



Grace Communion Seminary
CH502 Church History: The Second Millennium
Short Syllabus

Instructor: Neil Earle

Please contact me through the course website by clicking on “course contacts” in the right-hand column. All class-related communications should be sent through here, rather than e-mail. Your message will not be visible to other students.

Course Description:

This course surveys the Western Church from the time of the first Crusade (1095) down to today's latest renewal movements. “The Church reformed must always reform itself” is a central theme. It addresses the Western Church at the height of its power, the crisis that triggered the Reformation and the “great ideas” of Luther and Calvin. Then come the challenges of the Enlightenment, the rise of science, and pivotal American experience. Culture, theology and grass-roots spirituality dynamically interact in this broad overview showing the Holy Spirit leading his people through all the ups and downs.

Required Textbooks:

Three texts will be necessary for in-depth reading in order to fulfill the requirements of the course. Along with the lectures, these will be vital for doing well in the forum responses, quiz and final exam. Please obtain these books before the course begins. To find the lowest prices, you may find it helpful to use www.bookfinder.com.

Bass, Diana Butler. *A People's History of Christianity: The Other Side of the Story*. New York: Harper One, 2009. ISBN 978-0-06-144871-3. [A “bottom-up” hands-on exegesis of the Holy Spirit at work in the grassroots] c. \$14.99

Jenkins, Philip. *The Lost History of Christianity: The Thousand-Year Golden Age of the Church in the Middle East, Africa and Asia and How It Died*. New York: HarperOne, 2008. ISBN 9780061472817. \$15. (For the first book report. If you've done Jenkins in CH501 we'll have to discuss a substitute.)

Spickard, Paul R. and Kevin M. Cragg. *A Global History of Christians*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1994. **Main Text**. ISBN 0801022495 (approx. \$6 used to \$21 new).

Book Report #2: One of the following is to be reviewed and a 4-5 page summary written:

Cahill, Thomas. *Heretics and Heroes: How Renaissance Artists and Reformation Priests Created Our World*. New York: Anchor Books, 2013. ISBN 978-0-385-49558-5. \$16.95 new. [Culture study of how the Church interacted with art and civilization after the Middle Ages].

Copan, Paul and William Flannagan. *Did God Really Command Genocide: Coming to Terms with the Justice of God*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2014. ISBN 978-0801016226. [O.T. background to Crusades and just war theory]

Gregory, Brad S. *Rebel in the Ranks: Martin Luther, the Reformation, and the Conflicts That Continue to Shape Our World*. New York: HarperCollins, 2017. ISBN 978-06-247118-5. \$17.99 new. [The unintended consequences of the Reformation on our own time—very readable profile of Luther’s theology].

Keller, Timothy. *The Reason for God: Belief in an Age of Skepticism*. New York: Riverhead Books, 2008. ISBN 978-1-5944. \$16.00. [A readable study in “apologetics” from a prominent mega-church pastor].

Kimball, Dan. *They Like Jesus But Not The Church: Insights from emerging generations*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2006. ISBN 978-0-310-24590-2. \$18.99. [Strategies for answering pertinent complaints against the Church].

McGrath, Alister. *Christianity’s Dangerous Idea: The Protestant Revolution* (to page 196). San Francisco: HarperOne, 2007. ISBN 9780060822132. [Interesting and readable, reinforces course concepts]

Menocal, Maria Rose. *Ornament of the World: How Muslims, Jews and Christians Created a Culture of Tolerance in Medieval Spain*. Boston: Little, Brown & Company, 2002. ISBN 0-316-56688-8. [Encouraging in our times.]

Moltmann, Jurgen. *Jesus Christ for Today’s World*. Augsburg Fortress Publishers, 1994. ISBN 0800628179. [Profound “liberal evangelical” apologetic from a theologian trying to reach a post-Christian audience]

- Nicolson, Adam. *God's Secretaries: The Making of the King James Bible*. HarperPerennial, 2005. ISBN-10:0-06-083873-6. [A top-notch, inspiring case history of how God works through politics]
- Noll, Mark. *God and Race in American Politics*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 2008. ISBN 978-0-691-14629-4[Leading American historian addresses a timeless subject]
- Schaeffer, Francis. *How Should We Then Live: The Rise and Decline of Western Thought and Culture*. Old Tappan, N.J. Fleming H. Revell Company, 1976. ISBN 0-1152-2513882-1. [Culture history from a respected evangelical philosopher in a tumultuous decade]. Used books should be available.
- Shapiro, Ben. *The Right Side of History: How Reason and Moral Purpose Made the West Great*. New York: Broadside, 2019. \$17.99. ISBN: 0062857908. [Like Schaeffer, exploring the impact of the Church on Judeo-Christian culture]
- Torrance, Thomas F. *Theological and Natural Science*. Eugene: Wipf & Stock, 2002. ISBN 9781579107901. [The “scientific theologian” shows how the New Physics of Einstein and Bohr is congenial with biblical concepts.]

Recommended Textbooks:

- Here are helpful works for further study but not vital for this particular course.
- Cook, William R. and R.B. Herzman, *The Medieval World View: An Introduction*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2004.
- Cross, F.L. and E.A. Livingstone. *The Oxford Dictionary of the Christian Church*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1997 edition.
- Gonzalez, Justo. *The Story of Christianity* (2 volumes). HarperSanFrancisco, 1985.
- Hagglund, Bengt. *History of Theology*. Saint Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 2007.
- Jenkins, Michael. *Invitation to Theology*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2001.
- Latuorette, Kenneth. *A History of Christianity* (2 volumes). HarperSanFrancisco, 1975.
- McKim, Donald K. *Westminster Dictionary of Theological Terms*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 1996.
- McGrath, Alister E. *The Christian Theology Reader*. Oxford: Blackwell, 1995.
- Neill, Stephen. *A History of Christian Missions*. Penguin, 1986 edition.
- Noll, Mark A. *A History of Christianity in the United States and Canada*. Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans, 1992.

Reid, Daniel G. (ed.) et alia. *Concise Dictionary of Christianity in America*.
Eugene: Wipf and Stock, 2002.

Student Learning Outcomes for CH502

Course Student Learning Outcome 1: Identify the key events and ideas of the Church's second millennium and be familiar with the order in which the events took place. Success for this outcome will be determined through a short quiz, online discussions and a proctored final exam which includes a longer quiz.

Course Student Learning Outcome 2: Explain how the Holy Spirit led men and women to access the power of God amid so much outward turmoil and confusion. Success for this outcome will be determined through a 5-page formal report of one book on the list of additional required texts.

Course Student Learning Outcome 3: Describe the major differences between the various Christian traditions as in Chapter 4 and the "isms" issuing from the Reformation.

Course Student Learning Outcome 4: Analyze events from an Incarnational Trinitarian perspective, especially the upward guidance of the Holy Spirit in all the sometimes bewildering events. Success for this outcome will be determined through a three-page reflection paper during the final exam.

Requirements and Assignments

Quiz #1: Covers Lectures 1-3 and assigned texts; **open book**; to be completed after Lecture 3: 10 points.

Internet Discussions (five worth 10 points at the end)

Book Report #1 (five pages, due Wednesday of week seven): 20 points

Final Exam week of March 22-29; proctored; non-cumulative; **open book**; three-to four-page reflection essay and 25 multiple-choice questions, to be completed **simultaneously**, week 11) worth 40 points (25 + 15)

Book Report #2 (five pages, due April 12 by 23:55 CT): 20 points

Most times will be in American Central time.

Weekly Topics and Assignments Chart

Lecture Topics	Assignment for Next Class
1. Introduction/The Early Middle Ages	<p><u>Spickard and Cragg</u>: Chapter 4, The Age of Faith <u>Bass</u>: Introduction/ pages 121-136— “Who is My Neighbor” to “Enemies as Neighbors” (Inclusive) Discussion 1</p>
2. The Search for Reformation	<p><u>S&C</u>: Chapter 7, Transformation & Renaissance <u>Bass</u>: pages 136-159—“Animals as Neighbors” to “The Word for All” Discussion 2</p>
3. Luther and Calvin’s “Great Ideas”	<p><u>S&C</u>: Chapter 8, The Reformation (end with Calvinism) <u>Bass</u>: Pages 162-207 “Devotion” to “The Unfinished Reformation”</p>
4. The Rise of Sectarianism	<p><u>S&C</u>: Chapter 10 (end with Protestant Scholasticism), Chapter 8, The Catholic Reformation Discussion 3</p>
5. Anglicans, Puritans and American Roots	<p><u>S&C</u>: Chapter 9, Protestants in North America; Chapter 8, English Reformation <u>Bass</u>: Chapter 10—pages 211-237.</p>
6. Rationalism and Pietism	<p><u>S&C</u>: Chapter 1, The Greek Context; Chapter 10, The Enlightenment to Herrnhut inclusive <u>Bass</u>: Chapter 12: Ethics to page 261 (end with “Community”) Discussion 4</p>

7. J. Edwards, John Wesley and the Great Awakenings	<u>S&C</u> : Chapter 10, Methodism; Chapter 11; Chapter 14, “The meaning of secularity” to “An autonomous self” (inclusive) Book Report #1 (5 pages) due by Wednesday, February 24, 23:55 ET
8. “The Evangelical Century” (1800s)	<u>S&C</u> : Chapter 12; Chapter 13, “Africa,” “China” to “Korea” <u>Bass: Pages 261-275 :Community” to “Ecumenism” inclusive</u>
9. Twentieth Century Crucible	<u>S&C</u> : Chapter 14, “A product of forces” to Chapter 15 (inclusive) <u>Bass, pages 275- end of “Ecumenism” to bottom of page 288 with “Harvard Square.”</u> Discussion 5
10. Postmodernism and The World Church	<u>S&C</u> : Chapter 16 <u>Bass: pages 288-306, “culture war” sentence on 288 to end of the book</u>
Week 11 (March 22-29)	Proctored Exam (includes 3- to 4-page reflection essay)
Week 12 (March 29 begin drafting papers)	Book Report #2 (5 pages) due Monday, April TBA, 23:55 ET All work finished Monday, April 12

Grading System:

Quiz 1...10 out of 10 points. All Exams Open Book/Open Notes.

Internet Discussion...10 out of 10 points

Book Report # 1...20 out of 20 points

Proctored Exam (non-cumulative) including 25 multiple-choice questions (1 point each) and a 15 point reflection essay...40 out of 40 points

Book Report #2...20 out of 20 points

Scoring:

95-100% = A Truly outstanding and even original work.

90-94% = A- Excellent. Superior grasp of materials.

87-89% = B+ Above average work. Fulfills all expectations.

84-86% = B Shows extra effort, achievement, etc.

80-83% = B- Average work. Assignments completed on time.

77-79% = C+ Average work. Some problem with punctuality, etc.

74-76% = C Average work. Some problems with assignments, etc.

70-73% = C- Below average work. Failure to follow directions.

66-69% = D Unsatisfactory work. No credit given.

0-65% = F Assignments not completed. Not acceptable.

Book Reports: In essence both Book Reports should be a formal, footnoted, well researched piece of scholarship. Begin the report with basic statistics on the book: the title, the author, and the year it was published. Be sure to maintain academic discipline and scholarly objectivity throughout. Don't overgeneralize. Avoid statements such as, "Alistair McGraw is really long-winded." It is a good idea to select your chosen book early in the course, taking notes as you go. Then consider these questions:

- What was the author's main point? How did he/she set out to prove it?
- What evidence did he/she advance to make his case?
- Did he/she fail or succeed?
- How does this work contribute to church history?
- Last paragraph—your opinions, reactions.

Forum Discussions should be opinions based on fact, not grinding an axe; relevant to the course and adding to other student's points; clear, tactful and respectful. Your best 5 scores out of 7.

The **Final Proctored Exam** will include a Reflection Essay giving your personal impressions as to the value of what you learned or key subjects or personalities that caught your attention and the relevance to today’s world or the ministry situation you find yourself in. The exam will also include 25 multiple-choice questions as in Quiz One. These two components must be completed in one sitting with a proctor.

Reflection Essay (3 pages in the final exam worth 15 points.) Suggested Themes:

- What did you gain most from the course?
- Were there any personalities or incidents that stood out?
- How will this help you in your future endeavors?
- Why would you recommend this course for others?
- Where does it fit in the flow of Christian theology?

Assignments, estimated hours, and grade weighting

Assignment	Hours *	Percentage of grade
Reading the syllabus and lectures	19	
Reading other website documents	2	
Watching video and listening to audio	2	
Reading discussions and making responses	4	10
Taking quiz #1	1-2	10
Taking the final exam	2-3	40
Reading the textbooks & books for book reports	80	
Studying for the exam	10	
Writing book reports	15	40
Total – about 12 hours each week	135	100

* This is an estimate for the “average” student. A student who reads quickly may be slow in writing papers, and vice versa. Some students will complete the course requirements in less total time, and some will take more time.