Course Schedule
February 5-8, 2015
Th. & Fri. 3-10PM, Sat. 9AM-3PM, Sun. 9AM-12PM

Course Description
This course will provide an introduction to the history of Christianity from the New Testament period to the dawn of the Protestant Reformation. The development of Christian theology, worship and ecclesiastical structure will be understood in their historical context. Special emphasis will be given to the global diversity of the Christian movement as it developed across various imperial and ethnic boundaries. Christian history will be presented with a vision for its applicability to contemporary ministerial contexts.

Course Objectives
Upon completion of this course students will: 1.) Have an understanding of the central theological and ecclesiastical developments in the history of late antique and medieval Christianity 2.) Gain an appreciation for the global diversity of the Christian faith and 3.) Articulate the value of Church history for the modern Body of Christ.

Required Texts

   and one of the following


   or


Assignments
1. Participation and Readings (40%) Attendance and participation at all scheduled class sections is necessary for a robust course experience. Students are expected not merely to attend class but to
actively participate in class discussion. Students are encouraged to voice their original opinions based on course readings in class conversations. Reflection on personal and ministerial experience is especially encouraged.

2. Presentations (20%) Students will prepare a 10-20 minute presentation to be delivered on the last day of class. Presentations will focus on applying the insight of Church history prior to the Reformation to the present local church context. The primary question to consider is: what are some of the ways my local church and/or denomination have benefited from and been hindered by the developments of Patristic and Medieval Christianity. Students are encouraged to use any form of illustration or media desired in making their presentations.

3. Final Paper (40%) Students will prepare a 10-15 page, double-spaced paper. Paper topics are to discuss a significant event, development or figure in Church history prior to the Reformation. Students are free to choose any topic they desire. Papers must discuss a specific topic that is not too broad and must stick closely to primary texts. Papers will include a final portion of application (not to exceed 2 pages) where students will reflect on the relevance of their subject matter for the contemporary Church.

Course Schedule

Thursday, February 5: Introductions, syllabus review, apologetics, martyrs, Gnosticism, asceticism, Nicea
Friday, February 6: Christological controversy, Islamic Conquest, Iconoclasm, Church of the East in Asia
Saturday, February 7: East-West Schism, Crusades, Scholasticism, Growth and Decline in Africa
Sunday, February 8: Presentations

Bibliography

Routledge, 2002.


