

REL 4370: Medieval Church and State

(Prerequisite: REL 1330 or permission)

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Office Hours: M, W, F: 10-12, 1-3 (or by appointment)

Course Goals:

The goal of this class, in addition to increasing students' awareness of history in general, is to enable students to think about issues of church-state relations more maturely by considering different perspectives on the relationship between civil and religious authorities from the Christian past.

Attendance and Missed Exams:

Attendance at all class meetings is expected, and role will be taken at the beginning of each class session. Absences for illness or school sponsored events will be excused; all others (including for work) will not. It is the student's responsibility to inform me when an absence is due to illness. Students who are more than 15 minutes late for a class will be counted as absent for that class. A student's grade will be lowered 2% for each unexcused absence over three. Unexcused late exams will be penalized at my discretion depending on the circumstances with penalties up to and including receiving a zero for the exam. To be excused, an exam must be missed for an emergency and the student must contact me before the exam if at all possible.

Academic Honesty:

All work submitted for this class must be the student's own work; any student who presents another person's work as his or her own, who acquires or attempts to acquire the answers to an exam, or who provides such answers to others will be considered guilty of cheating. Action will be taken against any student guilty of cheating ranging from receiving a zero on the assignment in question to receiving a grade of F for the course. The student's behavior will be brought to the attention of the Dean of Students, who may take action resulting in the expulsion of the student from the University.

Grading and Assignments:

Grades will be assigned on the following scale:

A=93-100%; A-=90-92%

B+=87-89%; B=83-86%; B-=80-82%

C+=77-79%; C=73-76%; C-=70-72%

D+=67-69%; D=63-66%; D-=60-62%

Students will be assessed on the basis of two examinations, one 10-15 page paper, and class preparation and participation.

The paper will require students to examine an issue of church-state relations from the perspective of one or two of the following three authors: Thomas Aquinas, William Tyndale, Richard Hooker.

Possible issues for consideration are: Abortion Rights (should abortion be legal?), Faith Based Initiatives (should government money be given to religious charities?), Same-Sex Marriage (should same-sex marriages be legally recognized?), War in Iraq (should the US have invaded Iraq, and what should current policy in Iraq be?). Each student should present what the position of one or two of the authors discussed in class would be regarding morality and the issue you choose. Also outline what policy your author(s) would recommend be followed by the church regarding that issue. Discussion of the topic will require research regarding the issue (for example contemporary discussions of biblical teachings on your topic, etc.) as well as a thorough understanding and application of the principles of each author. The paper will count for 30% of the student's overall grade. Each student must discuss his/her topic with me by October 15 and also provide a list of ten sources relating to the topic by this time. Failure to do so will result in a 10% score reduction on the paper.

The exams will be essay exams requiring a strong grasp of the readings and of class presentations. Each

exam will count for 30% of the student's overall grade.

10% of each student's grade will be based on preparation and class participation. Students will be expected to come to class having read the assignment carefully and prepared to take part in discussion. I reserve the right to institute some form of quizzing to check preparedness (although I don't want to).

Required Texts

Brian Tierney, The Crisis of Church and State
Thomas Aquinas, The Treatise on Law
William Tyndale, The Obedience of a Christian Man
Richard Hooker, Of the Laws of Ecclesiastical Polity
Course Pack available in the Print Shop

Reading Schedule

Readings should be completed before class on the date by which they are listed.

- 8-26: Tierney, pp. 7-32
- 8-31: Tierney, pp. 33-73
- 9-2: Tierney, pp. 74-95
- 9-7: Tierney, pp. 127-138, 159-171
- 9-9: CP-Aquinas, On Kingship, selections
- 9-14: Aquinas, Treatise on Law, Q. 90-91
- 9-16: Aquinas, Treatise on Law, Q. 92-93
- 9-21: Aquinas, Treatise on Law, Q. 94-95
- 9-23: Aquinas, Treatise on Law, Q. 96-97
- 9-28: Tierney, pp. 172-210
- 9-30: CP-Marsilius, pp. 3-26
- 10-5: CP-Marsilius, pp. 27-49, 80-97
- 10-7: CP-Council of Constance
- 10-12: Midterm Exam
- 10-14: CP-The English Act of Supremacy
- 10-19: Tyndale, pp. 3-59
- 10-21: Tyndale, pp. 59-108
- 10-26: Tyndale, pp. 108-155
- 10-28: Tyndale, pp. 155-191
- 11-2: CP-Knox, pp. 3-28

11-4: CP-Knox, pp. 28-47

11-9: Hooker, pp. 1-25

11-11: Hooker, pp. 26-51

11-16: Hooker, pp. 52-99

11-18: Hooker, pp. 100-127

11-23: Hooker, pp. 128-158

11-30: Hooker, pp. 158-200

12-2: Conclusion