
CH 527 COURSE SYLLABUS

THE MEDIEVAL CHURCH *and* THE REFORMATION

From the Rise of Charlemagne to The Council of Trent

Fall, 2020. Instructor: Fr. Luke Dysinger, OSB. Email: ldysinger@stjohnsem.edu.
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COURSE WEBSITE: *through Sonis*, or <http://ldysinger.stjohnsem.edu>

DESCRIPTION:

This course will introduce the history, theology, and spirituality of the Christian Church from the rise of Charlemagne (c. 800) to the Council of Trent (1563). This course will provide an overview of both the theological and spiritual traditions of the Medieval Church through the time of the Catholic Reformation, culminating in the Council of Trent. The rich ethnic and cultural diversity of Christian thought during this period will be highlighted through study of primary sources from the Jewish, Roman, Greek, Celtic, Anglo-European, Slavic, Middle-Eastern (Syriac), and Egyptian (Coptic) traditions. In order to profit from the cultural and ethnic diversity of the student body, students are encouraged to bring to classroom discussion the early and medieval origins of their cultural traditions: including, for example, the theological, liturgical, and spiritual emphases that distinguish Western Catholicism from Eastern traditions such as the Maronite, Chaldean, Melchite, Malabar, and Ruthenian churches.

During each class selected primary and secondary texts will be studied and discussed. A large proportion of the primary texts will be taken from the Office of Readings. In this way students' ongoing prayerful study of these texts in the liturgy will provide a deepening re-acquaintance with patristic and early medieval sources of Christian spirituality and doctrine.

GOALS:

1. The student will be able to identify important persons, events, and schools of thought that influenced the development of Christian doctrine and the diversity of Christian spiritual traditions.¹
 2. The student will be able to use medieval, renaissance, and reformation texts to teach the development of doctrine as part of the "New Evangelization".²
 3. The student will learn to make use of primary and secondary sources available in both printed and electronic formats, and will become familiar with appropriate reference tools in early church history.³
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COURSE FORMAT *and* EVALUATION:

1. This course will combine lecture and class discussion. In order to maximize the effectiveness of lectures in our culturally diverse student population, representing a wide range of different linguistic experience and ability, all audio-visual materials presented in lectures will be available through the course website or in the seminary library. Lecture/discussion will be based on assigned readings that may be downloaded from the course website. Active participation in class discussions is essential, and will figure into the final evaluation.
2. The midterm and final examinations will consist of "take-home" essay questions. The questions will be made available on the day scheduled for the exam, and are due one week later: the exam must be typed, double-spaced, and submitted electronically in .doc, .docx, or pdf format as an email attachment.
3. Research will be undertaken using primary sources studied in class or cited in the bibliography below. Possible topics for a paper or Powerpoint/Webpage-based presentation include: (1) any historical, spiritual or theological subject raised during the period from the ninth century to the Council of Trent or (2) a comparison of any theme in two or more Christian writers. **The goal of the research is to demonstrate familiarity with Christian primary sources.** The paper or presentation will be due on or before Friday, November 27, 2020.

- 3.a. The student will write a research paper at least eight pages in length (excluding bibliography and notes) double-spaced and including appropriate references.
- 3.b. Students who prefer the medium of verbal presentation may submit the results of their research as a 20-30 minute PowerPoint or web-page presentation. In order for these presentations to have pedagogical value they may not simply duplicate material presented in class or taken from the course website. Citations must be accompanied by appropriate references. Students must submit a recorded narrative intended to accompany the presentation: both presentation and narrative are due on or before Friday, November 27, 2020.
4. Late work will be accepted for a grade only if the professor grants an extension. Requests for an extension must be made in writing and submitted by email before the due date. Out of fairness to those who submit their work on time, late work will normally be graded down by one-half letter grade for each day it is late.
5. Students must clearly distinguish between: (a) their own work; and (b) ideas or text they have taken from other sources, including the Internet, published texts or audio-visual materials. The requirement to distinguish clearly between one's own work and the research of others applies equally to written and oral presentations. Failure to give credit to cited sources constitutes plagiarism and will result in a grade of "F" for both the material presented and the course. "Wikipedia" is not a reliable source for historical study and should not be cited in exams or research projects.
6. In order to receive a passing grade for the course the midterm, paper, and final exam must all be submitted. The final course grade will be computed as follows:

Class participation	10%
Research paper or presentation	30%
Midterm	30%
Final Examination	30%

DIVERSITY:

- a) PEDAGOGY: "The rich ethnic and cultural diversity of medieval and reformed Christian thought will be highlighted through study of primary sources from the Jewish, Roman, Greek, Celtic, Anglo-European, Slavic, Middle-Eastern (Syriac), and Egyptian (Coptic) traditions. In order to profit from the cultural and ethnic diversity of the student body, students are encouraged to bring to classroom discussion the patristic origins of their cultural traditions: including, for example the theological, liturgical, and spiritual emphases that distinguish Western Catholicism from Eastern traditions such as the Maronite, Chaldean, Melchite, Malabar, and Ruthenian churches." (from: *Description*, above)

"In order to maximize the effectiveness of lectures in our culturally diverse student population, representing a wide range of different linguistic experience and ability, all audio-visual materials presented in lectures will be available through the course website or on CD-ROM in the library." (from: *Course Format*, above)
- b) ASSESSMENT: "In lieu of a paper, students who prefer the medium of verbal presentation may offer the results of their research as a 15-20 minute PowerPoint or web-page presentation." (from: *Format and Evaluation*, above)

REQUIRED TEXTS (All required readings Available through Sonis):

1. CH 527 TEXTBOOK: contains selection from Chadwick, Walker, and Logan.
2. CH 527 *Medieval and Reformation Primary Sources*.
3. CH 527 TEXTS of ECUMENICAL COUNCILS VIII-XVIII
4. Duffy, Eamon. *Saints & Sinners, A History of The Popes; Fourth Edition*, (Yale Univ. Press, 2015). ISBN: 0300206127

5. Eberhardt, Newman, C.C.M. *A Summary of Catholic History, Volume II Modern History*, (Herder, 1961). OCLC: 769033106
6. Hitchcock, James. *History of The Catholic Church From the Apostolic Age to the Third Millennium*, (Ignatius, 2012). ISBN: 1586176641
7. MacCulloch, Diarmaid, *Reformation, Europe's House Divided* (Penguin, 2004). ISBN: 978-0-14-192660-5
– *Christianity, the First Three Thousand Years* (Viking, Penguin, 2009). ISBN: 0143118692.
8. Pope Benedict XVI, *Patristic and Medieval Christian Authors* (text of weekly audiences).

PRIMARY SOURCES:

Are available on the course website and in downloadable texts. Assigned texts should be reviewed before the class at which they will be discussed.

RECOMMENDED TEXTS (Some Available through Sonis):

- Chadwick, Owen, *A History of the Popes, 1830-1914, Oxford History of the Christian Church* (Oxford, 1998) ISBN: 0199262861
- *The Popes and European Revolution, Oxford History of the Christian Church* (Oxford, 1981) ISBN: 0-19-826919-6
 - *The Reformation, The Pelican History of the Church*, (Penguin, N.Y., 1964)
- Comby, J. *How to Read Church History: From the Beginnings to the Fifteenth Century*, (Crossroad, 1990).
- Cross, F. L., *The Oxford Dictionary of the Christian Church*, (Oxford University Press).
- Deansly, Margaret, *A History of the Medieval Church, 590-1500*. (Routledge. London. 1989)
- Dickens, A.G., *The Counter Reformation* (Thames and Hudson, London, 1968) ISBN: 0393950867.
- Dvornik, Francis. *The Ecumenical Councils*, (Hawthorne Press, 1961).
- Hitchcock, James, *History of the Catholic Church from the Apostolic Age to the Third Millennium*, (Ignatius, 2012).
- Hughes, Philip. *A History of the Church to the Eve of the Reformation: Vol 3, The Council of Lyons to Martin Luther* (CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2012). ISBN: 1475202075.
- *The Church in Crisis: A History of the General Councils, 325 – 1870*. (Hanover House, New York, 1961). OCLC: 1284043
- Jedin, Hubert, ed. *Ecumenical Councils of the Catholic Church: An Historical Survey*. (Paulist Press, New York, 1961).
- *History of the Church /Handbook of Church History* (Crossroad, New York : 1981)
 - v. 4. *From the High Middle Ages to the eve of the Reformation* / by H.G. Beck [and others]
 - v. 5. *Reformation and Counter-Reformation* / by Erwin Iserloh, Joseph Glazik, Hubert Jedin
 - v. 6. *The church in the age of absolutism and enlightenment* / by Wolfgang Müller [and others]
 - v. 7. *The church between revolution and restoration* / by Roger Aubert [and others]
 - v. 8. *The church in the age of liberalism* / by Roger Aubert [and others]
 - v. 9. *The church in the industrial age* / by Roger Aubert [and others]
 - v. 10. *The church in the modern age* / by Gabriel Adriányi [and others]
 - *History of the Council of Trent, vol. 1: The Struggle for the council* (ACLS Humanities, 2008). ISBN:1597403741
 - *History of the Council of Trent, vol. 2: The First Sessions at Trent, 1545-1547*. (ACLS Humanities, 2008). ISBN:1597403741
- Logan, F. Donald, *A History of the Church in the Middle Ages*, (Routledge, London. 2002)

- Louth, Andrew, *The Origins of the Christian Mystical Tradition from Plato to Pseudo-Dionysius*, (Clarendon, Oxford University Press, 1981).
- MacCaffrey, James. *History of the Catholic Church; Volume II, from the Renaissance to the French Revolution*, (Herder, 1912/ repr. (CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2012). ISBN: 147910549X.
- MacCulloch, Diarmaid, *Christianity, the First Three Thousand Years* (Viking, Penguin, 2009)
- McGinn, Bernard, *The Foundations of Mysticism, Origins to the Fifth Century: The Presence of God, A History of Western Christian Mysticism, vol. 1* (Crossroad, 1991).
- Neill, Stephen. A History of Christian Missions, *The Pelican History of the Church*, (Penguin, N.Y., 1964) ISBN 0140137637
- Quasten, Johannes, *Patrology* (4 vol.).
- Southern, R.W., *Western Society and the Church in the Middle Ages*, (Penguin, 1983).
- Vaucher, Andre, *The Spirituality of the Medieval West from the Eighth to the Twelfth Century*, (Cistercian, 1993).
- Walker, Williston, *A History of the Christian Church*, (General Books LLC, 2009)
- The Church Fathers in Translation: *Fathers of the Church* (Catholic Univ. of America Press);
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COURSE OUTLINE:

Classes will meet in the Philosophy Library, Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 9:00-9:50.

Numbers in brackets refer to the selections from the course textbook which should be read prior to the relevant lecture [Suggested readings from MacCulloch, *Christianity* (“Mac.”) and Hitchcock (“Hitch.”), in brackets, are optional].

REVIEW A: BYZANTIUM and the RISE of ISLAM (1 hr.)

[14.1] Justinian [14.2]; The Lombards; [14.3]. The Rise of Islam; [14.4].The Constitutional Development of the Church;

PRIMARY TEXTS: §1. Qur’an.

REVIEW B: MONASTIC MISSION and the TRANSMISSION of LEARNING (1 hr.)

[15.1]. Missions in the British Islands; [15.2]. Continental Missions and Papal Growth; [15.3] The Transmission of Learning

ADDITIONAL READINGS: *Ben.XVI*: “Columban”, “Bede the Venerable”, “Boniface”..

PRIMARY TEXTS: §2, Maximus Confessor; §3Damascene; §4, Patrick; §5, Irish Commutations.

1. THE CAROLINGIAN EMPIRE (2 hrs.)

[16].1. The Franks and The Papacy; [16].2.. Charlemagne; [16].3. Ecclesiastical Institutions; [16].4.. Collapsing Empire and Rising Papacy. [optional: *Mac*. Ch. 11]

ADDITIONAL READINGS: *Ben.XVI*: “Scotus Erigena,” “Rabanus Maurus.”

PRIMARY TEXTS: §6, *Dream of the Rood*; §7 Bede; §8, Chrodegang.

2. INVASION, DECAY, and REFORM (2 hrs.)

[17.1] Viking Invasions; [17.2] Papal Decline and Renewal by the Revived Empire; [17.3] Reform Movements; [17.4] The Reform Party Secures the Papacy [optional: *Hitch*. Ch. 6]

ADDITIONAL READINGS: *Ben.XVI*: “Odo of Cluny,” “Peter Damien,”

PRIMARY TEXTS: §9, Dhuoda; §10 Grimlaicus.

3. MEDIEVAL CHURCH and STATE in CONFLICT (2 hrs.)

[18.1] The Papacy Breaks With the Empire; [18.2] Hildebrand and Henry IV; [18.3] The Struggle Ends in Compromise. [optional: Mac. Ch. 12]

ADDITIONAL READINGS: *Ben.XVI*: “Peter the Venerable.”

PRIMARY TEXTS: §15, *Dictatus Papæ*.”

4. EXPANSION and CONFLICT (1 hr.)

[19.1] The Greek Church after the Iconoclastic Controversy; [19.2] The Spread of the Church [optional: Mac. ch. 13-15]

PRIMARY TEXTS: §15, *Dictatus Papæ*; §11 Modern Athonite Anti-Papalism.

5. NEW MOVEMENTS AND SECTS (4 hrs.)

[20.1] The Crusades; [20.2] New Religious Movements; [20.3] Heretical Sects. Cathari and Waldenses. The Inquisition

ADDITIONAL READINGS: *Texts of Ec. Councils*: Lateran I; Lateran 2. *Ben.XVI*: “Bernard.”

PRIMARY TEXTS: §13, John of Fecamp; §14, Anselm; §16, Hugh of St. Victor; §17a, Bernard on Mary.

6. CHIVALRY (2 hrs.)

[21.1] The Peace and Truce of God; Ceremonies of Knighthood; Marian Chant and Hymnody; The Arthurian Legends; Queen Eleanor of Aquitaine and The Courts of Love;

ADDITIONAL READINGS: *Texts of Ec. Councils*: Lateran 3.

PRIMARY TEXTS: §17b, Bernard, *On the New Knighthood* §18, Aelred, *On Friendship*.

7. FRIARS and LEARNING (3 hrs.)

[21.1] The Dominicans And Franciscans; [21.2] Early Scholasticism; [21.3] The Universities; [21.4] High Scholasticism and its Theology; Medieval Science (Aquinas, Albert the Great, Duns Scotus, Roger Bacon, William of Occam)

ADDITIONAL READINGS: *Texts of Ec. Councils*: Lateran 4. *Ben.XVI*: “Monastic & Scholastic Theology,” “Mendicant Orders,” “Francis,” “Bonaventure,” “Albert,” “Aquinas,” “Duns Scotus.”

PRIMARY TEXTS: §19, Francis; §20, Bonaventure; §21, Aquinas.

8. MYSTICS and SPIRITUAL WRITERS (4 hrs.)

[22.1] Medieval Mysticism; [22.2] From Eckhart to the *Devotio Moderna*

ADDITIONAL READINGS: *Ben.XVI*: “Romanesque & Gothic Cathedrals,” “Mechtild,” “Gertrude,” “Julian of Norwich.”

PRIMARY TEXTS: §22, Gertrude the Great; §24, Meister Eckhart; §25, Julian of Norwich.

9. PAPAL LEADERSHIP and SCHISM (2 hrs.)

[23.1] Missions And Defeats; [23.2] The Papacy At Its Height And Its Decline; [23.3] The Papacy In Avignon, Criticism. The Schism . [optional: Mac. Ch. 16; Hitch. Ch. 7]

ADDITIONAL READINGS: *Texts of Ec. Councils*: Vienne.

10. EARLY NATIONALISM (2 hrs.)

[24.1] Wyclif And Huss; [24.2] The Reforming Councils; [24.4]. The New National Powers; [24.5]. English and German Unrest [optional: Hitch. Ch. 8]

ADDITIONAL READINGS: *Texts of Ec. Councils*: Constance; Basel. *Ben.XVI*: “Catherine of Siena,” “Joan of Arc”.

PRIMARY TEXTS: §23, Dante.

11. THE RENAISSANCE (2 hrs.)

[24.3] The Italian Renaissance And Its Popes; [24.4] The Spanish Church: *Reconquista* and Renaissance; [24.5]. Renaissance and other Influences North of the Alps [optional: *Hitch*. Ch. 8]; [24.6] Eckhart and *Devotio Moderna*. Renaissance science: Copernicus, Vesalius, DaVinci

ADDITIONAL READINGS: Duffy, §4.I (p.83-92); Eberhardt, §1-11 (p.3-36).

PRIMARY TEXTS: §26, Cisneros, *Spiritual Exercises*; §30, John Colet.

12. CONCILIARISM (2 hrs.)

[23.1] Missions And Defeats; [23.2] The Papacy At Its Height And Its Decline; [23.3] The Papacy In Avignon, Criticism. The Schism . [optional: *Mac*. Ch. 16; *Hitch*. Ch. 7]

ADDITIONAL READINGS: Duffy, §3.IV (p.72-83). MacCulloch, *Reformation*, ch.1. *Texts of Ec. Councils*: Constance; Basel.

13. PROTESTANTISM (4 hrs.)

Lateran V; Erasmus; Luther; Ignatius Loyola; Calvin, Zwingli; Henry VIII and the English Church; The Waldensians

READINGS: Duffy, §4.II (p.92-98); Eberhardt, §19-31 (p.62-103).

PRIMARY TEXTS: §29, Luther; §34, *The Thirty-Nine Articles*.

14. CATHOLIC REFORM and THE COUNCIL of TRENT (4 hrs.)

Philip Neri; Charles Borromeo; Spanish Carmelites; *Concilium de Emendata Ecclesia*; The Council of Trent; Bellarmine

READINGS: Duffy, §4.III (p.98-107); Eberhardt, §32-37 (p.104-123). *Ben.XVI*: “Teresa of Avila,” “John of the Cross,” “Peter Canisius,” “Robert Bellarmine.”

PRIMARY TEXTS: §27, Teresa of Avila; §28, John of the Cross; §31, Ignatius Loyola; §32, de las Casas.

15. NATIONALISM AND RELIGIOUS WARS (1 hr.)

The Thirty Years War; French Civil and Huguenot Wars; British Religious Strife; Slavic Catholic Survival

READINGS: Duffy, §4.IV (p.107-115); Eberhardt, §38-43 (p.124-140).

¹ Benchmark for Goal #1: At least 80% of students will receive a grade of “B” or higher on exam questions covering the interaction of three different cultures, Western Christianity, Eastern Christianity, and Islam during the Crusades.

² Benchmark for Goal #2: At least 80% of students will receive a grade of “B” or higher on exam questions covering the doctrinal response of the Catholic Magisterium at the Council of Trent to theological issues raised during the Reformation.

³ Benchmark for Goal #3: At least 80% of students will demonstrate competence in academic research techniques by receiving a grade of “B” or higher on an assigned research paper.