Second Century Christianity
RS 116B
Spring Quarter 2011

Christine M. Thomas
Office: HSSC 3067 • E-mail: thomas@religion.ucsb.edu • Phone: 4004
website: www.religion.ucsb.edu/faculty/thomas/classes/RS116B.html

BOOKS (all required)

Other materials are posted on the course website:
http://www.religion.ucsb.edu/faculty/thomas/classes/RS116B.html

SCHEDULE OF READINGS
Readings should be completed BEFORE the lecture.
W= website, in SMALL CAPITAL LETTERS.

I. The Parting of the Ways with Judaism
📖 Frend, 4-14 on the Roman world; _The Acts of Thekla_ in Ehrman, 113-21.
30 March: Judaisms in the Roman Empire, Including Christianity
📖 Frend, 15-34 on Judaism in the Roman empire
4 April: The Beginnings of Differentiation. The Jerusalem Community of James
📖 Frend, 35-48 on the Old Israel and the New
6 April: Early Christianity and Judaism: Hostile Takeover or Direct Continuation?

II. Finding a Place within the Empire: Christian Apologetic
11 April: Persecution of Nascent Christianity: Its Legal and Social Basis
📖 _W: CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN PLINY AND TRAJAN; ACCOUNT OF THE SCILLITIAN MARTYRS; IGNATIUS, EPISTLES TO THE PHILADEPHIANS, AND TO THE SYMYRNAEANS_, in Richardson, 107-16.
13 April: Apologetic Redefinition of Jewish Heritage
📖 _W: JUSTIN MARTYR, DIALOGUE WITH TRYPHO; EPISTLE TO DIOGNETUS_ in Richardson, 213-24.
18 April: The Beginnings of Christian Philosophy
📖 _W: CLEMENT OF ALEXANDRIA, CHRIST THE EDUCATOR._
20 April: The Christian Apologists as Philosophers
📖 Athenagoras in Richardson, 300-40; Justin Martyr, _Apology_, in Richardson, 242-89.
25 April: In-Class Midterm

III. The Life of the Church: Liturgy, Canon, and Popular Piety
27 April: The Formation of the Christian Canon
📖 W: On Marcion; Canon of Eusebius in Ehrman 337-38; Muratorian Fragment in Ehrman, 334-36.

2 May: Christian Stories about Jesus, Mary, and the Apostles

4 May: Worship and Community Organization
📖 Acts of Peter in Ehrman, 135-54; The Acts of Paul in Ehrman, 109-12; Didache in Ehrman, 211-17; W: ODES OF SOLOMON.

IV. The Gnostics
9 May: The Classic Gnostic Myth
📖 Frend, 49-57 on Gnosticism; The Hymn of the Pearl in Ehrman, 324-28; The Secret Book of John in Ehrman, 297-306.

11 May: The Gnostic Schools: Basilides, Valentinus

16 May: Irenaeus and the Response of the “Orthodox” to the Gnostics
📖 Irenaeus in Richardson, 358-97

V. Other Christianities and the Problem of the Rome Empire
18 May: “Thomas Christianity” and Montanism
📖 The Coptic Gospel of Thomas in Ehrman, 19-28; W: THE BOOK OF THOMAS THE CONTENDER; THE MONTANIST ORACLES; ANTI-MONTANIST WRITINGS.

23 May: Tertullian and Early Christian Martyrs
📖 Frend, 58-71 on martyrs, Celsus, and the Montanists; W: TERTULLIAN; The Martyrdom of Polycarp in Richardson, 149-58; W: ACCOUNT OF THE MARTYRS OF VIENNE AND LYON; THE ACTS OF PERPETUA AND FELICITAS.

25 May: Celsus
📖 Hoffmann, 53-126; Frend, 72-84.

30 May: No Class: Memorial Day Holiday

1 June: Course Review

8 June: Final Exam, 8-11 am
COURSE REQUIREMENTS
If you are a student with a disability, and would like to discuss special academic accommodations, please contact me during my office hours, by phone or e-mail, or before or after class.

1. **Participation (10%)**. Time will be devoted each week to class discussion. Minimal preparation represented by either asking or answering questions of value to the entire class in comprehending the course content will be recorded and evaluated. As preparation for class participation, students should formulate a question or two while reading the assignments.

2. **A midterm exam (40%)**. Two short essay questions and identification of passages from ancient texts. A study guide will be circulated on Monday, 18 April. The exam will take place on **Monday, 25 April, during the usual class period**.

3. **A final exam (50%)**. One long essay question and two short essay questions. A study guide will be circulated on 25 May. The exam will take place on **Wednesday, 8 June, at 8 am in the normal lecture room**.

MAKEUP POLICY, LATE ASSIGNMENTS, INCOMPLETES
In the interest of fairness to the majority of students who complete their work adequately and on time, despite the numerous hindrances that all of us face in our daily lives, the instructors of this class wish to make the conditions under which work is produced and evaluated as equal as possible for everyone in the class. Consequently, there will be **no makeup exams** for the mid-term and final examinations. Students needing to miss class on those days will need to acquire advance approval from the professor in order to miss the exam without losing credit. Students who are ill during the exam will similarly need a doctor's note. In each case, students will be given alternate writing assignments to earn the lost credit.

**Incompletes are generally not granted** for this class, because the instructor is not contracted to work over the summer and hence cannot evaluate late work. In the case of ongoing illness or catastrophic family situations, the best course of action is to withdraw from the class and retake it later.

POLICY ON ACADEMIC HONESTY
The Student Code of Conduct clearly sets out a standard of academic honesty and responsibility by which a student's work must be his or her own work. The faculty in Religious Studies believes that plagiarism is one of the most serious infractions of student conduct and of the intellectual environment of the university. All faculty members have agreed that we will pursue disciplinary actions in all cases of plagiarism and that we will ask the Dean of Students and the Dean of Undergraduate Studies not only to suspend the offending student from the university but also prohibit the student from taking any further courses in Religious Studies.