine a particular thinker, idea, or event of church history (see below for possible topics). Or...

b) You may discuss the impact of church history on a particular area of life, church, art, family, worship, or confessions and catechisms, etc. You may trace the influence of a particular thinker, event, or doctrine. I want to know how church history impacted a particular area of life of interest to you.

Use at least one primary source besides course readings, and at least four secondary sources besides Ferguson. The paper should demonstrate that you read and interacted with these sources.

Use standard Turabian/Chicago Manual of Style footnotes. Take note of the following due dates:

a) Email me about your topic **by Week/Module 2.**

b) Annotated bibliography: A bibliography of at least five sources, due **by Week/Module 4.**

c) Detailed outline (at least one page long), due **by or before Week/Module 6.**

d) The paper is due by the end of **Week/Module 8.** Late papers will be reduced by 10%

(e.g., A to B) for every half week it is late (beginning with the due date).

Papers will not be accepted two weeks after the due date. Evaluation criteria:

Thesis, style, interaction with sources.

Grading Scale:

Total points: 391

90-100% = A 80-89 = B (“Good”) 70-79 = C (“Average”) 60-69 = D 0-59 = F

Course Schedule:

As you can see on the course homepage, this course has eight modules. Each module includes activities, handouts, a brief video lecture, and an assessment (quiz or exam). Five of the modules have forum questions. In addition, there are occasional writing assignments. Each module corresponds to a week; the course lasts for 8 weeks. A “week” will be considered Monday through Sunday. In order to count for credit, all content for each module must be completed by the end of the respective week, that is, before midnight (Central Time) each Sunday night. For example, all activities and content for Module 1, including your initial Forum response and your assessment (quiz), should be completed by Sunday at 11:59 p.m. It is important to keep up with the course; late work will not be accepted.

Module 1 Importance of Studying Church History; Backgrounds of Christianity and Empire; Apostolic Church in the 1st Century

Read Stanglin, “Restorationism and Church History,” *Christian Studies* 26 (2013–14): 21-32, available at <http://austingrad.edu/Christian%20Studies/CS%2026/Restorationism.pdf>

Watch Greco-Roman world video.

Also read 1 Maccabees 1-2; 2 Maccabees 6-7; 4 Maccabees 1, 5-7, 15, 18, available at <http://www.biblestudytools.com/apocrypha/nrsa/>

Ferguson, chs. 1-2

Module 2 Apostolic Fathers; Outward Focus and Life in the Empire; Trouble from Without: Persecutions; Second-century Apologists

Read Didache 1-2, 7-13, 15, at <http://www.thedidache.com/>

Also read 1 Clement 1-3, 5, 42, 44-48, at <http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/text/1clement-roberts.html>

Also read *Epistle to Diognetus* 5, at <http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/text/diognetus-roberts.html>

Also read Clement of Alexandria, *Who Is the Rich Man that Shall Be Saved?*, sect. 1-2, 11-14, 16-18 <http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/text/clement-richman.html>

Also read Ignatius of Antioch, *To the Romans*, at <http://www.newadvent.org/fathers/0107.htm>

Also read Justin Martyr, *1 Apology* 1-6, 61, 65-67, at <http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/text/justinmartyr-firstapology.html>

Ferguson, 3-4

Module 3 Trouble from Within: Heresy; Response to Heresies; Old Catholic Fathers

Read Mt. 7:15-20; 24:23-24; Acts 20:28-30, 35; 1 Cor. 11:18-19, 23; 15:3-5; 16:21; 2 Cor. 11:13; 12:11-12; 13:5-6; Gal. 1:8-9; 6:11-16; Phil. 3:2-3, 17-19; Col. 4:16, 18; 2 Thess. 2:1-2, 15; 3:6, 17; 1 Tim. 4:1-3; 2 Tim. 3:1-9; 4:3-4; 2 Pet. 2:1-3; 3:14-16; 1 Jn. 4:1-3; 2 Jn. 7-11; Jude 3-4; Rev. 2:6, 14-15, 20, 24

Ferguson, 5-9

Exam 1

Module 4 Constantine the Great; Arian Controversy and Council of Nicaea; Nicene/Post-Nicene Fathers; Liturgical Case Studies: Church Music and Baptism

Read attachments on Constantine, Arianism, and the selection from Egeria's Travels 45-48.

Ferguson, 10-12

Module 5 Ecumenical Councils of the Early Church; Augustine and the Pelagian Controversy; Germanic Invasions and Fall of Rome

Read: Pelagius to Demetriades, chs. 1-3, 8-9, 11, 17-20, at <https://epistolae.ctl.columbia.edu/letter/1296.html>

Also read Canons of Orange (529), at <https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/halsall/basis/orange.txt>

Also read attachment on Germanic invasions

Also read Augustine, *City of God*, book V, chapters 21-22, at <http://www.newadvent.org/fathers/120105.htm>

Ferguson, 13-15

Exam 2

Module 6 Development of Roman Papacy; Rise of Islam; Medieval Church and State; Crusades

Read John of Damascus, "Heresy of the Ishmaelites," at http://orthodoxinfo.com/general/stjohn_islam.aspx

Ferguson, 16-20

Module 7 Scholastic Theology; Monasticism; Medieval Dissenters

Read attachment of selections from Thomas à Kempis, *Imitation of Christ*

Ferguson, 21-23

Module 8 Babylonian Captivity and Papal Schism; Forerunners and Background of the Reformation; Protestant Reformation

Read attachment with excerpts from Boniface VIII, Wyclif's condemned propositions, and Erasmus

Ferguson, 24

Research Paper

Exam 3

Church History Select Bibliography compiled by Dr. K. Stanglin¹

General:

Benedetto, Robert, ed. *The New Westminster Dictionary of Church History, Volume 1: The Early, Medieval, and Reformation Eras*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2008.

Cross, F. L. and E. A. Livingstone, eds. *Dictionary of the Christian Church*. 1997; repr., Peabody: Hendrickson, 2007.

Dyrness, William A. Veli-Matti Kärkkäinen, eds. *Global Dictionary of Theology*. Downers Grove: IVP Academic, 2008.

*Ferguson, Everett. *Church History, Volume One: From Christ to Pre-Reformation*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2013.

González, Justo L. *The Story of Christianity*. 2 vols. 2nd ed. New York: Harper One: 2010.

Latourette, Kenneth Scott. *A History of the Expansion of Christianity*. 7 vols. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1970.

Noll, Mark. *Turning Points: Decisive Moments in the History of Christianity*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1997.

*Pelikan, Jaroslav J. *The Christian Tradition*. 5 vols. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1971–89.

Placher, William C. *A History of Christian Theology: An Introduction*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 1983.

Rea, Robert F. *Why Church History Matters*. Downers Grove: IVP Academic, 2014.

Schaff, Philip. *History of the Christian Church*. 8 vols. 3rd ed., rev. New York: Scribners, 1907–10; repr., Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1976.

*Seeberg, Reinhold. *Textbook of the History of Doctrines*. 2 vols. in 1. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1977.

Stanglin, Keith D. *The Letter and Spirit of Biblical Interpretation: From the Early Church to Modern Practice*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2018.

Wainwright, Geoffrey, and Karen B. Westerfield Tucker, eds. *The Oxford History of Christian Worship*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2005.

Wilken, Robert Louis. *The First Thousand Years: A Global History of Christianity*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2012.

¹ Works marked with an asterisk * are highly recommended places to begin research. See also my more extensive bibliography at http://austingrad.edu/images/Resources/Stanglin/bibliography_historical%20theology.pdf

Early:

Anatolios, Khaled. *Retrieving Nicaea: The Development and Meaning of Trinitarian Doctrine*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2011.

Bauer, Walter. *Orthodoxy and Heresy in Earliest Christianity*. Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1971.

Brown, Peter R. L. *Augustine of Hippo*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1967.

Dünzl, Franz. *A Brief History of the Doctrine of the Trinity in the Early Church*. New York: T and T Clark, 2007.

Ferguson, Everett. *Backgrounds of Early Christianity*. 3rd ed. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2003.

———. *Baptism in the Early Church: History, Theology, and Liturgy in the First Five Centuries*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2009.

*———, et al., eds. *Encyclopedia of Early Christianity*. 2 vols. New York: Garland, 1997.

*Frend, W. H. C. *The Rise of Christianity*. Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1984.

Grant, Robert M. *From Augustus to Constantine: The Rise and Triumph of Christianity in the Roman World*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 1970.

Green, Michael. *Evangelism in the Early Church*. Rev. ed. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2004.

Hanson, R. P. C. *The Search for the Christian Doctrine of God: The Arian Controversy, 318–81*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1988.

Hinson, E. Glenn. *The Early Church: Origins to the Dawn of the Middle Ages*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1996.

Kelly, J. N. D. *Early Christian Doctrines*. Rev. ed. San Francisco: HarperCollins, 1978.

———. *Golden Mouth: The Story of John Chrysostom—Ascetic, Preacher, Bishop*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1995.

Need, Stephen W. *Truly Divine and Truly Human: The Story of Christ and the Seven Ecumenical Councils*. Peabody: Hendrickson, 2008.

*Quasten, Johannes. *Patrology*. 5 vols.

Vermes, Geza. *Christian Beginnings: From Nazareth to Nicaea*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2014.

Wilken, Robert Louis. *The Christians as the Romans Saw Them*. 2nd ed. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2003.

———. *The Spirit of Early Christian Thought: Seeking the Face of God*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2003.

Medieval:

Bornstein, Daniel E., ed. *Medieval Christianity*. A People's History of Christianity. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2009.

Brown, Peter R. L. *The Rise of Western Christendom: Triumph and Diversity, 200–1000 AD*. 2nd ed. Oxford: Blackwell, 2003.

*Fried, Johannes. *The Middle Ages*. Translated by Peter Lewis. Cambridge, Mass.: Belknap Press of Harvard University, 2015.

Levy, Ian C. *Holy Scripture and the Quest for Authority at the End of the Middle Ages*. Notre Dame: University of Notre Dame Press, 2012.

———, ed. *A Companion to John Wyclif: Late Medieval Theologian*. Brill's Companions to the Christian Tradition 4. Leiden: Brill, 2006.

Louth, Andrew. *Greek East and Latin West: The Church A.D. 682–1071*. New York: St. Vladimir's Seminary Press, 2007.

Lubac, Henri de. *Medieval Exegesis*. 3 vols. Trans. E. M. Macierowski. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1998–2009.

*Madigan, Kevin. *Medieval Christianity: A New History*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2015.

Markus, R. A. *Gregory the Great and His World*. Cambridge, Eng.: Cambridge University Press, 1997.

Nichols, Aidan. *Discovering Aquinas: An Introduction to His Life, Work, and Influence*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2002.

Oberman, Heiko A. *The Harvest of Medieval Theology: Gabriel Biel and Late Medieval Nominalism*. 1963; repr., Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2000.

Riley-Smith, Jonathan S. C. *The Crusades: A History*. 2nd ed. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2005.

———. *The Crusades, Christianity, and Islam*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2008.

Rollo-Koster, Joëlle and Thomas M. Izbicki. *A Companion to the Great Western Schism (1378–1417)*. Leiden: Brill, 2009.

Smalley, Beryl. *The Study of the Bible in the Middle Ages*. New York: Philosophical Library, 1952.

Southern, R. W. *Western Society and the Church in the Middle Ages*. The Penguin History of the Church 2. New York: Penguin Books, 1970.

*Volz, Carl A. *The Medieval Church: From the Dawn of the Middle Ages to the Eve of the Reformation*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1997.

Wilkinson, John. *Jerusalem Pilgrims before the Crusades*. 2nd ed. Warminster, Eng.: Aris and Phillips, 2002.

Websites:

www.ccel.org Christian Classics Ethereal Library. A collection of primary sources.

www.earlychristianwritings.com NT, Apocrypha, Gnostics, Church Fathers.

www.earlychurch.org.uk An internet resource for studying the early church.

<http://www.fourthcentury.com/> Fourth-century sources.

https://books.google.com/advanced_book_search Google Books, full texts in public domain.

www.iclnet.org/pub/resources/christian-history.html Guide to early church documents.

<https://archive.org/> Internet Archive, with full texts of many public domain books.

<http://moses.creighton.edu/NAPS/napslinks/index.htm>

www.ntgateway.com/patristi.htm Early church and patristics links.

<http://patristics.org/resources/early-christian-texts/> Early Christian Texts, from NAPS

www.wabashcenter.wabash.edu/resources/result_browse.aspx?topic=664&pid=650

<http://www.christianitytoday.com/ch/> *Christianity Today's* Christian History.net

www.prdl.org Post-Reformation Digital Library. Links to primary sources from Reformation.

Who's Who (and What's What) Reading Guide (Ferguson, 2nd ed.)

Subapostolic age

Ebionites

Apostolic fathers (chart, p. 49)

Apocryphal literature

Domitian

Pliny

Trajan

Apologists (chart, p. 70)

Polycarp

Marcion

Simon Magus

Valentinus

Montanus

Tertullian

Irenaeus

Apostolic succession

Rule of faith

Canon

Old Catholic fathers (chart, p. 123)

Patripassianism

Paul of Samosata

Sabellius

Baptismal rite

Infant baptism

Assemblies

Eucharist

Decius

Cyprian

Novatian

Mani

Dionysius of Alexandria

Dionysius of Rome

Methodius

Lactantius

Chart, p. 178

Constantine

Eusebius of Caesarea

Donatists

Arius

Alexander

Council of Nicaea, 325

Eusebius of Nicomedia

Chart, p. 201

Athanasius

Julian the Apostate

Hilary of Poitiers

Council of Constantinople, 381

Nicene/Post-Nicene fathers (chart, p. 213)

Monasticism
Anthony
Missionary expansion
Theodosius I

Chart, p. 255
Diodore
Theodore of Mopsuestia
Apollinaris
Nestorius
Cyril of Alexandria
Council of Ephesus, 431
Council of Chalcedon, 451

Pelagius
Julian of Eclanum
John Cassian
Vincent of Lerins

Alaric
Attila the Hun
Vandals
Visigoths
Isidore of Seville
Franks
Clovis
Ostrogoths
Boethius
Lombards
Prosper of Aquitaine
Leo the Great

Pseudo-Dionysius the Areopagite
Justinian
Council of Constantinople II, 553
Benedict of Nursia
Gregory the Great

Maximus the Confessor
Council of Constantinople III, 680–81
John of Damascus
Council of Nicaea II, 787

Patrick
Augustine of Canterbury
Venerable Bede
Charles Martel
Pippin (Pepin) the Short
Charlemagne
Alcuin
Paschasius Radbertus
Ratramnus
Gottschalk
Rabanus Maurus
John Scotus Eriugena

Gerbert (Sylvester II)
Wenceslas
Otto I
Hildebrand (Gregory VII)

Chart, p. 405
Henry IV
Urban II
Richard I the Lionheart
Chart, p. 423

Chart, p. 430
Anselm of Canterbury
Gaunilo
Peter Abelard
Heloise
Scholastics, (chart, p. 442)

Bernard of Clairvaux
Thomas Becket
Hildegard of Bingen
Moses Maimonides
Avicenna
Averroës

Innocent III
Council of Lateran IV, 1215
Dominic
Francis of Assisi
Bonaventure
Albert the Great
Aristotle
John Duns Scotus

Peter Waldo (Valdes)
Cathari/Albigenses
Joachim of Fiore
Dante
Boniface VIII

Possible Paper Topics

Biblical interpretation
Early baptismal practices
Formation of NT canon
Ante-Nicene Christology
Sin and anthropology
Mystical theology
The emperor Constantine
Church organization
The doctrine of apostolic succession
Church councils
Jewish life in the Middle Ages
The role of creeds in Christianity
Early missions

The Great Persecution under Diocletian
The effect of persecution on early Christian growth
Why Rome became preeminent
The effect of heresy on Christianity
Christian interaction with Islam
Development of the doctrine of transubstantiation
The five ways of Thomas Aquinas
The contributions of various popes
Early reform efforts
The Lord's Supper in the Reformation
Predestination in Calvin and Arminius
Impact of philosophy on theology

[Other papers on events, thinkers, documents, or doctrines are welcome]

Mentors

Didache and 1 Clement
Ignatius of Antioch and Polycarp of Smyrna
Justin Martyr
Athenagoras
Irenaeus of Lyons
Tertullian
Clement of Alexandria
Origen
Gregory Thaumaturgus
Eusebius of Caesarea
Athanasius of Alexandria
Gregory of Nazianzus
Gregory of Nyssa
Jerome
Augustine of Hippo
John Cassian
(Pseudo-)Dionysius the Areopagite
Gregory the Great
Venerable Bede
Maximus the Confessor
John of Damascus
Anselm of Canterbury
Peter Lombard
Peter Abelard
Bernard of Clairvaux
Bonaventure
Thomas Aquinas
John Duns Scotus
William of Ockham
John Wyclif
Jan Hus
Thomas à Kempis
Jean Gerson
Martin Luther
Balthasar Hubmaier
Ignatius of Loyola