I. HC 521 Church History I

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    Email: asujai@allenuniversity.edu

III. Course Name and Description

HC 521 Church History I                         Credit 3 hrs.

This course is an introductory survey of life and thought in ancient and early medieval Christianity from the Gnostic crisis (second century) to the parting of the Greek and Latin churches (eleventh century). Some of the issues covered are: the multi-cultural and multi-ethnic character of ancient Christianity; the rise of doctrinal and biblical canons; ethics of war, wealth and sexuality; the flourishing of the ascetical principle; major theological writers and controversies.

IV. Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to: know major figures in Church History from the Apostolic, Ante-Nicene, Nicene, and post-Nicene periods; demonstrate an initial understanding of the cultural and societal influences on the development and diversity doctrines and the institutional governance of the Church in its various provincial expressions; demonstrate an ability to engage critically and analytically with textual, historical, and theological themes raised by the course material; display critical thinking skills through close reading and analysis of historical documents; thoughtful dialogue and communication with others in the learning community; improve communication skills through reading, writing, speaking; and inform your understanding with the use of responsible and intelligent use of resources, etc.

V. Course Policies

Attendance and Participation

- The university expects class attendance.
- The specific number of absences for this class must not exceed ten percent (10%) of the total number of contact hours/meeting days established for the course, as established by the university and the South Carolina Department of Education.
- Attendance is the responsibility of the student. Absence from class for more than 10% (3-4 classes) of the scheduled class sessions, whether excused or unexcused, is considered excessive.
- For absences that are considered excessive, your instructor will contact the Vice President of Student Affairs, who will research the reasons for said absences and will move forward with scheduling a meeting with you and the appropriate unit head.
- In some instances, excessive absences will be addressed as combined effort between the Vice President of Student Affairs and the Vice President of Academic Affairs.

Office Location: Professor’s Office Hours: By Appointment
Telephone Number: 803-376-5815
• Please note that bodily presence in the classroom is not synonymous with attendance. If you are unprepared for class, disruptive, inattentive, or asleep, you may be counted absent and potentially asked to leave the classroom.

• Students who leave class early, without an excused reason, will be marked absent.

• Lateness: Three instances of being tardy are equivalent to one absence.

• Class Participation: You are expected to attend each class session and actively participate in class assignments and activities. You are responsible for all class information whether you are in attendance or not. Disruptive behavior or disrespectful behavior is not permitted and will result in disciplinary action or dismissal from the course. Inappropriate behavior {fighting, threats, profanity, throwing/displacing objects, talking on cell phone/texting, other disrespectful behaviors} will not be tolerated and are in direct violation of the university's Code of Conduct Rules (see 2017-2018 Student Handbook on the university's website). Disrespect in any form will not be tolerated.

• Learning Disability: If you suspect you have or have been diagnosed with any type of learning disability, please inform your instructor and submit the necessary paperwork to ensure that you academic needs are being met.

• Academic Integrity: All members of the academic community recognize the necessity of being honest with themselves and with others. Cheating in class, plagiarizing, lying, and employing other methods of deceit diminish the integrity of the educational experience. Academic Policy states, "Use of cellular phones in class, the library and computer labs or university events is prohibited. Use of phone or other communication devices during tests or exams will be treated as academic dishonesty." Faculty will hold students responsible for academic integrity and will demand academic honesty on all work for the course. The instructor retains the right to set the minimum "academic" penalty for academic dishonesty in a course which includes failure of the course. See Student Conduct Code for definitions of Academic Dishonesty, including cheating and plagiarizing. Plagiarism: "Plagiarism is the act of representing as one's own the ideas or words of someone else and is the worst form of cheating. Allen University does not condone cheating in any form. Therefore, any student who borrows ideas, oral or written, from books or other sources, representing them in tests, term papers, themes, or other written assignments as his/her own, will be penalized. (Adapted from the Allen University Student Handbook.)

• Appropriate Dress: Head coverings including hoods are prohibited for men in any building. Hair wraps and bandanas are prohibited for all students outside of the student's living quarters. Shoulders and underwear should be covered. (Adapted from the Allen University Student Handbook)

• Electronic Usage Policy: Laptops are not allowed to be used in class, except by instructor permission. Cell phones are not permitted to be used in class, except by instructor permission. Please place phones on vibrate or off, out of plain site either in a book bag, pocket or purse. You may be dismissed from class for noncompliance with this policy. Listening or Recording devices are not permitted to be used in this class without prior Accommodation Service Documentation/Verification and the Instructors permission.

• Grading Policies and Procedures: Strive to complete each assignment to the best of your ability because there is no guarantee for extra credit. Your participation in this course is based entirely upon the goals and expectations you set for yourself. A copy of all your assignments should be kept for the duration of the semester and any concerns about your grade should be addressed as they develop. Office hours are kept specifically for this purpose.

• All grade challenges (including quiz errors) should be submitted in writing within 48 hours of the assignment being returned. Students seeking to challenge the grade must clearly explain the issue in question and provide evidence (i.e. specific examples from the assignment in question and evidence) that warrants the change. The steps for this process appear below:
Grade Challenges

1. Read through the assignment and make note of any comments.
2. Next read the assignment directions and/or instructional sheet (if applicable) and compare your assignment against the criteria marks you received in the rubric.
3. If there are segments or aspects of a question where you think you deserve higher marks, then provide evidence that supports your assertion for the points in question---if from a course materials/text provide page numbers.
4. Explain how and why this evidence warrants a change in the grade. Again, you must give specific examples that support your assertion before you explain why you feel you deserve a higher mark.
5. Type your concerns in a formal email and submit it to me within 48 hours of having the assignment in question returned. I will review what you have written and schedule a meeting to discuss my final decision or return my response via email.
6. Students must address any discrepancies in their grades (errors in grading, mistakes by the instructor, etc.) within a reasonable time. A reasonable time means any mistakes in assignments completed before the midterm should be addressed before the midterm exam is taken.

Websites to help students avoid plagiarism:

http://plagiarism.org/
http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets/plagiarism.shtml
http://www.library.arizona.edu/help/tutorials/plagiarism/index.html

• **Bonus Points:** From time to time bonus point opportunities may arise; however, there is never a guarantee for bonus points. The opportunities will be given in class. There are no make-up bonus opportunities. The cap for bonus points is 25 points per student. You may be able to improve a low grade through bonus point opportunities.

• **Exam Make up Policy** -Early Exams are only available to students who have prior University commitments required and arranged by the University. Students must notify the Professor of athletic and or academic commitments to make arrangements prior to the day of the exam. Documentation must be provided explaining the extenuating and unavoidable circumstances and/or commitments. The date and time of the early exam must be no more than a week before the exam is scheduled. Not showing up for the exam without notifying the professor prior to the day of the exam will result in a non-negotiable 50/F on the exam. The only other exceptions to the no makeup exam policy will only be granted for emergencies in which there is a medical note with a date and signature, police report with a date and signature, or other official document with a date and signature.

• **Exam Tardiness:** Students must be on time for their examination. Any student more than 10 minutes late for an exam will have 5 points deducted from their overall exam score. This policy is to eliminate cheating and provide an interruption free testing environment. ALL CELL PHONES MUST BE TURNED OFF DURING EXAMINATIONS. No! Pods or other Electronic Listening Devices are ALLOWED during examinations.

Social and Other Electronic Media (forthcoming as a separate document)

**Collaborative Work:** Students may occasionally be broken up into groups to complete and submit in-class assignments as groups.
VI. Course Units

Outline of Content

Chapter 1: Introduction to the Course and introduction to Church History I

Chapter 2: Jesus the Historical Basis, and Easter the Birthday of the Church

Chapter 3: The Sub-Apostolic Age: What Became of Jewish Christianity?

Chapter 4: Heresies and Schisms in the 2nd Century: Gnosticism, Marcionism, Montanism

Chapter 5: Reactions Against Rival Interpretations

Chapter 6: Church Life in the 2nd and 3rd Centuries

Chapter 7: Diocletian, Constantine, Imperial Christianity, the Arian Controversy, Council of Nicaea and Its Significance

Chapter 8: Church Life in the 4th and 5th Centuries

Chapter 9: Augustine vs. Pelagius

Chapter 10: The Church in East and West in the 5th and 6th Centuries

Chapter 11: The Western Church, 7th-9th Centuries

Chapter 12: Decay in the Papacy, Renewal Movements in the West, 9th-11th Centuries

Chapter 13: Intellectual Revival: Scholasticism and the Church in the Twelfth Century

Chapter 14: Reformation is in the Air: John Wycliff, John Hus, Martin Luther

Student Learning Outcomes
Students will demonstrate an understanding of the historical life, thought and teachings of the Christian community from its earliest manifestation of the faith.

Vocabulary
Vocabulary words will be posted on Moodlerooms and will correlate to the weekly reading.
## Weeks Graded Work Will Take Place

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Assessment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>Introduction to the Course; Introduction to Church History I</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>Jesus the Historical Basis, and Easter the Birthday of the Church; The Hellenists and the Hebrews: A Split in the Early Church and Paul’s Missionary Journeys, Opponents, Council of Jerusalem</td>
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<td>Week 3</td>
<td>The Sub-Apostolic Age: What Became of Jewish Christianity? Church and Empire: Roman Empire’s Attitude Toward Christians, Christian Responses to Persecution: Apologies, Martyrdom</td>
<td>5-page response due</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>Heresies and Schisms in the 2nd Century: Gnosticism, Marcionism, Montanism</td>
<td>5-page response due</td>
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<td>Week 5</td>
<td>Reactions Against Rival Interpretations: Apostolic Succession, Apostolic Creed, Canonization of Scripture and Beginnings of Early Christian Theology</td>
<td>5-page response due</td>
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<td>Week 8</td>
<td>4th and 5th Centuries: Monasticism, Donatism and Missions The Church’s Relationship to the State in 4th and 5th Centuries); Other Christological Controversies</td>
<td>5-page response due</td>
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| Week 9 | Augustine vs. Pelagius et al.  
Transition to the Middle Ages and Proposed Dates for It, Germanic Migrations and Invasions  
Effects on Society, Effects on the Church, Reform of the Papacy | 5-page response due |
|---|---|---|
| Week 10 | The Church in East and West in the 5th and 6th Cent.:  
1) Theological Developments in the East and the Rule and Influence of Justinian;  
2) Stability in the West Through Benedictine Rule and Pope Gregory the Great; Differences Between East and West  
Impact of Arab Invasion and Spread of Islam on the Eastern Church 7th-9th Centuries, Iconoclastic Controversy, Photian Schism, Flowering of the Eastern Church | 5-page response due |
| Week 11 | The Western Church, 7th-9th Centuries:  
Anglo-Saxon Christianity, The Age of Charlemagne (Military Expansion)  
Restructuring the Church, Establishment of Schools, Coronation), Pseudo-Isidorian Decretals | 5-page response due |
| Week 12 | Decay in the Papacy, Renewal Movements in the West, 9th-11th Centuries  
Papal Reform and the Crusades | 5-page response due |
| Week 13 | Intellectual Revival: Scholasticism and the Church in the Twelfth Century; Golden Age of the Western Medieval Church, 13th Cent.: Mendicant Religious Orders  
Universities, Thomas Aquinas; Decline and Collapse | 5-page response due |
| Week 14 | Reformation is in the Air: John Wycliff, John Hus, Martin Luther | 5-page response due |
VII. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Note: Further explanation for all assignments will be given in class.

Reading Assignments
Read the assigned materials

Response paper on reading content.
You will submit a weekly five-page response to chapter readings. Exact dates will be posted in Moodlerooms.

Letter to a Historical Figure
Prepare a 2-page letter to a historical figure.

VIII. Course Evaluation

Your grade for the course will be based on the assessments listed below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Twelve (12) 2-page response papers</td>
<td>480 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Letter to Historical Figure</td>
<td>100 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>580 points/100%</td>
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IX. Course Textbook

Cengage: The Global West: Connections & Identities, 3rd Edition


Assigned articles and selected readings from the web: *ATLA Religion Database, JSTOR*, and other articles which can be accessed through the Allen University Flipper Library https://allenuniversity.libguides.com/c.php?g=699146&p=4993491. Links to readings are posted in Moodlerooms.
X. Course Reading, Listening, and/or Viewing List

Additional articles will be distributed in Moodlerooms.