COURSE DESCRIPTION & OBJECTIVES: This course is a basic introduction to the history of the Christian Church from the beginnings of the Protestant Reformation to the present. It is designed to provide students with a practical knowledge of the major themes, issues and personalities of Church History; to train them to use their knowledge in their ministerial practice; and to encourage them to seek spiritual renewal in their lives, the life of the Church and in society.

REQUIRED TEXTS:


RECOMMENDED TEXTS:


COURSE REQUIREMENTS & GRADE VALUE:

1. **Reading Report (10%)** – before the first day of class, students are required to read either:
   - Justo Gonzalez’ *The Story of Christianity: the Reformation to the Present Day* OR
   - Bruce Shelley’s *Church History is Plain Language* (chpts.24-48) AND William Kay’s *Pentecostalism: A Very Short Introduction*.
   All other required texts are to be read before the submission of the final examination. A report indicating the percentage or page numbers read of all required texts are **to be submitted with the final examination**.

2. **Attendance & Participation (5%)** – Class meetings are not to review the material covered in the required texts.
Rather, each class presentation presents new information and builds upon the readings for a more comprehensive understanding of the history of the Church. The student’s informed contribution adds to the process and helps to build a learning community. As a result, any absence is a lost opportunity to learn and will affect the final paper. Given the intensive nature of this course, only one half-day absence is permitted. More than this will result in failure of the course.
3. **Sermons/Bible Studies (20%)** – submit (in hard-copy) 5 sermons or Bible studies that use a separate person, movement or event who lived or transpired between the historical periods covered in the class. Each sermon or Bible study is to demonstrate a graduate-level understanding of the subject, a Biblical/theological analysis, and its relevance for the Church today. The length of each should be 2-5 pages in length and double-spaced (10-20 total pages). No footnotes or endnotes are required. One cumulative works cited section is required for all of the sermons or Bible studies (do not submit a separate works cited section for each sermon or Bible study). *These are to be submitted on the first day of class.*

4. **Final Examination (45%)** – This will be a take-home examination. Students are to answer 3 of 5 questions that will be distributed on the first day of class. Each response should be 5-7 pages each, integrating the assigned readings, class dialogue and lectures. The font size should be no more than 12 points and margins no more than 1.25” in the top/bottom & 1” in the sides (the standard settings in most documentation software). References should be footnoted using the *Turabian* format. The questions as well as additional instructions will be provided in class. *This examination is due Monday, November 14, 2016.*

**Grading and Plagiarism** – please see the Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary catalog

### Course Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Session #1</th>
<th>Session #2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>• Syllabus Review</td>
<td>• Changes in the 16th century</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Sociological Considerations</td>
<td>• The Lasting Impact of the Catholic, Magisterial and Radical Reformations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Precursors to the Reformations</td>
<td>• The People Already Here</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Scholasticism, Humanism and the Reformation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>• Rationalism and Pietism</td>
<td>• The Church and the Creation of Modern Racism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• US Revivals and Manifest Destiny</td>
<td>• The Church, Slavery and the US Civil War</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• “Christianities” in the US</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>• The Fundamentalist-Modernist Controversy</td>
<td>• The Impact of African-American Christianity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• The World Wars, US Expansionism and Missions</td>
<td>• The Church and the Civil Rights Movement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Global Pentecostalisms Before Azusa</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Oneness Pentecostalism</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Pentecostal Pacifism</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• The World Wars, US Expansionism and Missions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>• Vatican II, Liberation Theology &amp; the transformation</td>
<td>• The Impact of African-American Christianity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>the Catholic Christianity</td>
<td>• The Church and the Civil Rights Movement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• The Rise of the Religious Right</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Christianity and the Global South</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>• Globalization, Post-modernity, Post-Colonialism,</td>
<td>• Globalization, Post-modernity, Post-Colonialism, Internationalization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Internationalization and the future of Global Christianity</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Selected Bibliography


