

COURSE SYLLABUS *for* HIS 310 – HISTORY OF CHRISTIANITY †

ARIZONA CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

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SPRING SEMESTER 2012
Thursday Evenings, 6:30 — 9:00 PM
Classroom: SAC 212

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This seminar offers a meaningfully detailed overview of the birth and growth of “Christianity.” We begin with the vibrant **Intertestamental Period** as background for the nascent **apostolic witness communities**. We examine **Primary Sources** used for the study of ecclesiastical history. Remaining sessions, **Era by Era**, will cover: institutional developments, schisms, theological conflicts, and influential leaders and movements that comprise, for better and worse, Christianity’s Legacy.

COURSE MISSION STATEMENT

The Lord of the Universe sanctified time and entered it. The birth and growth of His witness community in, *but struggling not to be of*, the world presents us with an institutional history that we are prone to ‘idealize.’ An honest study of the legacy of manifest Christianity is of prophetic importance. Our religion is about repentance, and if we face our mottled past we can be more obedient in the future. Because the Church is a part of Redemption History...

To study history honestly is a redemptive activity!

This lofty goal is wholeheartedly dedicated to enhancing our University Mission, but it also must be distilled into manageable objectives appropriate to a difficult Survey Course:

COURSE OBJECTIVES – Participants in this seminar will:

1. Learn the major **Eras** of church history and their transitions. This ‘**Chronology**’ will be studied in its geographical-political context as well as the developmental-theological context.
2. Consider the most **authentic ROOTS** for Christian faith & praxis, while critiquing the nature of several *extra-biblical* (**‘un-rooted’**) doctrines and traditions.
3. Gain an appreciation for Christian **unity & diversity**, understanding the most significant schisms, points of divergence and matters of conflict.
4. Use historical studies as **Prophetic Tools** for: analyzing current trends, putting controversies in perspective, meeting new challenges, and removing parochial blinders. *All that so as to:*

Continue Reformation and Commit to Ultimate Restoration!

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS AND MANUAL

Student Manual. Notebook containing Study Aids, Chronologies, Outlines, Illustrations, Maps, Assignments, and the Exams! Print it out [from profboville.com] and keep it in a 3-ring binder. Additions will be given in class. This manual organizes vast course materials.

Our Father Abraham: Jewish Roots of the Christian Faith. Marvin Wilson. Eerdmans, 1989. ISBN: 978-0-8028-0423-5

The Story of Christianity: The Early Church to the Present Day. Justo Gonzalez. ISBN: 1-56563-522-1

[A reprint of *The Story of Christianity*, Volumes I and II (1984, 1985) in one large book by Prince Press, 2004]

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- 1. READ** all course materials according to the Schedule. Complete all Study Guides in the new **Church History Student Manual**. Be prepared for oral quizzing in class on any readings.
- 2. ATTEND *religiously***. All absences will result in point deductions from your final grade. In class, take notes so as to devise your own discussion questions and research methods.
- 3. Complete Three Extensive EXAMS** (which will include **ESSAYS**). Due-dates are on the schedule.
- 4. Participate in two Individual or Group PROJECTS. *Make history “come to life”!!***
Examples: Field Trip Reports. Dramatic Readings. Class Presentations on: Christian Art, Music, Church Architecture, Liturgy & Hymnody. Review a Church History Film. Critique a Sermon....
Your *choice* of project must be *approved* by the Instructor, but great freedom is given!
Projects will be self-directed and peer-graded. *Be creative and encourage one another.*
These activities should be edifying, meaningful, and highly enjoyable too!

GRADING SYSTEM

A straightforward point system will be used:

Attend = 000 points Attend well-prepared, alert and having eaten! (**NO food** in classroom please!)
[Each Absence will steal **30 points** from your possible 1000 point total!]

[**NOTE: IF** extra-curricular activities will cause you to miss several classes, please do **not** take this course.]
[Any discourteous behavior will be counted as an absence. Immaturity is not tolerated.]

Exams = 600 points [3 Exams worth: **I** = 300 points; **II** = 200 points.; **III** = 100 points.]

Projects = 400 points [2 projects x 200 pts. each]

Total = 1000 (1000 – 900 = A. 899 – 800 = B. 799 – 700 = C, etc.)

RESOURCES (Many are in our own superb Library, and tons more may be borrowed from Instructor!)

BOOKS and PERIODICALS:

Documents of the Christian Church, 2nd ed. *Readings in Christianity*, 2nd ed.

Back Issues of CHRISTIAN HISTORY Magazine, and of RESTORE Magazine

REFERENCE MATERIALS:

The Ante-Nicene Fathers (multi-volume set in Library Reference Section)

The Encyclopedia of Early Christianity. Everett Ferguson, ed.

The Encyclopedia Judaica

The Macmillan Atlas of the Christian Church. Franklin Littell, ed.

And...New International, Oxford, and Westminster all have very good

Dictionaries of the Christian Church



COURSE SCHEDULE – See page 8

A Word to the Wise: You **MUST** follow this Schedule ‘religiously.’ **Read *all*** the assigned pages (in Textbooks **and** Manual) **before class** or you will NOT enjoy the course and fulfill our objectives.

Do NOT disappoint the instructor or ‘quizzes’ will be punitive and will decimate your grade.

WELCOME TO 'HISTORY OF CHRISTIANITY.' YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES ARE:

Please **Attend class faithfully!** And arrive **alert!** Be mature enough to be challenged.

Your basic responsibility is to **Read the Textbooks** carefully (& complete **3 BIG EXAMS!**)

Come **prepared to discuss** and to receive new information about what you've read.

If you show up without having read the material, you will be lost and it will cost.

The main textbook is *The Story of Christianity* by Justo Gonzalez.

Gonzalez is **not** difficult to read. He is adept at giving you a glimpse into the colorful personalities responsible for perpetuating 'the Christian Faith' down to the present day! And, at least he is one scholar who *seems* to understand that Christianity began its history in a vibrant Jewish context.

But then, unfortunately, he ignores the deep implications of that connection!

He neglects the history of Christianity's deliberate dissociation from that heritage and the wretched antisemitism that soon developed. (And has persisted, tragically!)

Thus we'll read Marv Wilson's *classic* primer on Christianity's roots: ***Our Father Abraham.***

Your only other responsibility is to **participate** in an **activity, project, or field report.** These can be done in partnerships or small groups. If you would rather do a more 'scholarly' independent project, resources are plentiful. The goal of these activities is to learn a good deal more about some intriguing aspect of the thorny history of Christianity.

The real purpose is to make our history "come alive!"

Share with each other so as to learn from each other. Then, all you do is:

Submit a **2 page write-up** about your activity citing the sources, describing the gist of what you learned and explaining **how** it connects to something in our vast survey.

BE CREATIVE!



You may well be interested in things *other than* our institutional & theological history! Traditional Church Music, Art & Iconography, Mysticism, Portraits of Christ through the Ages, *etc.* You may present a Power Point on Church Architecture, Ritual, or Liturgy, *for example.* Dramatic Readings (of interesting documents, letters, martyrologies, *etc.*)...can be performed.

If you share any lessons from this course with your own Youth Group or Church Class, you can receive credit for that activity. Even showing a film and hosting an organized discussion (with study questions printed ahead of time) is one such activity. You can 'make history' as well as study it!

More SUGGESTIONS for FIELD REPORTS:

Visit *The Sisterhood of Mary* and interview one of the dear Sisters.
Examine rare manuscripts at the *Bible Museum* in Goodyear.
Visit a Synagogue, or the *Judaica Museum* at Temple Beth Israel.
Attend a Greek Orthodox or Roman Catholic Church service.



CHRONOLOGY FOR CHURCH HISTORY – MEMORIZE THE ERAS AND CENTURIES

The Era and Important Issues To Be Studied:

The General Timeframe:

- “Second Temple Period Judaism”** _____ **6th c.** B.C.E. up to the year **70 C.E.**
 The Intertestamental Period
 Jewish Sectarians under Extreme Pressure of Hellenism
 Messianic Expectations Heightened
- “The Nascent Witness Community”** _____ **The 1st c.** (Focus on ~49 to ~90 C.E.)
 Jesus, Disciples, & Apostles, *Shavuot* & Mission
 The ‘Parting of the Ways’ and Loss of Roots (Discussion covers from 30s to about 135 CE)
- “Early Christianity”** _____ **2nd, 3rd c.** (100s & 200s)
 Ante-Nicene Patristics, Martyrs,
 Apologists, Heresies, *Adversus Judaeos*
- “The Imperial Church”** _____ **The 4th c.** (Focus on 312 to ~388)
 Constantine, Reactions to ‘favored & official’ Xty,
 Council of Nicea, Post-Nicene Patristics
- “The Medieval Church & Dark Ages”** _____ **5th to 10th c.** (400s through 900s)
 Fall of Western Roman Empire, Barbarian Kingdoms Convert
 The Primacy of Rome’s Bishops (Papacy), Eastern-Byzantine Xty
- “The Late Medieval Church”** _____ **11th – 13th c.** (1000 to 1200s, *esp.* 1215)
 East–West Schism, ‘Holy’ Crusades & Inquisition
 Scholasticism, New Monastic Orders
 The Absolute Apex of Papal Power
-**End of Unit I...Begin Unit II**.....
- “The Pre-Reformation”** _____ **14th, 15th c.** (1300s & 1400s)
 Decline of Papacy, Conciliar Movement
 Renaissance Humanism; Pre-Reformers and SCRIPTURE
 Dissolution of the Medieval Xn Synthesis
- “The Protestant Reformation”** _____ **The 16th c.** (1500s, *esp.* 1517!)
 Erasmus, Luther, Zwingli, Anabaptists
- “Reformation – The Next Generation”** _____ **16th, 17th c.** (1500s and 1600s)
 Calvin, Anglicans, Puritans, RCC ‘Counters’ at Trent, Religious WARS!
-**End of Unit II...Begin Unit III**.....
- “The Enlightenment Era”** _____ **17th, 18th c.** (1600s and 1700s)
 ‘Age of Reason’ and Science, Religious Rationalism,
 Deists and Pietists attempt to reform the reformation!
 American and French Revolutions
- “The Nineteenth Century”** _____ **1800s through to WWI (1914–1918)**
 Global Missions, Darwinism, Liberalism, Many New Religions and Sects,
 Pagan *and* Christian Revivals, Vatican I
- “The Twentieth Century”** _____ **WWI to ‘Y2K’**
 Liberals *vs.* Fundamentalists, Neo-Orthodoxy, Evangelicals, *Charismatics*, Vatican II
 Holocaust and the Rebirth of Israel, Jewish-Christian Relations and Reconciliation
 Our Hebraic Heritage, Messianic Judaism, ‘The Jewish Roots Movement’
- “The New Millennium”** _____ **21st c.** to “The End of the Age”
 Extreme Challenges Today...We Desperately Need Restoration to Our True Roots!

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

THE JEWISH ROOTS OF CHRISTIANITY: LOSS AND RESTORATION

- Callan, Terrance. *Forgetting the Root: Emergence of Christianity from Judaism*. Paulist Press, 1986.
- Doran, Robert. *Birth of a Worldview: Early Christianity in its Jewish and Pagan Context*. Westview, 1995.
- Dunn, James A., ed., *The Parting of the Ways: Christianity and Judaism*. Trinity Press International, 1991.
- Flusser, David. *Judaism and the Origins of Christianity*. Magnus Press, 1988.
- Garr, John D., *Restoring Our Lost Legacy: Christianity's Hebraic Heritage*. Golden Key, 1989.
- Moseley, Ron. *Yeshua: A Guide to the Real Jesus and the Original Church*. Lederer, 1996.
- Shanks, Hershel, ed., *Christianity and Rabbinic Judaism: A Parallel History of Origins*. B.A.S., 1992.
- Surburg, Raymond F., *Introduction to the Intertestamental Period*. Concordia, 1975.

CHRISTIAN ANTI-JUDAISM AND ANTISEMITISM

- Brown, Michael L., *Our Hands Are Stained With Blood*. Destiny Image, 1992.
- Cohn-Sherbok, Dan. *The Crucified Jew: Twenty Centuries of Christian Antisemitism*. Eerdmans, 1997.
- Cunningham, Philip, ed., *Pondering the Passion*. Rowman & Littlefield, 2004.
- Evans, Craig and Donald A. Hagner, eds., *Antisemitism and Early Christianity*. Fortress, 1993.
- Gager, John G., *The Origins of Anti-Semitism*. Oxford University Press, 1983.
- Rausch, David A., *Fundamentalist Evangelicals and Anti-Semitism*. Trinity Press International, 1993.
- Williamson, Clark M., *Has God Rejected His People? Anti-Judaism in the Church*. Abingdon, 1982.

CHURCH HISTORY TEXTBOOKS and SPECIALTY BOOKS

- Bokenkotter, Thomas. *A Concise History of the Catholic Church*. Doubleday: Image Books, 1990.
- Bruce, F. F., *The Spreading Flame*. (Reprinted from 1958) Wipf & Stock, 2004.
- Coleman, Simon and John Elsner. *Pilgrimage*. Harvard University Press, 1995.
- Kung, Hans. *The Catholic Church: A Short History*. Modern Library Chronicles, 2003.
- Lindberg, Carter. *A Brief History of Christianity*. Blackwell, 2006.
- Marsden, George. *Fundamentalism and American Culture*. Oxford University Press, 1980.
- McGrath, Alistair. *The Future of Christianity*. Blackwell, 2002.
- Moynahan, Brian. *The Faith: A History of Christianity*. Doubleday, 2002.
- Peterson, R. Dean. *A Concise History of Christianity*. Wadsworth, 1999.
- Rausch, David A. and Voss, Carl H., *Protestantism: Its Modern Meaning*. Fortress, 1987.
- Taylor, Richard. *How to Read a Church: An Illustrated Guide to Images & Symbols*. Rider, 2003.
- Weaver, Mary Jo. *Introduction to Christianity*, 3rd edn. Wadsworth, 1998.

HISTORY OF THEOLOGY, LITURGY AND DOCTRINE

- Evans, G. R., ed., *The First Christian Theologians*. Blackwell, 2004.
- Finger, Thomas N., *Christian Theology: An Eschatological Approach*. [2 Vols] Thomas Nelson, 1985, 89.
- Gonzalez, Justo. *A Concise History of Christian Doctrine*. Abingdon, 1990.
- Gonzalez, Justo. *A History of Christian Thought*. [3 Vols] Abingdon, 1987.
- Kung, Hans. *On Being a Christian*. [Translated by Edward Quinn] Doubleday: Image Books, 1984.
- McGrath, Alister. *Historical Theology: An Introduction to the History of Christian Thought*. Blackwell, 1998.
- Olson, Roger. *The Story of Christian Theology: Twenty Centuries of Tradition and Reform*. IVP, 1999.
- Shanks, Robert. *Elect in the Son: A Study of the Doctrine of Election*. Westcott, 1970.
- _____. *Life in the Son: A Study in the Doctrine of Perseverance*. Westcott, 1961.
- Soulen, R. Kendall. *The God of Israel and Christian Theology*. Augsburg Fortress, 1996. ****A MUST READ!!**
- Williamson, Clark M., *A Guest in the House of Israel*. Westminster-John Knox Press, 1993.
- Wynkoop, Mildred Bangs. *Foundations of Wesleyan – Arminian Theology*. Beacon Hill, 1967.

BACKGROUND STUDIES, READERS, REFERENCE BOOKS and CLASSIC SETS

- Barrett, David, ed., *World Christian Encyclopedia*. Oxford University Press, 2000.
- Ben-Sasson, H. H., ed., *A History of the Jewish People*. Harvard University Press, 1976
- Bettenson, Henry and Chris Maunder, eds., *Documents of the Christian Church*. Oxford U. Press, 1999.
- Chadwick, Henry and G. R. Evans, eds., *Atlas of the Christian Church*. Oxford: Equinox Ltd., 1989.
- Charlesworth, James H., ed., *Jesus and the Dead Sea Scrolls: The Controversy Resolved*. Doubleday, 1992.
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- Ehrman, Bart D. *After the New Testament: A Reader in Early Christianity*. Oxford U. Press, 1999.
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- Ferguson, Everett. *Backgrounds of Early Christianity*. Eerdmans, 1987.
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- Latourette, Kenneth S., *Christianity in a Revolutionary Age*, (19th & 20th c.) [5 Vols] Zondervan, 1969.
- Littell, Franklin H., *Historical Atlas of Christianity*. Continuum, 2001.
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- Van Voorst, Robert E., *Readings in Christianity*. 2nd ed. Wadsworth, 2001.
- Wise, Michael, et. al., Translators. *The Dead Sea Scrolls: A New Translation*. Harper Collins, 1996.



Plan to spend quality time in our quality library!

PLEASE TAKE NOTE OF THESE ACU POLICIES:

Study Time:

Most University courses require that students spend a **significant** amount of time outside of class in individual study time. A guideline is to spend 2 – 3 hours per week for every credit hour. This means that in a 3 credit course 6 – 9 hours of outside study per week would be expected *at a minimum*. The actual in-class meeting time is short in University courses because it is expected that students work independently outside of class in order to meet the course requirements.

Accommodation and Special Needs:

Your instructor is willing to make any reasonable adaptations for limitations due to any disability, including learning disability, in keeping with **ACU** policies and the Student Handbook. Any student with documented certifiable special needs should contact the office of the Academic Advisor on campus and they will inform me of the proper accommodations you require. If you have a special need, even on a temporary basis, it is your responsibility to contact this office as soon as possible to disclose your disability information and discuss your accommodation needs. Students are required to make their requests in writing using the *Accommodation Request and Documentation Form* and document their disability in accordance with **ACU** policies and procedures. Documentation of the disability must be current (not older than a year) and provided by a qualified health care professional such as a diagnosing or current physician, psychiatrist or psychologist. It must comply with the requirements for documentation outlined on the *Accommodation Request and Documentation Form*. Accommodations are not retroactive. **ACU** reserves the right to verify all professional documentation and determine reasonable accommodation for any disability, including learning disability. Please see the Student Handbook for current detailed information regarding accommodation and special needs.

Retention of Examinations and Assignments:









Instructors will retain copies of student examinations and assignments not returned to students for one semester in case of dispute between a faculty member and a student in assigning or recording a grade. After that time, instructors may discard course materials in a manner that preserves student confidentiality.

E-mail Policy:

Students are issued an official **Arizona Christian University** student email address when they are admitted to the University. These addresses all have the same form: firstname.lastname@arizonachristian.edu. This is the only electronic mailing address recognized by the University. Students are responsible for all official University communications, including attachments, transmitted to this address. **ACU** faculty and staff are not responsible for forwarding email to personal email accounts that are not assigned by the University.

Students are required to check their **ACU** email on a daily basis.

This syllabus is subject to slight modifications, of which you will be informed by the instructor.

Thursday Nights 6:30 to 9:00	CHURCH HISTORY SCHEDULE Session Topics	Textbook Readings	Manual Units to Print, Study & Bring to Class!
Jan 19 and 26	 The Primary Sources We Use <i>Christianity's Hebraic Heritage</i>	Gonzalez – (Part I) Chs. 1 thru 6 Wilson – Preface, Chs. 1 thru 4, & 8	UNIT I ①
Feb 2	<i>The Nascent Witness Community</i> 'A Gradual Parting of Ways' <i>Adversus Judaeos</i>	Gonzalez – Chs. 7 thru 12 Wilson – Chs. 6 & 7	Unit I ②
Feb 9	<i>Ante-Nicene Patristics</i> <i>Constantine's "Conversion"</i> Imperial Favor and its Impact	Gonzalez – Chs. 13 thru 16 <i>Catch Up</i> on Wilson Readings!	Unit I ③
Feb 16	Nicea , Post-Nicene Patristics <u>C</u> reed, <u>C</u> anon and <u>C</u> lerical Hierarchy	Gonzalez – Chs. 17 thru 25 No More Wilson until Unit III	Unit I ④
Feb 23	Fall of Western Roman Empire Primacy of Rome and the Papacy Augustine and Medieval Theology	Gonzalez – Chs. 26 thru 29	Unit I ⑤
 Mar 1 1st Project DUE!	 Crusades, Inquisition and Anti-Jewish Libels Aquinas & Scholasticism	Gonzalez – Chs. 30 thru 32	Unit I ⑥
 Mar 8 EXAM I DUE!	TRANSITION - Unit I ⇒ Unit II The Dissolution of the <i>"Medieval Christian Synthesis"</i>	Gonzalez – Chs. 33 and 34	End Unit I Begin UNIT II
Mar 22	Renaissance & Christian Humanism 'Proto-Protestants' – Wycliffe, Hus Unleashing God's Word! <i>Tyndale</i>	(Now, Gonzalez – Part II) Chapters 1 thru 4	Unit II - A
Mar 29	REFORMATION Dr. Martin Luther	Chapters 5 thru 8, and 12 & 13	Unit II - B
 Apr 5 EXAM II DUE!	The Protestant Movement In Historical Perspective: An Overview and 'Appraisal'	Chapters 14 thru 20	Unit II - C
Apr 12	<i>Reforming the Reformation!</i> Enlightenment and Deism	Gonzalez – Chs. 21 thru 24 Wilson – Chs. 9 & 10	UNIT III - A
 Apr 19 2nd Project DUE!	The 19th Century  Church in an <i>Evolving</i> World	Gonzalez – Chs. 25, 26, 28, 30	Unit III - B
 Apr 26 EXAM III DUE!	The 20th Century <i>Crises and Crossroads</i>	Gonzalez – Chs. 31, 32, 33 Wilson – Chs. 11 & 12	Unit III – C1
May 3 rd	A New Millennium <i>We Need Our Roots!</i>	Gonzalez – Chs. 34, 35, 36 Wilson – Chs. 14 & 15	Unit III – C2