

THCM2350 SURVEY OF CHURCH HISTORY 1
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

Disclaimer: This syllabus is intended to give the student a general idea of the content, format, and textbooks used for this class. The professor will submit a full syllabus at the beginning of the class which will contain a course schedule and the instructor's information.

Course Description

The purpose of this course is to trace the history of Christianity from its beginnings through the Protestant Reformation. Special attention will be given to the origins, expansions, key figures, theological development, and institutional growth of Christianity, as well as, the relationship of church and state.

Course Objectives

In order to understand and interpret Christian theological heritage and Baptist polity for the church, the students, by the end of the course, should:

1. Comprehend significant events in the history of the church.
2. Value the study of church history.
3. Interpret current events in the light of historical precedent.

Professor's Philosophy

This professor believes education is a self-broadening process whereby the student's moral character, critical thinking skills, and base of knowledge are expanded resulting in greater fulfillment of the person's potential thereby increasing their usefulness within God's kingdom work.

Textbooks

Baker, Robert A. *A Summary of Christian History*, rev. ed. Nashville: Broadman, 1994.
Bettenson, Henry. *Documents of the Christian Church*, 3d ed. London: Oxford Univ. Press, 1999.

Course Methodology

This course will consist of readings, Power Point presentations, reflection questions, and video mini-lectures.

Course Requirements

1. Each week a new lesson will open. Each lesson will contain a reading assignment, Power Point outlines, a reflection question, and a video mini-lecture. Each student is to read and view the material every week. Each lesson will remain open for a period of two weeks. Students who fail to access the materials within the allotted time will not be given access to those materials after the lesson has closed.
2. Three examinations will be given during the semester (in weeks 5, 10, and 14). Each test will cover both materials from the PowerPoint and material taken from the readings. Each test will be open note, but the exams will be timed so you will need to study before beginning the

exams. Each exam will consist of objective sections (matching, true/false, fill-in-the-blank and multiple answer questions) and subjective sections (identification and essay questions). Each of these exams will count for 20% of the semester average.

3. Each student is expected to read all of the assigned textbook materials. Therefore, notes of the reading should be recorded for all the assigned readings from both textbooks. During the final week (week 14), your reading notes from the assigned sections of both textbooks will be submitted to the professor via email. These notes may be outline in form, summarizations, or direct quotes taken from the two books. The textbook reading notes will compose 10% of the semester average.

4. Each student is expected to thoughtfully interact with the material addressed in each lesson. As a demonstration that such critical reflection has occurred, students will be required to respond to a reflection question as a part of each week's module. These responses should be a paragraph or so in length and should demonstrate an understanding of each week's material. While students may respond to responses from classmates, such responses are not required. Furthermore, the grader or professor will typically not respond to these responses as they do not generally represent answers which are either right or wrong. These responses will compose 10% of the final grade.

5. Each student will research and write a 6 page (12 pt., double-spaced produced on a computer) biographical report on a specific historical figure (which will be assigned by the professor). This report ought to provide biographical information about the individual, as well as discuss his/her historical significance. The paper is to be written using a 12 pt. Times-Roman font and is to be double spaced. Due to the short length of the paper, neither a table of contents nor chapter divisions should be included in the paper. In addition, the blank page following the title page is to be omitted. Each student is expected to use at least 10 different sources, with one and only one source being an electronic document. If possible, students should make use of the writings of the specific historical figure. The bibliography should also be annotated. For each bibliographic entry, three to four sentences should be written which describe and evaluate the work being cited. The annotations should be indented in block quotation format beneath each entry. This paper will be graded for both its content and its form. Issues or questions of form not mentioned in this assignment description should follow the guidelines outlined in the most recent edition of Turabian. Papers may be submitted through email to the professor. **The paper will be due on ---.** The grade will be counted off five points for every day that the paper is late. The biographical report with annotated bibliography will compose 20% of the final semester grade.

The final grade for the course will consist of the following:

Exam #1 20%

Exam #2 20%

Exam #3 20%

Reading Reports 10%

Reflection Questions 10%

Biographical Report 20%

Final grade 100%

Netiquette Statement on Appropriate Online Behavior

Each student is expected to demonstrate appropriate Christian behavior when working online on the Discussion Board. The student is expected to interact with other students in a fashion that will promote learning and respect for the opinions of others in the course. A spirit of Christian charity will be expected at all times in the online environment.