Life in the Medieval Church
Garrett-Evangelical Seminary 13-806
Course Syllabus: Spring 2014
Thursdays 2:30 – 5:30 pm

The Doctor:
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Course Description
In this course, we will focus on the life and experience of the average Christian, as well as the major events of the medieval period. Thus we will be inquiring into the social, cultural, and economic history of the so-called middle ages, as well as documents and doctrines. The focus will be mostly on the western (Latin) church, from the late patristic period through the “high middle ages” or until the time of Aquinas. History I (13-501) is the prerequisite for this course.

Purpose/Goals of the Course:
In the theological school, the overarching goal is the development of theological understanding, that is, aptitude for theological reflection and wisdom pertaining to responsible life in faith. Comprehended in this overarching goal are others such as deepening spiritual awareness, growing in moral sensibility and character, gaining an intellectual grasp of the tradition of the faith community, and acquiring abilities requisite to the exercise of ministry in that community. (Association of Theological Schools accrediting standards, 2012). This course will contribute to these goals by guiding the students in the exploration of both the spiritual and intellectual practices of Christians in the medieval period.

NOTE: Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary is committed to providing equal access to its programs of graduate professional education for all qualified students with learning, physical, medical, or psychological disabilities. The Seminary aims to provide reasonable accommodation for qualified individuals with a disability (based on clinical documentation) to ensure their access and participation in Seminary programs. For details, see “Disabilities Policies and Procedures” in the Student Handbook, or consult the Dean of Students.

Course Requirements:
Each class meeting will consist of lectures, student presentations, group discussion, and other educational media, possibly including films. Questions and discussion during the lecture are encouraged. Reading assignments are to be done AFTER each class meeting, so there is no reading expected before the first class meeting. Late assignments will only be accepted by previous arrangement with the instructor. All assignments must be completed to receive a passing grade for the course. All work for this course must conform to accepted standards of academic ethics, including, but not limited to, the understanding that plagiarism is unacceptable, and will result in an automatic grade of “F” for the assignment in question. The internet, and especially search engines, should NOT be used as primary research tools. It is a requirement of the course that students are able to use e-mail, receive e-mails from the professor, and turn in papers via e-mail.

Papers: There will be two main written assignments for this course. The first will be a research paper, on any topic of the student’s choosing relevant to our time period. The second will be a take-home essay exam, written in response to a question or questions handed out at the last class meeting. Papers must be created in Microsoft Word, and they will be turned in via e-mail directly to the professor. Create a header (not a title page), that includes the student’s name,
the instructor’s name (spelled correctly) and the date (you should always date your papers – they reflect your thoughts at a certain point in your journey), as well as page numbers. All papers for this course should conform in style to a standard scholarly format. If in doubt, consult A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations by Kate Turabian, or The Chicago Manual of Style. Create a file name for your paper that has the following format: Your last name, your first initial, the paper number (1 or 2), an F, J, or S (for Fall, January, or Spring) and the two digit year (for the year). So for example if Ziggy Marley were turning in his second paper, the file name would be: MarleyZ2S14.doc.

**Research Paper:** The research paper will focus on any aspect of the Church in our time period that interests you, subject to approval by the professor. A topic proposal with preliminary bibliography (at least 10 non-internet sources) will be due about halfway through the course. It is expected that the research paper will be about 10 pages in length for masters level students, and about 20 pages for PhD students (think of it like a dissertation/book chapter). **Research papers MUST use and engage primary sources - not secondary sources only. Preliminary bibliographies should include some primary sources.**

**Essay Exam:** The final essay will be based on a question or questions to be handed out on or before the last class meeting. It will focus on synthesizing the entire course content, and should demonstrate that the student understands the big picture. It should be about 5 pages in length for masters students, and about 10 pages for PhD students (think of it like a journal article).

**Class Participation/Presentation:** The class will be conducted in seminar style, so it assumed that all students will attend all class meetings, keep up with the readings, and participate in discussion. All students will present the results of their research to the class. The presentation is meant to be informal, from one sheet of bullet points, and should focus on what the students’ colleagues would find interesting as it relates to the ongoing class discussions.

**Required Reading for All Students:**

Bonaventure (The Classics of Western Spirituality, Paulist, 1978)
978-0809121212 - $18.88 on Amazon

978-0060736637 - $11.44 on Amazon

978-1612613703 - $15.29 on Amazon

Cahill, Thomas. *Mysteries of the Middle Ages* (Anchor, 2006)
978-0385495561 - $19.23 on Amazon

978-0664244187 - $29.70 on Amazon

Lanfranc of Canterbury (The Fathers of the Church, CUA, 2009)
978-0813216782 - $35.96 on Amazon

978-0664230838 - $31.57 on Amazon

978-0664241636 - $30.00 on Amazon
978-0664228132 - $17.32 on Amazon

978-0061582608 - $11.05 on Amazon

978-0812972337 - $13.13 on Amazon

**OPTIONAL Additional Reading for All Students:**

978-1573229746 - $11.83 on Amazon

978-0895552273 - $13.46 on Amazon

**Suggested Additional Reading for PhD Students:**

978-0664231804 - $23.18 on Amazon

Cleenewerk, Laurent A. *His Broken Body: Understanding and Healing the Schism Between the Roman Catholic and Eastern Orthodox Churches, an Orthodox Perspective* (Euclid, 2007)  
978-1481905886 - $19.80 on Amazon

Dauphinais, David & Levering, eds. *Aquinas the Augustinian* (CUA, 2007)  
978-0813214924 - $37.95 on Amazon

978-0415068079 - $38.29 on Amazon


Smalley, Beryl. *The Study of the Bible in the Middle Ages* (Notre Dame, 1964)  
978-0268002671 - $22.64 on Amazon

**Weekly Schedule**
Week 1 (Feb. 6)

Topic: Life in the Middle Ages, under the Papacy and the Carolingian Renaissance
Secondary Sources: Stark, *The Victory of Reason* (read the whole book)
Primary Sources: Vincent of Lerins, *The Commonitory* (McCracken, pp. 23-89)
                   Rabanus Maurus, *Five Sermons* (McCracken, pp. 300-313)

Week 2 (Feb. 13)

Topics: The Eucharist Controversy, and Controversies Leading up to the East-West Split in 1054
Secondary Sources: Cahill, pp. 1-64
Primary Sources: Radbertus/Ratramnus, *On the Body and Blood* (McCracken, pp. 90-147)
                   Lanfranc, *On the Body and Blood* (Fathers of the Church, pp. 3-87)

Week 3 (Feb. 20)

Topic: The Crusades and the Inquisition: Infidels and Heretics
Secondary Sources: Stark, *God’s Battalions* (read the whole book)
Primary Sources: Ivo of Chartres, *Two Sermons* (McCracken, pp. 314-327)
                   Agobard of Lyons, *On the Truth of the Faith* (McCracken, pp. 328-362)

Week 4 (Feb. 27)

Topic: Monasticism, and its effect on the Laity
Secondary Sources: Cahill, pp. 65-175
Primary Sources: Bonaventure’s *Life of St. Francis* (Bonaventure, pp. 179-327)

Week 5 (Mar. 6)

Topic: Medieval Spirituality and Piety
Secondary Sources: Cahill, pp. 176-213
Primary Sources: Francis of Assisi (Petry, pp. 116-125)
                   Bonaventure (Bonaventure, pp. 1-116)

Week 6 (Mar. 13) – PAPER TOPIC & PRELIMINARY BIBLIOGRAPHY DUE

Topic: Medieval Music
Secondary Sources: Cahill, pp. 214-268
                  ALSO: Start reading the Burge book *Heloise and Abelard*, try to read 2/3 of it
Primary Sources: Listening to medieval music, including Hildegard
Week 7 (Mar. 20)

Topics: Mysticism, Part 1 – Bernard of Clairvaux, Hildegard of Bingen, and Meister Eckhart
Secondary Sources: *Hildegard of Bingen: A Spiritual Reader* (Butcher – read the whole book)
Primary Sources: Bernard of Clairvaux (Petry, pp. 47-78)
Hildegard of Bingen, *Excerpts in the Butcher book*
Meister Eckhart (Petry, pp. 170-207)

Week 8 (Mar. 27)

Topic: Early Scholasticism – Anselm, Abelard & Heloise, Hugh of St. Victor
Secondary Sources: *Heloise and Abelard* (Burge – finish the book)
Peter Abelard, *The Story of My Misfortunes* (online, 44 pages)
Peter Abelard, *Ethics/Know Thyself* (Fairweather, pp. 288-297)
Hugh of St. Victor, *On the Sacraments* (Fairweather, pp. 300-318)

Week 9 (Apr. 3) – RESEARCH PAPER DUE

Topics: Later Scholasticism – Peter Lombard, Thomas Aquinas, Duns Scotus,
Secondary Sources: *Christendom at the Crossroads* (Sheppard – read the whole book)
Primary Sources: Peter Lombard, *The Sentences* (Excerpts in Fairweather, pp. 334-351)
Thomas Aquinas, *Excerpts from the Summa on the Eucharist* (TBD)
John Duns Scotus, *Commentary on the Sentences* (Fairweather, pp. 17-32, 428-436)

Week 10 (Apr. 10) – RESEARCH PAPER PRESENTATIONS

Topic: The Papacy, the Lateran Councils, and the Proto-Protestants
Secondary Sources: Cahill, pp. 269-300
Primary Sources: William Ockham, *Questions on the Power of the Pope* (Fairweather, pp. 437-442)
John Wycliffe (*Excerpts online*)

[NO CLASS 4/17 (Holy Thursday) & 4/24, SPRING BREAK]

Week 11 (May 1) – RESEARCH PAPER PRESENTATIONS

Topics: Mysticism, Part 2 – Catherine of Siena, Julian of Norwich, The Cloud of Unknowing
Secondary Sources: Cahill, pp. 301-312
Primary Sources: Catherine of Siena, *Divine Providence* (Petry, pp. 263-284)
Julian of Norwich, *Revelations of Divine Love* ([online PDF](#))
Anonymous, *The Cloud of Unknowing* ([online PDF](#))

**Week 12 (May 8) - RESEARCH PAPER PRESENTATIONS**

*TENTATIVE* Topic: Mysticism, Part 3 – Teresa of Avila, John of the Cross
Secondary Sources: Cahill (Postlude, pp. 313-318)
Primary Sources: OPTIONAL - Teresa of Avila, *Interior Castle*
          OPTIONAL - John of the Cross, *Dark Night of the Soul* (Starr)

**Week 13 (5/13 – NOTE: THIS IS A TUESDAY, MAKE-UP for Holy Thursday)**

Topic: Wrap-up