HA/HL III
THE STORY OF CHRISTIANITY I:
Part 2: Medieval History

Time: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1:30-2:50 pm
Place: St. Andrew’s College, Room 322
Instructor: Gordon Jensen  Office 226, LTS  (ph) 966-7866  gordon.jensen@usask.ca

Course Description:
The thousand years (A. D. 500-1500) of the story of Christianity that are covered in these four and a half
weeks have often been passed over in silence or treated rather negatively in Protestant histories and
seminaries. Yet in these years the foundations were laid for European Christianity which has decisively
shaped our Western culture, the faith communities of which most of us are a part, and the personal faith
of most of us. In the short time available to us, we will aim to develop some understanding of and
appreciation for this significant portion of our “family history” and some ability to reflect on what this
period of history can teach us for the life of faith in today’s world.

Student Outcomes:
By the end of this section of the course, students will be able to:
1. Be able to describe, formulate and analyze the main ecclesial and social historical moments of the
   medieval period, and how they shaped the theology and practice of the growing institutional
   church;
2. Identify key figures from this period of time
3. Describe and appraise the changing role of women in the church during the medieval period
4. Explain and differentiate the key components of the power struggle between church and state in
   this period;
5. Describe the changing roles of the monastic movements in the church and in society

Texts:
Justo L. Gonzalez, The Story of Christianity, Volume 1: The Early Church to the Dawn of the
- this is one of the texts you have used already; chapters 26-34 deal with the medieval period.

Online resources and readings
Can be found at www.gjltt.com Please get the ID and password information from the professor.

Course Requirements
Note: 65% of your grade for HA/HL111 is based on your work with Professor Beardsall, covering the
story of Early Christianity. 35% of your grade is based on the work you will do with Professor Jensen
on the story of Medieval Christianity. All comments about assignments and grades that follow relate
only to the medieval portion of this course.

1. Class participation will count for 20% of your final grade. Both attendance and participation in
classroom discussions will be taken into account. Participation in class will include taking
responsibility for reporting informally on particular assigned readings.
2. The following figures are of major significance in the story of medieval Christianity:

   Nov. 13: St. Patrick (ca. 386-461)  
   St. Boniface (680-754)  
   St. Ansgar (801-856)

   Nov. 20: St. Benedict and Scholastica (ca. 480-543)  
   Pope Leo I (the Great; † 461)  
   Pope Gregory I (the Great, 540-604)

   Nov. 22am: Charlemagne, Holy Roman Emperor (ca. 742-814)  
   Leoba, (700-780?); Dhoda (803-843); and Hrotsvit (ca 935-975)

   Nov. 22pm:Pope Gregory VII (ca. 1021-1085)  
   Henry II (1133-1189) and Thomas Becket (1118-1170)

   Nov. 27: Bernard of Clairvaux (1090-1153)  
   Hildegard of Bingen (1098-1179)

   Nov. 29: Pope Innocent III (1160-1216)  
   Francis of Assisi (1181/2-1226) and Clare of Assisi (1194-1253)  
   Thomas of Aquinas (1225-1274)  
   Mechthild of Magdeburg (ca 1210-1280) and Marguerite of Porete († 1310)

   Dec. 4: Birgitta of Sweden (1303-1372)  
   Gertrude (the Great) of Helfta (1256-ca. 1302)  
   Catherine of Siena (1347-1380)  
   Julian of Norwich (ca. 1342 - after 1413)

   Dec. 6:  John Wyclif (1330-1384)  
   Jann Hus (1374-1415)

Each class member will select one of these persons and prepare a two page, 12 point, Times New Roman font, one inch (2.54cm) margins, double spaced (maximum) report on this person to be orally presented on the date given above. Each student is responsible for making photocopies of their written report (maximum 2 pages, 12 point Times New Roman font, single spaced, one inch [2.54cm] margins) for distribution to the class members (and the professor). This counts for 30% of your grade.

3. There is a final "examination." It will include multiple choice questions, matching questions, and 2 short essay questions that can be selected from among the five topics that receive major attention in this part of the course: the papacy, religious orders, church-state relations, the place and roles of women in the medieval church, and theological development. This counts for 50% of your grade for the medieval section of the course.
Brief Bibliography:

General Studies:


Ogg, Frederic Austin Source Book of Mediaeval History: Documents Illustrative of European Life and Institutions from the German Invasions to the Renaissance. New York: Cooper Square Pub., 1972.


Thatcher, Oliver J. Europe in the Middle Age: New York: Scribner, 1898.


**The Medieval Popes and Crusades**


**Mysticism:**


**Medieval Personalities:**


**Religious Orders:**


**Eve of the Reformation:**


# Schedule of Classes and Reading Assignments

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<td>Gonzalez, 217-38, 272-74</td>
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<td>- The Sacking of Rome</td>
<td>‘Barbarian Invasions,’</td>
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<td>- Invasions (Barbarians and Islam)</td>
<td>‘St. Augustine before Ethelbert’</td>
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<td>Nov. 20:</td>
<td>Monks and Popes</td>
<td>Gonzalez, 238-50</td>
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<td>- Monasticism</td>
<td>‘The Synod of Whitby’</td>
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<td>- The papacy</td>
<td>‘The Rule of St. Benedict’</td>
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<td>Nov. 22 (am):</td>
<td>Emerging Christian Europe:</td>
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<td>- Charlemagne and the Holy Roman Empire</td>
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<td>- The role of women</td>
<td>‘Charlemagne Crowned Emperor’</td>
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<td>- The rise of medieval theology</td>
<td>‘Life of Leoba’</td>
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<td>‘Dhuoda Manual’</td>
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<td>Nov. 27:</td>
<td>Monastic Reform and the Crusades:</td>
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<td>- Monastic reform: Cluny</td>
<td>‘Description of Clairvaux’</td>
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<td>- Papal reform</td>
<td>‘Bernard of Clairvaux – Critique of Cluniacs’</td>
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<td>- Power struggles between pope and emperor</td>
<td>‘Bernard of Clairvaux – On Loving God’</td>
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<td>‘Call for a Crusade – Gregory VII’</td>
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<td>‘Bernard of Clairvaux – Apology for 2nd Crusade’</td>
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<td>‘Hildegard of Bingen Bio’</td>
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<td>Nov. 29:</td>
<td>Popes, Mendicants and a Great Theologian:</td>
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<td>- developing papal claims</td>
<td>‘Innocent III – Letters’</td>
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<td>- Mendicant orders</td>
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<td>- Thomas Aquinas</td>
<td>‘Accusations Against the Albigensians’</td>
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<td>‘Mechthild of Magdeburg’</td>
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<td>Dec. 4:</td>
<td>The Tumultuous Fourteenth and Fifteenth Centuries:</td>
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<td>- Church-State Relations</td>
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<td>Scholastics, Protest and Reform:</td>
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<td>- late medieval scholasticism</td>
<td>‘Pope Gregory XI and Wycliffe’</td>
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