Northern Seminary
CH 302-ol REFORMATION AND MODERN CHRISTIANITY (Online)
April 4 – June 10, 2016
Professor: Rev. Dr. Antonia Lucic Gonzalez
Contact: agonzalez@faculty.seminary.edu
Phone: 626-318-4478

Students are expected to log in Moodle before the first day of classes. To access the online forum, go to www.seminary.edu and click on Moodle (under Current Students). All registered students will be enrolled in Moodle the week before the term begins.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course covers the historical, spiritual and institutional development of the Christian Church worldwide over the period of five hundred years, starting with the European Reformation and ending towards the close of the twentieth century. We will analyze the theological developments brought about by the Reformation, Puritanism, Protestant Orthodoxy, Wesleyanism, Enlightenment, contextual theologies, etc., and explore how the Church dealt with philosophical and doctrinal issues that are of ongoing significance. Close attention will be given to the fragmentation of the Church during and after the Reformation, to the lives and principal writings of the most significant Christian leaders, to the development of different Protestant identities, and to the historical context in which these important events occurred.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. Students will learn to think critically about the key theological ideas, major movements and influential personalities that shaped the Church. They will acquire the ability to clearly and coherently articulate the meaning of Christian faith and its historical development.

2. Students will gain awareness of key original source documents in each century that will be covered. They will develop knowledge and understanding of church history as a discipline which uses methods of historical research, inquiry, and critical evaluation. Their skills of researching, critically examining and interacting with original historical sources will increase.

3. Students will learn to appreciate church history as a narrative of human response to the content of the Gospel. Additionally, they will be encouraged to continually evaluate the role of the historian in the re-telling and interpretation of that narrative. They will develop knowledge and understanding of church history as a discipline which uses methods of historical research, inquiry, and critical evaluation.

4. Students will acquire an ability to evaluate contemporary trends in church doctrine and, should their ministry require it, will be equipped to address current doctrinal disputes in an informed way.

5. Students will have an opportunity to grow in character and gain wisdom for ministry by bringing their faith into conversation with that of the Christians in the centuries past. As they assess the theologies/practices they encounter in the course, the students will be challenged to develop and defend their own expressions of Christian doctrine and spirituality.
SIGNIFICANCE FOR LIFE AND MINISTRY: The last two course objectives address the significance of the course for life and ministry. The course seeks to lead students to a deeper understanding of their own ecclesiastical traditions and beliefs, as well as to an informed appreciation for the diversity of the one, holy, catholic, and apostolic church to which they belong. As Christianity is a uniquely historical faith, to minister effectively in any age requires a thorough knowledge of this past. While our learning and discussions will be primarily historical and theological in nature, a lot of effort and intentionality will be put into integration of academic material and practical application.

REQUIRED READING

Textbooks:


ATLA Full Text Articles:


**Online Reading:**

http://www.reformedreader.org/rbb/baxter/reformedpastor/trplist.htm


http://www.sermonindex.net/modules/articles/index.php?view=article&aid=13691

http://books.google.com/books?id=_73isB36t9IC&printsec=frontcover&source=gbs_ge_summary_r&cad=0#v=onepage&q&f=false

http://books.google.com/books?id=79orAAAAYAAJ&printsec=frontcover&source=gbs_ge_summary_r&cad=0#v=onepage&q&f=false

http://books.google.com/books?id=2_RLAAAAAYAAJ&printsec=frontcover&source=gbs_ge_summary_r&cad=0#v=onepage&q&f=false

http://books.google.com/books?id=k5T8vh2PUPkC&printsec=frontcover#v=onepage&q&f=false

http://books.google.com/books?id=7T_wTDYy94IC&printsec=frontcover&source=gbs_ge_summary_r&cad=0#v=onepage&q&f=false


Or


http://books.google.com/books?id=7l9hAAAAMAAJ&printsec=frontcover&source=gbs_ge_summary_r&cad=0#v=onepage&q&f=false

http://www.umcmission.org/Find-Resources/John-Wesley-Sermons/Sermon-40-Chr

Whitefield, George. Sermon: Marks of a true conversion.

________________. Sermon: Almost Christian.

OR podcast:

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS:

1. Readings: Students are expected to prepare for each session by reading, listening, and viewing the assigned materials on time as indicated in the course schedule.

2. Online Discussions: Students are required to participate regularly in the online forums. There are two of those discussion forums per week, Discussion Session A (Sunday-Tuesday) and Discussion Session B (Wednesday-Friday). Each week students are required to make two substantial posts and two response posts (one substantial plus one response per Discussion). The substantial posts—amounting to somewhere between 400 and 450 words (not exceeding 600 words)—should be directed towards the starter questions provided by the instructor. These posts should draw from the assigned readings, both secondary and primary historical material for the course. Students are expected to demonstrate engagement with the readings by citing and evaluating them. The response posts should be directed toward the follow-up discussion provided by your classmates. In that response post, students would engage with other students who have posted. They may be brief and need not cite the readings. Students may choose to do more than one required response post per discussion.

The discussion posts constitute 30% of the grade. Students cannot be absent from more than two discussion sessions and expect to pass. Absence from one and/or two discussion sessions will be subject to a penalty in grade. Students will also be penalized for posting late, after a discussion session has ended. Absence from more than two discussion sessions will automatically constitute a course failure.
3. **Exams:** Students will take two exams consisting of multiple choice, true-false, fill in the blank, and short answer questions. You must read and review the readings in advance, since the exams are time-restricted. You may not use course materials.

4. **Paper:** Students will write one 8-10 page paper on a topic of their choosing. Paper should be double-spaced with one-inch margins, using 12-point Times New Roman font. Students must follow the style guidelines found in Kate L. Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations* (8th ed.; University of Chicago Press, 2013). Please contact the professor early in the course if you have questions about what is expected. For very specific guidance on writing papers, see *Paper Instructions* and *Sample Paper* on the course’s online page. Late papers will be penalized 5 points per day.

**Late Assignments Policy:** All assignments must be completed on time. Assignments completed late will be accepted only on permission of the instructor and are subject to a penalty in grade. No assignments can be completed after the last day of the quarter without prior permission from the professor for an Incomplete.

**Attendance Policy:** Students cannot be absent from more than two discussion sessions and expect to pass. Absence from one and/or two discussion sessions, as well as late posts, will be subject to a penalty in grade.

**WEEKLY SCHEDULE**
The course will follow a set schedule during the week, progressing from Session A to Session B. The discussion forums will be live beginning at 5:00pm on Sundays and Wednesdays until 10:00pm two days later. Then you must take the quiz between 6:00am Friday and 9:00pm Saturday, on the weeks exams are given.

**Session A:** Sun 5:00pm – Tue 10:00pm
**Session B:** Wed 5:00pm – Fri 10:00pm

**Week 1**

A. **Historical Background**
   Gonzalez, *The Story of Christianity*, 7-56 (49 pp)

**Primary Sources**
   Bettenson, *Documents: The Ninety Five Thesis*, 205-212 (7 pp)
   Luther, *A Commentary on St. Paul’s Epistle to the Galatians*, 81 (“This briefly...”) – 83 (Now, it shall be...”), (2 pp)
   *Letters of Martin Luther:*
   - *To Pope Leo X*, 28 (1 p)
   - *To Elector Frederick*, 36 (2 pp)
   - *To Pope Leo X*, 43 (1 p)
   - *To Elector Frederick*, 44 (1 p)
   - *To Emperor Charles V*, 48 (1 p)
   - *To Pope Leo X*, 57 (3 pp)

= 67 pages
B. Historical Background:
Noll, *Turning Points*, 151-174 (23 pp)
Lindberg, *Theology and Politics: Luther the radical and Muntzer the reactionary*, 356-371 (15 pp)

Primary Sources
Bettenson, *Documents: Two Treatises, Diet of Worms*, 213-223 (10 pp)
*12 Articles of the Peasants*, 18-24 (5 pp)
*Letters of Martin Luther*:
  - To his Father Hans, 87 (2 pp)
  - To his Father Hans, 202 (2 pp)
  - To his Mother, 265 (1 p)
  - To his wife, 471-475 (4 pp)

= 62 pages

Week 2

A. Historical Background
Gonzalez, *The Story of Christianity*, 57-86 (29 pp)
Moldenhausner, *A Translation and Analysis of Martin Luther's 1528 Catechetical Sermons on the Lord's Supper*, 43-60 (17 pp)
Snavely, "The Evidence of Things Unseen": Zwingli's Sermon on Providence and the Colloquy of Marburg, 399-407 (8 pp).

Primary Sources
*Letters of Martin Luther*:
  - To his wife, 196 (1p)

= 55 pages

B. Historical Background
BBC Radio: *In Our Time: Calvinism* at http://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/console/b00qvq7z/In_Our_Time_John_Calvin 43 minutes

Primary Sources
Wenger, *Schleitheim Confession*, 243-253 (10 pp)
Johnson, *The Development of John Calvin's Doctrine of Infant Baptism in Reaction to the Anabaptists*, 803-823 (20 pp)
Hubmaier, *Concerning heretics and those who burn them*, 84-88 (4 pp)

= 34 pages

Week 3

A. Historical Background
Gonzalez, *The Story of Christianity*, 87-124 (37 pp)
Noll, *Turning Points*, 175-196 (21 pp)

= 58 pages

B. Historical Background
Gonzalez, *The Story of Christianity*, 125-150 (25 pp)
Noll, *Turning Points*, 197-220 (23 pp)
Primary Sources
Bettenson, *Documents*, 272-281 (9 pp)
= 57 pages

Week 4
A. **Historical Background**
   Gonzalez, *The Story of Christianity*, 151-210 (59 pp)
   **Primary Sources:**
   Bettenson, *Documents*:
   - *Millenary Petition*, 311 (2 pp)
   = 63 pages

B. **Historical Background**
   Gonzalez, *The Story of Christianity*, 211-236 (25 pp)
   **Primary Sources**
   Baxter, *Reformed Pastor*, Chap.1, section 2 (approx. 5 pp)
   Bunyan, *Christian Behaviour*, Chaps. 3, 4, 5, 7 and 8 (approx. 10 pp)
   = 48 pages

Week 5
A. **Historical Background**
   **Primary Sources**
   Bettenson, *Documents*: *Deistic Controversy*, 345-349 (4 pp)
   = 57 pages

B. **Historical Background**
   Noll, *Turning Points*, 221-244 (23 pp)
   Wesley, *Sermon: On Christian Perfection* (approx. 6 pp)
   Whitefield, *Sermons*:
   - *Marks of a true conversion* (approx. 2 pp)
   = 56 pages

*Quiz 1: Fri 6:00am – Sat 9:00pm*

Week 6
A. **Historical Background**
   Gonzalez, *The Story of Christianity*, 293-329 (36 pp)
   = 36 pages
B. Historical Background
Gonzalez, The Story of Christianity, 332-348 (16 pp)
Nordbeck, The American churches and slavery: a case study in unity and disunity, 75-84 (9 pp)
= 25 pages

Week 7
A. Historical Background
Marsden, Fundamentalism as an American phenomenon: a comparison with English evangelicalism, 215-232 (17 pp)
= 17 pages

B. Historical Background
Gonzalez, The Story of Christianity, 363-398 (35)
Primary Sources
= 55 pages

Week 8
A. Historical Background
Gonzalez, The Story of Christianity, 349-362, 399-416 (30 pp)
Noll, Turning Points, 245-268 (23 pp)
Primary Sources
Spurgeon, Eccentric Preachers, Chap. 1: What is eccentricity? (approx. 7 pp)
= 60 pages

B. Historical Background
Gonzalez, The Story of Christianity, 417-440 (23 pp)
Noll, Turning Points, 269-294 (25 pp)
Primary Sources
Carey, Sermon: An Inquiry into the Duty of Christians to use Means for the Conversion of the Heathens, (approx. 2 pp)
= 61 pages

Week 9
A. Historical Background
Gonzalez, The Story of Christianity, 441-472 (31 pp)
Primary Sources
Bettenson, Documents:
The Roman Catholic Church at the 2nd Vatican, 359-368 (9 pp)
Resistance in Nazi Germany, 372-375 (3 pp)
= 43 pages
B. **Historical Background**  
= 33 pages

**Week 10**  
A. **Historical Background**  
Gonzalez, *The Story of Christianity*, 495-530 (35 pp)  
**Primary Sources**  
Bettenson, *Documents*, 375-390 (15 pp):  
  
  - Black Theology in the 1960s  
  - The Origins of Liberation Theology  
  - Liberation Theology and the Vatican  
  
= 50 pages

B. **Historical Background**  
Noll, *Turning Points*, 295-315 (20 pp)  
**Primary Sources**  
Bettenson, *Documents*, 390-395 (5 pp):  
  
  - The Ordination of Women  
  - Feminist Theology  
  
= 25 pages

*Quiz 2: Fri 6:00am – Sat 9:00pm*

*Paper due at end of Week 11, Saturday, June 18, 9:00 pm*

**COURSE EVALUATION**

*Master students:*  
30% Class Participation (Quality of Online Posts)  
35% Paper  
35% Exams

**GRADING SCALE**

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POLICIES FOR ALL MASTERS CLASSES

NOTE: All communications from the seminary will go to your seminary email account. Contact ithelpdesk@seminary.edu if you need help forwarding your seminary email address to your personal email address.

As a seminary community we hold integrity/hospitality as core values. Individuals are able to do their best work and thinking when their peers are fully present and engaged. We expect each person to both participate in class and carefully listen to others with the belief that everyone’s contribution is equally important. Therefore, the following policies have been established in order to provide clarity in regard to attendance expectations and relationships in the classroom.

Late Work Policy
If a student cannot complete the work for a course by the due date listed on the syllabus, they must submit a “Request for a Grade of Incomplete” form to the Registrar by 4:30 of the last day of the term. The form must be signed by the instructor and Dean of Students. The professor may set stipulations and grade reductions. In the absence of a formal request form, the student will receive a grade based upon work completed by the last day of the term.

Turabian Format
All papers, including footnotes and bibliography, must be submitted in the correct format according to Kate L. Turabian, A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations, 8th ed., 2013.

Plagiarism
Plagiarism is the act of passing off as one’s own the words or ideas of someone else without providing proper acknowledgement or documentation. See the “Academic Honesty Policy” in the Seminary Catalog for more information on plagiarism and how to avoid it.

Electronic Format
Unless otherwise specified by the professor, all work submitted electronically must be in a Word document format (.doc, .docx).

Course Evaluation in Moodle
Students must complete an online course evaluation using the seminary Moodle system at http://moodle.seminary.edu. The evaluation will be open at the end of the course. If you need assistance connecting to Moodle or accessing the evaluation, please send an email to moodlehelp@seminary.edu.