

HISTORY OF CHRISTIANITY I (0-843AD) RGH 1010 HF

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Description:

From the sub-apostolic age to the "Triumph of Orthodoxy" in the East and the Carolingian revival and Treaty of Verdun in the West. Geographical expansion of the church; the relation of Christian faith to cultural settings and other religions; the development of doctrinal and ethical positions; forms of Christian life and worship; the rise of Islam. Lectures, tutorials, reflection papers, essay.

Course text & readings:

1. Stuart G. Hall. *Doctrine & Practice in the Early Church*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1991.
2. Weekly readings on my website [Updated by the end of Wednesday every week].
3. Some photocopies for weeks 11 & 12 [I will calculate the cost as the course progresses].

The textbook is available through Crux Bookstore [behind Wycliffe College] at a discount.

Course Evaluation, Requirements & Due Dates:

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|-----------------------------------|-----|
| a. Reflection paper #1 | 20% |
| b. Reflection paper #2 | 20% |
| c. Research Essay | 40% |
| d. In-Class/Seminar participation | 20% |

a Reflection Paper #1:

The reflection paper is to be based on the "Primary Source Readings" for only one of the Weeks between #2 to #6 (you choose) and should be between 1.5-2 pages. See the "Essay Requirements" below. **Due:** The day of the corresponding tutorial.

b Reflection Paper #2:

The reflection paper is to be based on the "Primary Source Readings" for only one of the Weeks between #7 to #11 (you choose) and should be between 1.5-2 pages. See the "Essay Requirements" below. **Due:** The day of the corresponding tutorial.

c. Research Essay:

The research paper is to be 8-10 pages, and should conform to the "Essay Requirements" listed below. The essay topic can be either on the theology of an author(s), theological doctrine(s), and/or event(s) from the period under study. **Due:** Week # 10 (Nov. 23).

d. In-class participation in lectures and tutorials:

Lectures will be the first hour of the class, while the tutorials will immediately follow the lecture. Students will be expected to discuss and critique the readings during the lecture and tutorial sessions. This is a very important part of your evaluation. A second tutorial (on Tuesdays 3.30-4.30 p.m.) may be added if the class size is above 20.

Essay Requirements:

Research Essays must include a title page, an introductory/thesis paragraph, the main body of text (ideas, arguments, critique), endnote or footnotes, a concluding/summary paragraph, and a bibliography. The research essays are composed of synthesis and critical analysis of a theme/idea/person/event in historical theology and/or history and are presented from an objective point of view. All written work is to be typed and double-spaced, and is based in 12 pt. font. Plagiarised essays will receive a failing mark.

Reflection Papers include the same structural elements as a "Research Essay," with the addition of some subjective (personal, spiritual and pastoral) reflections, but no title page and bibliography. You may include some footnotes/endnotes. The goal of these is to get you to think pastorally and creatively, and to synthesize the primary-source readings by saying "the most in the least amount of space." Do not forget the "reflection" aspect!

For a formatting reference guide, see: Kate L. Turabian. *A Manual For Writers of Term Papers, Theses and Dissertations*. Chicago: Chicago, 1973.

COURSE OUTLINE

1. Introduction—Methodology & Who Were the Early Christians?

- methodology of course; introductions; definition of terms; overview of sources.

2. The Apostolic Church—Mission, Conversion & Church and State

- the spread of Gospel; Judaism; paganism; Didachē, Clement of Rome, Hermas, Ignatius.

Lecture and Primary Sources Readings:

Hall. *Doctrine and Practice*. Chp. 1, 2 & 3.

Weekly readings on my website at:

<http://individual.utoronto.ca/jskira>: follow the links to this course's syllabus].

[e.g. Week # 2's = [http:// individual.utoronto.ca/jskira/syllabus-0-843-02.html](http://individual.utoronto.ca/jskira/syllabus-0-843-02.html)].

3. Apologists & Martyrs and Systems of Cosmic Redemption

- Polycarp, Justin, Tatian, Perpetua & Felicity; Irenaeus & Gnosticism; Montanism.

Lecture and Primary Sources Readings:

Hall. *Doctrine and Practice*. Chp. 4, 5, 6.

Weekly readings on my website.

4. Early Western Authors and North African Christianity

- Tertullian, Hippolytus, Cyprian, Sabellianism.

Lecture and Primary Sources Readings:

Hall. *Doctrine and Practice*. Chp. 7, 8, 9,
Weekly readings on my website.

5. The Early School at Alexandria

- Pantaneus, Clement of Alexandria, & Origen.

Lecture and Primary Sources Readings:

Hall. *Doctrine and Practice*. Chp. 10, 11.
Weekly readings on my website.

6. Early Christologies & Councils (Nicea I)

- Athanasius, Arius, Eusebius, Donatism, Church-State.

Lecture and Primary Sources Readings:

Hall. *Doctrine and Practice*. Chp. 12, 13 & 14.
Weekly readings on my website.

7. The Cappadocians, the Spirit-Fighters & Constantinople 1 (381)

- Macrina the Younger, Basil the Great, Gregory Nazianzus, Gregory of Nyssa.

Lecture and Primary Sources Readings:

Hall. *Doctrine and Practice*. Chp. 15 & 16.
Weekly readings on my website.

8. Syriac and Asian Christianity & the Roots of Monasticism

- Bardaisan, Aphrahat, Ephraem, Pachomius, Anthony, Basil, Evagrius, Syncletica,
Benedict, Patrick.

Lecture and Primary Sources Readings:

Hall. *Doctrine and Practice*. Chp. 17.
Weekly readings on my website.

9. East & West in the Fourth Century

- Ambrose, Augustine, Hilary of Poitiers, Jerome, Vincent of Lérins, John Chrysostom.

Lecture and Primary Sources Readings:

Hall. *Doctrine and Practice*. Chp. 18 & 19.
Weekly readings on my website.

10. The Theotokos and Ephesus (431), Chalcedon & Classical Christological Doctrine

- Theodore of Mopseustia, Cyril of Alexandria, Nestorius; Eutyches, Leo and Chalcedon
(451).

Lecture and Primary Sources Readings:

Hall. *Doctrine and Practice*. Chp. 20, 21, 22.
Weekly readings on my website.

11. Christological Disputes Continue & Invasions in East & West (6th - 7th)

- monotheletism; invasions in the West; Islam in the East; Gregory the Great; Justinian I.

Lecture and Primary Sources Readings:

Photocopied readings [to be handed out in advance].

Weekly readings on my website.

12. The Iconoclastic Crisis in the East & A New Emperor in the West (to 843AD)

- Charlemagne; E & W. relations; iconoclasm & Nicea II (787); early Slavic missions.
Conclusion/summary of course.

Lecture and Primary Sources Readings:

Photocopied readings [to be handed out in advance].

Weekly readings on my website.

SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY

1. Starting points for researching:

[See also my pamphlet: "Researching Early Christian History & Authors"
at http://individual.utoronto.ca/jskira/PDF/patristic_research-00.PDF].

Bradley, James & Muller, Richard. *Church History: An Introduction to Research, Reference Works and Methods*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1995. [a very useful guide to bibliographies, dictionaries and collections on church history; special section on the patristic period].

Brox, Norbert & Bowden, John S. *A Concise History of the Early Church*. NY: Continuum, 1995.
Doepp, Siegmund & Wilhelm Geerlings, eds. *Dictionary of Early Christian Literature*. Crossroad, 2000.

Encyclopedia of Early Christianity. Ed. Everett Ferguson. New York: Garland, 1990.

Encyclopedia of the Early Church. 2 vols. Ed. Angelo Di Berardino. Trans. Adrian Walford. Rev. bib. W.H.C. Frend. New York: Oxford, 1992.

Kadel, Andrew. *Matrology: A Bibliography of Writings by Christian Women From the First to the Fifteenth Centuries*. New York: Continuum, 1995.

Quasten, Johannes. *Patrology*. 4 vols. Utrecht: Spectrum, 1950-1986.

Robinson, Thomas A. with B. Shaw. *The Early Church: An Annotated Bibliography of Literature in English*. ATLA Bibliography Series 33. Meutchen, NJ: Scarecrow, 1993.

Pelikan, Jaroslav. *The Christian Tradition: A History of the Development of Doctrine*. 5 vols. Chicago: Univ. of Chicago, 1971-1989.

Ramsey, Boniface. *Beginning to Read the Fathers*. NY: Paulist, 1985.

Tsirpanlis, Constantine. *Introduction to Eastern Patristic Thought and Orthodox Theology*. Theology and Life 30. Collegeville: Liturgical, 1991.

The Oxford Dictionary of Byzantium. 3 vols. Ed. Alexander P. Kazhdan et al. New York: Oxford, 1991.

The Oxford Dictionary of the Christian Church. Ed. Everett Ferguson. New York: Garland, 1990.

2. Primary Sources for the Texts:

a. Greek / Latin:

Patrologia Graeca Cursus Completus. Ed. J.P. Migne. 161 vols. Paris: Vivres, 1857-1866.

[normally cited as PG, followed by volume number, column number, letter/line number].

Patrologia Latina Cursus Completus. Ed. J.P. Migne. 221 vols. [normally cited as PL, followed by volume number, column number, letter/line number].

b. French:

Sources Chrétiennes: Textes, Traductions, Introductions et Notes. 160+ vols. Paris: Editions du Cerf, 1941-. [original language with French translation on facing page].

c. English:

Ancient Christian Writers. Westminster, MD: Newman; New York: Paulist, 1946-.

The Fathers of the Church. Ed. R.J. Deferrari et al. Washington: CUA, 1947-.

The Loeb Classical Library. London; Cambridge: 1912-. [original language on facing page].

A Select Library of the Nicene and Post Nicene Fathers of the Christian Church. Ed. Philip Schaff et al. New York: Christian Literature, 1886-1890.

d. On the Web: [careful though, as some of these contain typological and spelling errors]

Early Church Fathers. <http://www.ccel.org/fathers2/> [Contains the "Ante-Nicene," and "Nicene, and Post-Nicene Fathers" series 1 & 2].

Internet Medieval Sourcebook. <http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/sbook.html> [contains links to various early church authors; categorized by period and authors].

3. Selected Secondary Sources & Anthologies:

Afanas'ev, Nicolas, John Meyendorff et al. *The Primacy of Peter*. London: Faith Press, 1963. [essay on early period].

Attridge, Harold W. & Hata, Gohei, eds. *Eusebius, Christianity, and Judaism*. Detroit: Wayne State, 1992.

Baker, Derek, ed. *The Orthodox Churches and the West*. Studies in Church History 13. Oxford: Basil Blackwell, 1976.

Barnard, L.W. *Justin Martyr: His Life and Thought*. Cambridge: Cambridge, 1967.

Barnes, T.D. *Constantine & Eusebius*. Cambridge: Harvard, 1981.

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Behr-Siegel, Elisabeth. *The Ministry of Women in the Orthodox Church*. Trans. S. Bigham. Redondo Beach, CA: Oakwood, 1991.

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- monasticism.]
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