

REVISED AUGUST 6, 2007

HS 2498 Church to 1400

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Mon,Thurs 11:10-12:30, JSTB 216

Description: From its beginnings Christianity has been impacted by its multiple and expanding cultural situations. This foundational course examines the development of Christianity to 1400 with attention to the diversity rooted in its cultural contexts. Limit: 20 students.

Requirements: readings; participation; four papers on primary texts, one from each part of the course; oral final.

Due dates for papers: Sept 27 for Part 1: Oct. 29 for Part 2; Nov. 19 for Part 3; Dec. 6 for Part 4.

Dates for oral finals Dec. 12 and 13.

Objectives: students 1) will become familiar with the major themes in Christian history to 1400; 2) will develop understanding of the cultural diversity within Christianity throughout the period; 3) will gain initial familiarity with the historical interpretation of primary sources; 4) will grow in precision in expressing historical understanding in both written and oral formats.

Assessment: Competence in objectives 1, 2, and 4 will be assessed in class participation and in the exams; competence in objectives 2, 3, and 4 will be assessed in the papers. Grading: 15% class participation; 15% each paper; 25% final.

Texts: 1) Dale T. Irvin and Scott W. Sunquist, History of the World Christian Movement: Vol 1: Earliest Christianity to 1453 (Maryknoll, New York: Orbis, 2001); 2) some xeroxed material, distributed in class ; 3) primary texts, available on line unless otherwise noted.

Course Outline and Readings

Part 1: From Beginnings to the Great Church

Sept. 6 Cultural and Religious Situation; Christian Beginnings and Apostolic Memory. I & S cc 1-4. One canonical Gospel in full. Gospel of Thomas.
(http://www.gnosis.org/naghamm/nhl_thomas.htm)

Sept. 10 Christian Movement in Syria, Mesopotamia, Greece, Asia Minor. I & S cc 5-6. Didache (<http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/text/didache-lake.html>). Ignatius of Antioch, To the Ephesians(<http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/text/ignatius-ephesians-roberts.html>).

Sept. 13 Christian Movement in Western Mediterranean, Alexandria, Egypt. I & S cc 7-8. Xeroxed Article. Martyrdom of Perpetua and Felicitas. (<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/perpetua.html>)

Sept. 17 The Great Church Emerges. I & S cc 9-10. Tertullian, On Baptism (http://www.tertullian.org/articles/evans_bapt/evans_bapt_text_trans.htm). Xeroxed material from Irenaeus, Against Heresies

Sept. 20. Cross Currents – Gnostics and Manichees; Christians and Jews. I & S cc 11–12. Tertullian, Against Praxeas (<http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/text/terullian17.html>).

Sept. 24. Spiritual Currents and Social Life across Cultures. I & S c 13. Eusebius, Ecclesiastical History, Book VIII (http://www.ccel.org/fathers2/NPNF2-01/Npnf2-01-13.htm#P4859_2227406).

Part 2: The Age of the Imperial Church: Affirmation and Dissent c 300 to c 600

Sept. 27 Constantine; the Struggle in North Africa. I & S cc 14-15. Cyprian, Letters 33(ANF 26) and 69 (ANF 75) – handouts which may be used for papers.

Oct. 1 The Arian Controversy. and the Making of Orthodoxy. I & S c 16. Creeds of Nicaea and of I Constantinople – handout which may be used for papers.

Oct. 4 The Road to Chalcedon and Christological Diversity. I & S c 17. Chalcedonian Definition (<http://www.ewtn.com/faith/teachings/incac2.htm>).

Oct.8 Developments in Syria, Egypt and Ethiopia. I & S cc 18-19.

Oct. 11 Developments in the West; Work of Justinian and Theodora. I & S cc 20-21. As prep for next class please read *City of God*, bk 14 (<http://www.newadvent.org/fathers/120114.htm>).

Oct. 15 Augustine.

Oct. 18 Review of course to date.

Oct 22-26 Fall Break

Part 3: New Challenges, New Beginnings, 600-1000.

Oct. 29 Coming of Islam. I & S cc 22-23. Recommended but neither required and not a subject for papers: Al-Tanûkhî, *Ruminations and Reminiscences* (<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/980al-atanukhi.html>).

Nov. 1 Christian Movement in Africa and Spain. I & S c 24. Recommended but neither required nor a subject for papers: *The Jews of Spain and the Visigothic Code*, (<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/jewish/jews-visigothic1.html>) and Ibn Abd-el-Hakem, *The Islamic Conquest of Spain*, (<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/conqspain.html>).

Nov 5 Expansion of Christian Movement in India, Central Asia and China. I & S c 25.

Nov. 8 Making of Christendom in the West. I & S c 26.

The Battle of Tours (<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/arab-poitiers732.html>);
The Donation of Constantine, (<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/donatconst.html>);
General Capitulary of the Missi (<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/carol-missi1.html>);
Baptism of Slaves Belonging to Jews, (<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/agobard-baptism.html>);
On the Division of the Empire;
(<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/830agobard.html>).

Nov 12 Monasticism in the West. I & S c 27. Charter of the Abbey of Cluny, (<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/chart-cluny.html>).

Nov15 Christianity in Eastern Roman Empire and to the North. I & S cc 28-29.

John of Damascus, *In Defense of Icons*, (<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/johndam-icons.html>),
Recommended but neither required nor a subject for papers: Second Council of Nicaea, *Decree on Icons*, (<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/nicea2-dec.html>).

Part 4. New Political Horizons, 1000 to 1453.

Nov 19 Controversies and Crisis in Christendom. I & S cc 30-31.

Decree on Papal Elections 1059,
(http://www.yale.edu/lawweb/avalon/medieval/papale1.htm?CFID=6172558&CF_TOKEN=27269141)
Henry IV, *Letter to Gregory VII*,
(<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/henry4-to-g7a.html>),

Gregory VII, *Second Banning of Henry IV*,
(<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/g7-ban2.html>),
Concordat of Worms,
(<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/worms1.html>).

Nov 22 Thanksgiving - NO CLASS

Nov 26 Spiritual and Intellectual Renewal in Western Christendom 1100-1300. I & S cc 32-33.

Testimony of Francis,
<http://www.op.org/domcentral/trad/brethren/default.htm>,
Conversion of Waldo,
(<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/waldol.html>),
Anna Comnena, The Bogomils,
(<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/comnena-bogomils.html>),
Lateran IV, Canon III,
(<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/lat4-c3.html>).

Nov 29 Byzantium in the Thirteenth Century. I & S c 34.
Xeroxed Material.

Dec 3 Christianity in Asia and Africa. I & S cc 35-36.

Dec 6 Conclusion: From 1300 to 1453. I & S cc 37-38.

December 10: NO CLASS; prepare for final.

Wednesday, Dec. 12, Thursday, Dec. 13 -ORAL FINALS