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CH 502 Church History II

Kenneth J. Collins

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Church History II

CH 502 (3 Hours)
Kenneth J. Collins, Ph.D., Professor

This syllabus may be changed from time to time for academic reasons. It is for the personal use of students enrolled in the internet course CH 501 and is not to be distributed beyond these parameters.

I. Welcome

Welcome to CH 502, Church History II. The history of the church is fascinating, marked by highs as well as by lows. It is filled with all the drama of peoples, places and movements, large conversations as well as smaller ones, and as the etymology of the word “history” suggests, church history is, quite simply, the story of the church.

My special interests in the area of church history are the life and thought of John Wesley, the history of spirituality, Christology (teaching about Jesus Christ), and the doctrine of the Trinity, to name but a few.

This is the first time that I am offering this course via ExL, and though I enjoy working with computers, I suspect that I will make more than my share of errors the first time around. Please, then, be patient with me and I will be patient with you.

We are on a journey together and I hope by means of our discoveries that we will have a greater appreciation of the glory of God, the church of Jesus Christ, and for those who have gone before us.

II. Office Hours

I will go online Monday and Friday afternoons to respond to your questions. If I make any changes in this format, I will be sure to inform you.

If you ever need to contact me, I will be available on Friday afternoons from 1:00 until 4:00 p.m. in my office.

My email address is ken_collins@asburyseminary.edu

My office telephone number is 859-858-2368.

III. Support

There are some other people who can help you during this course. They are available to assist you if you have any questions:
IV. Course Description:

Church History II explores the development of the Christian Church from the time of the Reformation to the Modern Era. We will pay attention, through an examination of both primary and secondary materials, to the social, cultural, political and theological contexts in which the church grew. Beyond this, we will be attentive to the relevance of historical understanding for contemporary ministry. Lectures, reading, and posted discussion will constitute the major substance of our exploration.

V. General and Specific Goals:

General Goals:

1. To feel and appreciate the Christian Tradition so the student understands that our generation lives on the growing edge of a vast Christian heritage.
2. To grasp the normative historical expressions of the church that defined its community and mission.
3. To acquire basic factual knowledge of the persons, places, dates, events, and movements that shaped the history of the Christian Church.
4. To comprehend the issues that motivated the Church to develop its beliefs, practices, and structures and to grasp why, from time to time, the Church modified them.
5. To understand the evolution of Christian doctrine and to learn to discern between form and content.
6. To appreciate the importance of primary sources and the nature and effects of historical interpretation.
7. To view the present in the light of the prior beliefs and actions of the Christian community.
8. To evaluate one’s Christian vocation in the light of the historical and theological currents of the Christian tradition.
9. To gain insight into the nature of Christian ministry.
10. To participate in the task of developing capable and effective Christian leadership for the contemporary church which will maintain its faithfulness to its vital heritage.
Specific Goals:

1. To identify the key historical period of the Reformation and post-Reformation period.
2. To understand the major Reformation traditions—Lutheran, Anabaptist, Reformed, and Anglican—and their theologians, especially in terms of the nature of the church, the sacraments, and soteriology.
3. To grasp the significant issues pertaining to salvation in the Protestant Reformation and understand the issues relating to Roman Catholicism.
4. To understand the Roman Catholic response to the Protestant Reformation, particularly the Council of Trent.
5. To recognize and evaluate the major issues involved in the church’s efforts to relate to the social and political structures of the modern world.
6. To explore the eighteenth-century Enlightenment’s impact on the church.
7. To articulate the Puritan, Pietist, and Methodist traditions.
8. To demonstrate an understanding of the First and Second Great Awakenings.
9. To understand the cultural and theological context of historical criticism and its effect on the nature and authority of scripture.
10. To reflect on the problems and possibilities of church/state relations during this period.
11. To explore the interaction between church and culture, as the leading theologians developed their theologies.
12. To survey the major religious cults.
13. To trace the rise of modern missions and how Christianity became a global religion.

VI. Texts:

You need to read all of the following texts with the exception of Chronological and Background Charts of Church History which is offered for your guidance and information. The specific pages of the required readings will be outlined below in Section IX.


VII. Topical Outline:

Period I  
*The Reformation and Counter Reformation, 1517-1648*

A. The Background of the Reformation  
B. The German Reformation  
C. The Swiss Reformation  
D. The Anglican Reformation  
E. The Counter Reformation  

Period II  
*Rationalism and Revivalism, 1648-1789*

A. The Establishment of Christianity in North America  
B. Rationalism, Revivalism, and Roman Catholicism  

Period III  
*Missions and Modernism, 1789-1914*

A. Religion and Reform in Great Britain and Continental Europe  
B. Challenges to the Faith  
C. The American Church  

Period IV  
*The Church Since 1914*

A. The Church and the Social Question  
B. Theological Transitions  

VIII The Modules  

Observe that the modules serve to keep you on track, and the page divisions, therefore, may seem somewhat arbitrary. This is due in some measure to the large amount of material (in Kerr for instance) given to Protestant theologians which must be spread out into other sections otherwise students would simply have to read too much in a short period of time. Therefore, the Gonzalez text and, to a lesser degree, the lectures set the tone for the modules rather than the Kerr and Bettenson texts. Though you should keep up with the flow of the course, if you do fall behind, just make sure that you complete
the appropriate tasks (with the proper page breaks) before you take the exam.

**Module One**  (First Module to be Completed by February 17, 2003)

Topic: Luther’s Theology

Gonzalez, 1-37; Kerr 139-172; Bettenson 182-216; McGrath, 156-164
Tape One (which correspond to lecture one, etc.)

Overheads: X01, X02, X03

**Module Two**  (Second Module to be Completed by February 24, 2003)

Topic: Zwingli and the Swiss Reformation

Gonzalez, 38-59; Kerr 172--179; Bettenson 244-257; McGrath, 177-213.
Tape Three

Overheads: X04

**Module Three**  (Third Module to be Completed by March 3, 2003)

Topic: Calvin and The English Reformation

Gonzalez, 61-93; Kerr 184-192; Bettenson 217-243; McGrath, 165-167.
Tape Six

Overheads: X05, X06, X07, X08, X09

**Module Four**  (Fourth Module to be Completed by March 10, 2003)

Topic: The Catholic Reformation

Gonzalez, 94-127; Kerr 180-183; Bettenson 258-267; McGrath, 168-176.
Tape Eight

Overheads: X10, X11

**Module Five**  (Fifth Module to be Completed by March 17, 2003)

Topic: The Religious Wars

Gonzalez, 128-148; Kerr 209--222; Bettenson 268-270
Tape Nine

Overheads: X12

**Module Six**  (Sixth Module to be Completed by March 24, 2003)

Topic: Protestant and Catholic Orthodoxy

Gonzalez, 149-184; Kerr 240-248; Bettenson 271-281

Tape Twelve

Overheads: None

**First Exam:**  March 28, 2003

**Module Seven**  (Seventh Module to be Completed by March 31, 2003)

Topic: American Religion

Gonzalez, 217-271; Kerr 200-208; Bettenson 291-297; McGrath, 214-218.

Tape Fourteen

Overheads: X13, X14, X15

**Module Eight**  (Eighth Module to be Completed by April 7, 2003)

Topic: Rationalism and Pietism

Gonzalez, 185-216; Kerr 193-199; 227-239; Bettenson 282-290; McGrath, 219-225

Tape Fifteen

Overheads: X16, X17, X18, X19

Reading Week: **April 7-11, 2003**  (No Classes)

**Module Nine**  (Ninth Module to be Completed by April 14, 2003)

Topic: Theological Modulations

Gonzalez, 274-302; Kerr 249-270; Bettenson 298-314; McGrath, 227-252

Tapes Seventeen and Eighteen

Overheads: X20, X21
Module Ten  (Tenth Module to be Completed by April 21, 2003)

Topic: The Expansion of Christianity

Gonzalez, 303-344; Kerr 271-314; Bettenson 315-326; McGrath, 253-270.
Tapes: None

Overheads: None

Module Eleven  (Eleventh Module to be Completed by April 28, 2003)

Topic: Twentieth Century European Christianity

Gonzalez, 345-371; Kerr 329-374; Bettenson 327-330; McGrath, 270-304.
Tapes Twenty-one, Twenty-two

Overheads: X25

Module Twelve (Twelfth Module to be Completed by May 5, 2003)

Topic: Twentieth Century American Christianity

Gonzalez, 372-398; Kerr 315-328; Bettenson 330-334; McGrath, 305-341
Tapes: None

Overheads: X22, X23, X24

Wrap Up Week  May 12, 2003  (No assignment due)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Gonzalez</th>
<th>Kerr</th>
<th>Bettenson</th>
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<th>Modules</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<td>Test # 1</td>
<td>1-184</td>
<td>137-192; 209-226; 240-248</td>
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<td>Test # 2</td>
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<td>253-343</td>
<td>7-12</td>
<td>May 14</td>
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IX.  Reading and Exam Schedule:  (Based on Required Readings Above)
X. Course Procedures:

A. Online Guidelines

Please be sure to share a brief profile (maybe even a picture) of yourself in the Discussion Center. My profile is listed under ExL faculty on Asbury’s homepage (Look under Extended Learning, then ExL People Links or just click on the following:)

http://www.ats.wilmore.ky.us/exl/people/ppllinks.htm

While I am sure that each of you are aware of the intended use of each of the items which appear in the CH502X folder, let me summarize the manner in which I intend to use them this semester:

The Course Center will contain a copy of the syllabus as well as all class modules.

The Discussion Center will be used for all public communications. Anytime you have a question or comment about the course, the modules, the assignments, or anything else which would be of interest to your classmates and me you should post to the Discussion Center.

The CH502 Office is for private correspondence between you and me. This will contain items that you do not want to appear publicly before all of your classmates or items that you think may embarrass me if they were to appear publicly.

The Archives Center will be used for storing correspondence which has already been explored during the course of the semester. This keeps the Discussion Center from becoming too unmanageable.

The Chat Center is intended primarily for real-time interaction among students. You can get together with other members to study, ask questions, or to explore topics.

The Resource Center provides access to a number of specific tools available to all ExL students. These include access to the B.L. Fisher Library, the Services in Estes Chapel, ExL Updates, Guidelines for Success, Helpful Hints, Interesting Links, a Powerpoint Viewer (which you can use to view my overheads) as well as a Real Audio player. I encourage you to take advantage of all these resources, and particularly to utilize the chapel access in order to connect with the seminary’s on-
campus opportunities for spiritual growth.

B. Testing

I will give two examinations during the semester (see chart above). These exams will not only include the designated reading material but also the class lectures on tape. This will constitute 75% of the grade.

C. Class participation

Class participation and completion of the assigned tasks (tapes and readings) will count as 25% of your grade. I pose a key question (or questions) at the end of each tape. You should consider this query in light of your readings and experience and attempt to respond to it in the Discussion Center on a weekly basis. I am looking for theological reflection, the ability to think globally, the capacity both to see the larger picture of church history and to make appropriate connections. Be creative, feel free in your deliberations and do have fun. A suitable response might be composed of a paragraph or two of about 50 to 75 words. Try not to be too wordy. I look for quality of thought and reflection not quantity of words.

D. Reading Report

An email reading report which indicates that you have completed all of the required reading is due on December 15, the date of the final exam, in the CH502 Office. Failure to read all of the assignments will result in grade reduction. For example, if you leave out one hundred pages from the Gonzalez text, then instead of receiving an “A-“ you will receive a “B+.” If you leave out more material, then the grade will fall even lower.

XI. Bibliography

General Histories of Christianity


Histories of Theology


**The Reformation**


**Rationalism and Revivalism**


Contemporary Developments


XII. Helpful Internet Links

http://www.ats.wilmore.ky.us/people.html

http://www.ats.wilmore.ky.us/sp_life.html

http://www.ats.wilmore.ky.us/pub.html

http://www.ats.wilmore.ky.us/library/lobby.htm

http://www.ats.wilmore.ky.us/specevt.html

http://www.ats.wilmore.ky.us/it/IT.html

http://www.ats.wilmore.ky.us/bookstore.html

http://wesley.nnc.edu/

http://www.bu.edu/people/bpstone/theology/theolog.html
http://www.bu.edu/people/bpstone/theology/journals.html

http://www.bu.edu/people/bpstone/theology/library.html

http://www.bu.edu/people/bpstone/theology/aids.html

http://www.bu.edu/people/bpstone/theology/trad.html

http://www.bu.edu/people/bpstone/theology/topics.html