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Dallas Theological Seminary

HT5101HO, The Church to the
Modern Era, 3 hrs.
Fall 2020
Hybrid: Thu, Oct 15 (6:00pm-
9:00pm); Fri, Oct 16 (8:00am-
5:00pm); Sat, Oct 17 (8:00am-
5:00pm); Online Throughout Fall
Semester

THE CHURCH TO THE MODERN ERA SYLLABUS

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

A study of Christianity from the second century to the rise of the Enlightenment with special emphasis on the institutional history of the church as well as theological developments in the church.

II. COURSE OBJECTIVES

- A. The student will know the general history of the Christian church and the writings of leading Christian thinkers to the Modern Era.
- B. The student will understand the various ecclesiastical traditions of the church through studying their doctrines and practices.
- C. The student will reflect upon his or her understanding of theology through the lens of doctrinal formulation and development through the centuries.
- D. The student will analyze the validity of theological perspectives by studying the thought of various historical figures and their movements.
- E. The student will synthesize the historical development of various trends in theology such as the growth of individualism or the emergence of a specific church tradition, practice, polity, or movement.
- F. The student will perceive the value of historical studies and gain insight for their ministries.

III. COURSE TEXTBOOKS

A. Required

Hannah, John D. *Invitation to Church History: World*. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2018. (608 pp.)

Purves, Andrew. *Pastoral Theology in the Classical Tradition*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2001. (144 pp.)

B. Recommended

Gonzalez, Justo. *The Story of Christianity*, vol. 1, *The Early Church to the Dawn of the Reformation*. Rev. and updated. New York: HarperCollins, 2010. (528 pp.)

Gonzalez, Justo. *The Story of Christianity*, vol. 2, *The Reformation to the Present Day*. Rev. and updated. New York: HarperCollins, 2010. (560 pp.)

IV. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A. Reading Assignments

1. **General Reading (30%).** The student should strive to complete the required texts according to the course schedule below. No reading report is necessary if the student believes, in good faith, that he or she has completed at least 90% of the reading by the due date of the final exam. If the student has completed less than 90% of the reading, he or she will report the approximate percentage to the professor, rounded up to the nearest 10%.

2. **Selected Reading (20%).** In addition to the required reading, students will select from the following twelve reading options or they may propose other primary source reading options to the professor, who will assign point values to the selections. Point values are determined by quantity, difficulty, and value of the readings, not on page count alone. A maximum of twenty (20) reading points may be earned through primary source reading, for a total of 20% of the course grade. N.B. Please note that without twenty (20) points total selected, the highest possible score for the semester is an 80 (C). No reading report is necessary if the student has completed at least 90% of the selected reading by the due date of the final exam. If the student has completed less than 90% of the selected reading, he or she will report the approximate percentage to the professor, rounded up to the nearest 10%.

1. *The Apostolic Fathers (Didache, 1 Clement, 2 Clement, Epistles of Ignatius, Epistle of Polycarp, Martyrdom of Polycarp, Barnabas, Shepherd of Hermas, Epistle to Diognetus)* (20 points)
2. Justin Martyr, *Dialogue with Trypho* (10 points)
3. Irenaeus of Lyons, *Demonstration of the Apostolic Preaching* (10 points)
4. Athanasius of Alexandria, *On the Incarnation*. (10 points)
5. Eusebius of Caesarea, *Ecclesiastical History* (20 points)
6. Augustine of Hippo, *Confessions* (20 points)
7. Vincent of Lerins, *Commonitorium* (10 points)
8. Ratramnus, *On the Body and Blood of the Lord* (10 points)
9. Gottschalk of Orbais, *Medieval Predestination Controversy* (20 points)
10. Anselm of Canterbury, *Cur Deus Homo?* (10 points)
11. Peter Abelard, *History of Calamities* (10 points)
12. Catherine of Siena, *Dialogue of Catherine of Siena* (10 points)
13. Julian of Norwich, *Revelations of Divine Love* (10 points)
14. Thomas Aquinas, *Summa Theologica*, each 150 pages (10 points)
15. Teresa of Avila, *The Way of Perfection* (10 points)
16. Martin Luther, *On the Bondage of the Will* (10 points)
17. John Calvin, *Of Prayer: A Perpetual Exercise of Faith* (10 points)
18. John Calvin, *Institutes*, Book 1 (10 points)
19. James (Jacob) Arminius, *Collected Works*, each 100 pages (10 points)

B. Response Paper (25%)

Based on a critical reading of Andrew Purves's *Pastoral Theology in the Classical Tradition*, the student will write a five-page response to the book, addressing the following areas:

1. State the basic thesis (argument) of Purves's book and how he supports it. I.e., what is Purves's "agenda," and to what perspective is he trying to persuade his readers?
2. What are the patterns of contemporary pastoral ministry Purves is attempting to challenge by a reflection on the classical tradition?
3. Discuss what a classical approach to contemporary ministry might look like in your particular ecclesiastical tradition. How might the classical approach challenge your current structures and practices?
4. In what ways has Purves's book challenged your perspective on contemporary pastoral ministry?

C. Final Exam

Online Final Exam (25%). One objective final exam will be given at the end of the semester covering major figures, themes, events, dates, and developments in the Patristic, Medieval, Reformation eras. This exam will consist of a variety of multiple choice, matching, and true/false questions. It will be a closed-book, closed-note type of exam. A study guide will be provided online. The final exam must be taken on Canvas within two weeks after the conclusion of the course.

V. COURSE SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Dallas Theological Seminary works to provide reasonable and appropriate accommodations to students with psychological, medical, physical, and learning disabilities. A student desiring or needing accommodations on the basis of such disabilities or of medical incidents such as hospitalization or severe injury is to contact the Director of Services for Students with Disabilities (<https://students.dts.edu/studentlife/disability-services/>). If the student is aware of a condition that may impact his/her studies, the student should contact the Director of Services for Students with Disabilities prior to the beginning of the semester or at the onset of a crisis.

VI. COURSE POLICIES

A. Letter-Number Grade Scale

A+	99-100	B+	91-93	C+	83-85	D+	75-77	F	0-69
A	96-98	B	88-90	C	80-82	D	72-74		
A-	94-95	B-	86-87	C-	78-79	D-	70-71		

B. Weight Given to Course Requirements for Grading

General Reading	30%
Selected Reading	20%
Purves Response	25%
<u>Final Exam</u>	<u>25%</u>
	100%

C. Class Participation

Class sessions are intended to include the interaction of class members. The student is encouraged to participate in class and group discussions for her or his own learning and enrichment. All comments or questions should be collegial, polite, and respectful.

D. Use of Electronics

To promote class participation and to avoid distraction, the use of electronic equipment—including cell phones, audio or video players, recording devices (except for recording lectures for personal use only), or internet browsing and text messaging—is prohibited during class. Students may use laptop computers only for taking notes during lectures. Exceptions to this prohibition must be approved by the professor in advance.

E. Terms of Assignments

1. *Work Related to Previous or Parallel Course Work.* Work that has been done (or is being done) for other classes may not be used to earn credit in this class. However, students are encouraged to wisely use ministry- or work-related preparation in concert with coursework, and if minor adjustments to course requirements can be made to accommodate this arrangement, the professor will be open to reasonable proposals.

2. *Plagiarism.* Take note that *plagiarism* (copying from Internet, articles, or books) or any form of deception or cheating is strictly prohibited and can be grounds for expulsion from the Seminary. All sources should be fully documented and quotation marks used when appropriate. See www.plagiarism.org for current issues in plagiarism. Ignorance of guidelines is not a defense against charges of plagiarism.

3. *Late Assignments.* All assignments, unless otherwise noted, are to be turned in at the beginning of the designated class. Without a valid excuse, late homework may lose five points per day of classes.

F. **Absences**

Penalties for non-attendance will be assigned according to the *Student Handbook*.

VII. COURSE LECTURES AND ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE

Date	Lecture and Discussion Topics
8/24— 9/5	ONLINE VIEW: Unit 1—(Overview of Church History) READ: Hannah, <i>Invitation to Church History</i> , Volume 1, <i>World</i> , pp 1-99
9/7–9/19	READING READ: Hannah, <i>Invitation</i> , pp 100–193
9/21– 10/3	READING READ: Hannah, <i>Invitation</i> , pp 194–225 READ: Purves, <i>Pastoral Theology in the Classical Tradition</i> , pp. 1-54
10/5– 10/14	READING READ: Hannah, <i>Invitation</i> , pp 226–273 READ: Purves, <i>Pastoral Theology in the Classical Tradition</i> , pp. 55-75
Thursday 10/15 6:00pm- 9:00pm	LIVE Apostolic Fathers
Friday 10/16 8:00am- 5:00pm	LIVE The Patristic Period Later Patristic Period Early Medieval Period
Saturday 10-/17 8:00am- 5:00pm	LIVE Early Medieval Period Late Medieval Period
10/19– 10/31	ONLINE VIEW: Unit 7—Luther and the Reformation READ: Hannah, <i>Invitation</i> , pp 276–301 READ: Purves, <i>Pastoral Theology in the Classical Tradition</i> , pp. 76-94
11/2- 11/14	ONLINE VIEW: Unit 8—Reformation/Calvin, Zwingli, and Anabaptists READ: Hannah, <i>Invitation</i> , pp 302-375 READ: Selected Reading (first half)
11/16- 11/27	WEC WEEK AND SPRING BREAK—NO ASSIGNMENTS DUE
11/30- 12/12	ONLINE VIEW: Unit 9—English and Roman Reformation READ: Hannah, <i>Invitation to Church History</i> , Volume 1, pp 376-463 READ: Purves, <i>Pastoral Theology in the Classical Tradition</i> , pp. 95–125 READ: Selected Reading (second half)
12/14– 12/17	FINALS WEEK ONLINE VIEW: Unit 10—The Enlightenment READ: Hannah, <i>Invitation to Church History</i> , Volume 1, pp 466–523 WRITE: Purves Critical Review FINAL EXAM: Online Final Exam

Note: The professor reserves the right to make modifications to the above schedule.