



HARDING SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

HISTORY OF CHRISTIANITY I (5601)

Harding School of Theology

October 9–14, 2023

Instructor: Dr. K. Stanglin

Email: kstanglin@harding.edu; keithstanglin@gmail.com

I want you to do well in this course, so please let me know if you are having difficulty with the class material.

Course Description:

A study of the theological and doctrinal history of Christianity in its cultural setting from the beginning of the church to the high medieval period. Attention is given to developments in Western Christianity.

Course Objectives:

In light of the school's mission and objectives, the student who successfully completes this course will be able to:

1. Identify and describe significant turning points in the history of the church.
2. Identify particular historical figures, events, and theological trajectories that affect the church today.
3. Challenge and rectify popular misconceptions about church history.
4. Understand, evaluate, and address current issues of faith and practice in the church from an informed historical perspective.
5. Avoid the repetition of errors and emulate the examples of success.

Required Course Textbook:

Gonzalez, Justo. *The Story of Christianity*, vol. 1, *The Early Church to the Dawn of the Reformation*. Rev. ed. New York: Harper One, 2010.

Bring this book to each class meeting. A Bible will also be helpful for many lectures.

Recommended Texts:

Ferguson, Everett. *Church History, Volume One: From Christ to Pre-Reformation*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2013.

Frend, W. H. C. *The Rise of Christianity*. Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1984.

Holmes, Michael W., ed. *The Apostolic Fathers: Greek Texts and English Translations*. 3rd ed. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2007.

Madigan, Kevin. *Medieval Christianity: A New History*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2015.

Wilken, Robert Louis. *The First Thousand Years: A Global History of Christianity*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2012.

Course Requirements:

1. Reading of assigned texts and class participation. You are expected to complete all assigned readings prior to the class meetings. In addition to the textbook, readings will be available online or on Canvas. Print, read, and bring them to class with you. Primary sources with hyperlinks in the syllabus are nearly always available in print, too. (For example, all the readings from the Apostolic Fathers are included in the recommended text by M. Holmes.) The class lectures, which will not recapitulate the textbooks, will assume that you have read the assignments and know the material. Be prepared to take notes, discuss, and answer questions about the reading material in class. Helpful materials and outlines (“handouts”) can be found at the course page on Canvas. Completion of reading and level of class participation can positively or negatively affect a student’s overall grade.

2. Final exam (100 pts.). The final exam will be a take-home, open-note exam that should be handwritten and done individually. Completed exams should be scanned and emailed to the professor no later than 5:00 p.m., Monday, October 23. Late exams will be penalized 10% per half-week late.

3. Research paper (100 pts.). The student will submit a research paper on an approved topic. Topics must be approved by Monday, October 23. Students are also encouraged, but not required, to submit a prospectus that includes a) a statement of the topic or question to be investigated, b) an outline or some indication of the approach to be adopted, and c) a preliminary bibliography.

The paper should be 10-15 pages in length (double-spaced) and should carefully follow Turabian/HST style. The completed paper should be emailed to the professor (as MS-Word or PDF) by or before Monday, November 13, to be considered on time. Late papers will be penalized 10% per half-week late.

- a. Not optional. A course grade of “F” will be assigned to anyone not turning in a paper.
- b. Use proper, academic English style.
- c. Read the handouts on writing papers. Assessment criteria will include such things as: clearly stated purpose, logical organization, faultless style, evidence of research, and interaction with sources.
- d. No fewer than ten sources are to be used. These sources should include relevant surveys, special monographs, and at least three peer-reviewed journal articles. At least two sources should be primary documents. Do not cite sources in the bibliography unless they are used in the paper.

Grading Scale:

90-100% = A 80-89 = B (“Good”) 70-79 = C (“Average”) 60-69 = D 0-59 = F

Meeting Times:

October 9–13 Morning sessions, 8:00–10:55 a.m. (with a 10-minute break)
Chapel, 11:00–11:30 a.m.
Afternoon sessions, 1:00–4:45 p.m. (with a 15-minute break)

October 9, 13 Lunch, 11:45–12:45

October 14 No class (made up with longer, and thus eminently more enjoyable, afternoons)

Schedule of Topics and Readings:

Monday

Importance of Studying Church History
Backgrounds of Christianity and Empire
Apostolic Church in the 1st Century
Jewish and Christian Identity
Apostolic Fathers

- 1) Gonzalez, chs. 1-5
- 2) Keith Stanglin, “Restorationism and Church History: Strange Bedfellows,” *Christian Studies* 26 (2013–14): 21-32 (Canvas)
- 3) 1 Maccabees 1-2; 2 Maccabees 6-7; 4 Maccabees 1, 5-7, 15, 18, available at <http://www.biblestudytools.com/apocrypha/nrsa/>
- 4) Christopher A. Hall, “What Evangelicals and Liberals Can Learn from the Church Fathers,” *Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society* (2006), at https://www.etsjets.org/files/JETS-PDFs/49/49-1/JETS_49-1_81-95_Hall.pdf
- 5) Josephus, *The Jewish War* VI.iv-v; VI.ix.2-3 (handout on Canvas)
- 6) Didache, in Holmes, ed., or at <http://www.thedidache.com/>
- 7) 1 Clement, 2 Clement, 7 Letters of Ignatius, in Holmes, ed., or all at <http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/churchfathers.html>

Tuesday

Outward Focus and Life in the Empire
Trouble from Without: Persecutions
Second-century Apologists
Trouble from Within: Heresy
Orthodoxy, Heresy, and Bauer
Response to Heresies

- 1) Gonzalez, 6-10
- 2) Epistle to Diognetus, in Holmes, ed., or at <http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/diognetus.html>
- 3) Pliny the Younger, *Letters* 10.96-97, at <http://faculty.georgetown.edu/jod/texts/pliny.html>

- 4) Martyrdom of Polycarp, in Holmes, ed., or at <http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/text/polycarp-smyrnaeans.html>
- 5) Justin Martyr, *1 Apology*, at <http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/text/justinmartyr-firstapology.html>
- 6) “Hymn of the Pearl,” at <http://www.gnosis.org/library/hymnpearl.htm>
- 7) B. Pearson, *Ancient Gnosticism*, 7-24 (Canvas)
- 8) Adolf von Harnack, *History of Dogma*, vol. 1, ch. 5, 266-86 (Canvas)
- 9) Rowan Williams, “Does It Make Sense to Speak of Pre-Nicene Orthodoxy?” 1-23 (Canvas)
- 10) Keith Stanglin, “Apostles’ Creed,” in *Global Dictionary of Theology* (Canvas)
- 11) Bruce M. Metzger, *The Canon of the New Testament*, 251-66 (Canvas)

Wednesday

Proto-Orthodox Theology
 Constantine the Great
 Arian Controversy and Council of Nicaea
 Nicene/Post-Nicene Fathers
 Liturgical Case Studies: Church Music and Baptism

- 1) Gonzalez, 11-23
- 2) Irenaeus, *Against Heresies*, I.ix.4–x.3; III.Pref.; III.i.1–vi.1; xvi.1-3, 6; xvii.1; xviii.1-3; xxi.10–xxiii.1; IV.ii.3; xiii.1–xvi.5; xx.4-9; xxxvii.7–xxxviii.4; V.Pref.; V.i.1–ii.3; xvi.1-3; xviii.3–xix.1; xxxvi.3, at <http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/irenaeus.html>
- 3) Selections on Constantine (handout in Canvas)
- 4) Selections on Arianism, Creed of Nicaea, and Nicene-Constantinopolitan Creed (Canvas)
- 5) Hippolytus, *The Apostolic Tradition* 4-6, 9, 21, at http://www.stjohnsarlingtonva.org/Customer-Content/saintjohnsarlington/CMS/files/EFM/Apostolic_Tradition_by_Hippolytus.pdf
- 6) *Egeria’s Travels* 45-48 (Canvas)

Thursday

Ecumenical Councils of the Early Church
 Augustine and the Pelagian Controversy
 Germanic Invasions and Fall of Rome
 Development of Roman Papacy
 Rise of Islam
 Medieval Church and State

- 1) Gonzalez, 24-30
- 2) Chalcedonian Definition, at <https://ccel.org/ccel/schaff/npnf214/npnf214.xi.xiii.html>
- 3) Pelagius, Letter to Demetrias, at <https://epistolae.ctl.columbia.edu/letter/1296.html>
- 4) Augustine, *On the Grace of Christ*, chs. 2-4, 14-44 (Arabic numerals), at <https://www.newadvent.org/fathers/15061.htm>
- 5) Selections on Germanic invasions (Canvas)
- 6) Dionysius the Areopagite, *The Mystical Theology*, in *Pseudo-Dionysius: The Complete Works*, trans. Colm Luibheid, Classics of Western Spirituality, 133-41 (Canvas)
- 7) John of Damascus, *On Heresies* 101 (Canvas)

Friday

Crusades

Scholastic Theology
Monasticism
Medieval Dissenters
Babylonian Captivity and Papal Schism
Forerunners of the Reformation

- 1) Gonzalez, 31-35
- 2) Urban II, "Call to the [First] Crusade" (Canvas)
- 3) Kevin Madigan, *Medieval Christianity: A New History* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2015), 257-86 (Canvas)
- 4) Thomas Aquinas, *Summa theologiae*, Ia.ii, "The Existence of God," at <http://www.newadvent.org/summa/1002.htm>
ST IIa-IIae.xi, articles 3-4, at <http://www.newadvent.org/summa/3011.htm>
ST IIIa.i, articles 1-3, at <http://www.newadvent.org/summa/4001.htm>
- 5) Rule of St. Benedict, chs. 3-5, 7-8, 16, 20-30, 33-43, 49, 53, 55, 64, 66, 68, 73, at <http://ccel.org/ccel/benedict/rule/rule.i.html> (see Table of Contents in top left corner)

Accessibility

HST professors are accessible to local and distance students. Please use the following to arrange appointments with me:
Email: kstanglin@harding.edu

Credit Hour Workload

For every course credit hour, the typical student should expect to spend at least three clock hours per week of concentrated attention on course-related work, including but not limited to time attending class, as well as out-of-class time spent reading, reviewing, organizing notes, preparing for upcoming quizzes/exams, problem solving, developing and completing projects, and other activities that enhance learning. Thus, for a three-hour course, a typical student should expect to spend at least nine hours per week dedicated to the course.

Textbooks

Textbooks can now be ordered through a link on the [HST website](#). The Textbooks tab can be viewed on the navigation bar on any page of the website. Check the book list provided under the Textbooks tab (<http://hst.edu/students/textbook-services/>) for correct ISBN's and editions to insure correct ordering. A link provided there will take you to Amazon where you will only need to enter the ISBN to order your books.

Students with Disabilities

It is the policy of Harding University to accommodate students with disabilities, pursuant to federal and state law. Any student with a disability who needs accommodation should inform the instructor at the beginning of the course. Students with disabilities are also encouraged to contact Dr. Steve McLeod, the Associate Dean, at 901-432-7733.

Library Resources

If you have not taken 5990 (Advanced Theological Research) or took it more than a year ago, go to the HST Web site (www.hst.edu) for information concerning library services to students. Under the "library" tab you will find a link to and instructions for searching the HST online catalog. There are also instructions for using the following databases available through the library: OCLC FirstSearch, EBSCOhost, Infotrac, and [Religious and Theological Abstracts](#). Contact the library for passwords to these databases. Also available are the research guides distributed in 5990. These annotated bibliographies list basic tools you will find helpful in your research.

Academic Integrity

Academic dishonesty in all its forms is inconsistent with Christian faith and practice, and will result in penalties which could include a failing grade for the assignment, a failing grade for the course, dismissal from the course, and even dismissal from the school.

Use of technology

Canvas Online Learning System

In addition to the live video platform Zoom.us (see below), this course uses Harding's *Canvas Online Learning System*, which is accessed at <http://elearning.harding.edu>. If you have problems gaining access to Canvas, contact HU technical support (501) 279-4545. You will need your HST username and your password to log into Harding Pipeline. These are the same credentials you use to register for classes via Pipeline.

When you need to contact your professor via email, you may use the email system contained in the Canvas learning management system or email your professor directly at kstanglin@harding.edu.

Harding University gives each student an email address that also utilizes your user name. Many students use other email addresses as their preferred address. You can set your Harding G-mail account to forward messages to an alternative email address if you want; however, it is your responsibility to check your Harding email account regularly because this is the official Harding email address to which all Harding-related email will be sent.

HST Live Interactive Video Education (HST LIVE) via ZOOM

In addition to Canvas (see above), this HST-Live course is supported with the video platform Zoom.us. For new Zoom platform users, go to <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/categories/200101697-Getting-Started> for helpful video tutorials about using this platform.

The HST LIVE/Zoom Meeting ID for this course can be found on Canvas.

Students new to HST LIVE should watch the HST LIVE orientation video before the first day of class. The video can be found at <https://hst.edu/students/canvas-online-learning/>.

Equipment Requirements for LIVE Sections:

- Internet access using a latest version of a web browser such as Firefox (preferred).
- Latest version of Zoom software. This changes periodically without notification. If you already have Zoom, use that account. Basic Zoom.us is available free.
- Laptop or tablet with camera or desktop computer with camera.
- Ear buds with microphone - Apple MD827LL/A EarPods with Remote and Mic work well. Order on Amazon.com, <https://goo.gl/jLYfBG>.
- Additional monitor – Live video conferencing is best facilitated with two monitors.

Church History Select Bibliography
compiled by Dr. K. Stanglin¹

General:

- **The Cambridge History of Christianity*. 9 vols. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2006.
- Cross, F. L. and E. A. Livingstone, eds. *Dictionary of the Christian Church*. 1997; repr., Peabody: Hendrickson, 2007.
- *Ferguson, Everett. *Church History, Volume One: From Christ to Pre-Reformation*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2013.
- González, Justo L. *The Story of Christianity*. 2 vols. 2nd ed. New York: Harper One: 2010.
- Latourette, Kenneth Scott. *A History of the Expansion of Christianity*. 7 vols. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1970.
- McGuckin, John Anthony. *The Path of Christianity: The First Thousand Years*. Downers Grove: IVP Academic, 2017.
- Noll, Mark. *Turning Points: Decisive Moments in the History of Christianity*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1997.
- *Pelikan, Jaroslav J. *The Christian Tradition*. 5 vols. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1971–89.
- Rea, Robert F. *Why Church History Matters*. Downers Grove: IVP Academic, 2014.
- Schaff, Philip. *History of the Christian Church*. 8 vols. 3rd ed., rev. New York: Scribners, 1907–10; repr., Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1976.
- Seeberg, Reinhold. *Textbook of the History of Doctrines*. 2 vols. in 1. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1977.
- Stanglin, Keith D. *The Letter and Spirit of Biblical Interpretation: From the Early Church to Modern Practice*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2018.
- Walker, Williston, et al. *A History of the Christian Church*. 4th ed. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1985.
- Wainwright, Geoffrey, and Karen B. Westerfield Tucker, eds. *The Oxford History of Christian Worship*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2005.
- Wilken, Robert Louis. *The First Thousand Years: A Global History of Christianity*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2012.

¹ Works marked with an asterisk * are highly recommended places to begin research.

Early:

Anatolios, Khaled. *Retrieving Nicaea: The Development and Meaning of Trinitarian Doctrine*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2011.

Bauer, Walter. *Orthodoxy and Heresy in Earliest Christianity*. Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1971.

Brown, Peter R. L. *Augustine of Hippo*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1967.

Dunn, James D. G. *The Partings of the Ways: Between Christianity and Judaism and Their Significance for the Character of Christianity*. 2nd ed. London: SCM Press, 2006.

Ferguson, Everett. *Backgrounds of Early Christianity*. 3rd ed. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2003.

———. *Baptism in the Early Church: History, Theology, and Liturgy in the First Five Centuries*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2009.

*———, et al., eds. *Encyclopedia of Early Christianity*. 2 vols. New York: Garland, 1997.

*Frend, W. H. C. *The Rise of Christianity*. Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1984.

Grant, Robert M. *From Augustus to Constantine: The Rise and Triumph of Christianity in the Roman World*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 1970.

Green, Michael. *Evangelism in the Early Church*. Rev. ed. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2004.

Gregerman, Adam. *Building on the Ruins of the Temple*. Texts and Studies in Ancient Judaism, 165. Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2016.

Hanson, R. P. C. *The Search for the Christian Doctrine of God: The Arian Controversy, 318–81*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1988.

Kelly, J. N. D. *Early Christian Doctrines*. Rev. ed. San Francisco: HarperCollins, 1978.

Paget, James Carleton, and Judith Lieu, eds. *Christianity in the Second Century: Themes and Developments*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2017.

Payton, James R., Jr. *Irenaeus on the Christian Faith: A Condensation of Against Heresies*. Eugene: Pickwick, 2011.

*Quasten, Johannes. *Patrology*. 5 vols.

Vall, Gregory. *Learning Christ: Ignatius of Antioch and the Mystery of Redemption*. Washington, D.C.: The Catholic University of America Press, 2013.

Vermes, Geza. *Christian Beginnings: From Nazareth to Nicaea*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2014.

Wilken, Robert Louis. *The Christians as the Romans Saw Them*. 2nd ed. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2003.

———. *The Spirit of Early Christian Thought: Seeking the Face of God*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2003.

Medieval:

*Arnold, John H., ed. *The Oxford Handbook of Medieval Christianity*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2014.

Bornstein, Daniel E., ed. *Medieval Christianity*. A People's History of Christianity. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2009.

Brown, Peter R. L. *The Rise of Western Christendom: Triumph and Diversity, 200–1000 AD*. 2nd ed. Oxford: Blackwell, 2003.

*Fried, Johannes. *The Middle Ages*. Translated by Peter Lewis. Cambridge, Mass.: Belknap Press of Harvard University, 2015.

Levy, Ian C. *Holy Scripture and the Quest for Authority at the End of the Middle Ages*. Notre Dame: University of Notre Dame Press, 2012.

———, ed. *A Companion to John Wyclif: Late Medieval Theologian*. Brill's Companions to the Christian Tradition 4. Leiden: Brill, 2006.

Louth, Andrew. *Greek East and Latin West: The Church A.D. 682–1071*. New York: St. Vladimir's Seminary Press, 2007.

Lubac, Henri de. *Medieval Exegesis*. 3 vols. Trans. E. M. Macierowski. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1998–2009.

*Madigan, Kevin. *Medieval Christianity: A New History*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2015.

Markus, R. A. *Gregory the Great and His World*. Cambridge, Eng.: Cambridge University Press, 1997.

Nichols, Aidan. *Discovering Aquinas: An Introduction to His Life, Work, and Influence*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2002.

Oberman, Heiko A. *The Harvest of Medieval Theology: Gabriel Biel and Late Medieval Nominalism*. 1963; repr., Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2000.

Riley-Smith, Jonathan S. C. *The Crusades: A History*. 2nd ed. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2005.

———. *The Crusades, Christianity, and Islam*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2008.

Rollo-Koster, Joëlle and Thomas M. Izbicki. *A Companion to the Great Western Schism (1378–1417)*. Leiden: Brill, 2009.

Shoemaker, Stephen J. *A Prophet Has Appeared: The Rise of Islam through Christian and Jewish Eyes, A Sourcebook*. Oakland: University of California Press, 2021.

Smalley, Beryl. *The Study of the Bible in the Middle Ages*. New York: Philosophical Library, 1952.

Southern, R. W. *Western Society and the Church in the Middle Ages*. The Penguin History of the Church 2. New York: Penguin Books, 1970.

Volz, Carl A. *The Medieval Church: From the Dawn of the Middle Ages to the Eve of the Reformation*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1997.

Wilkinson, John. *Jerusalem Pilgrims before the Crusades*. 2nd ed. Warminster, Eng.: Aris and Phillips, 2002.

Websites:

www.ccel.org Christian Classics Ethereal Library. A collection of primary sources.

www.earlychristianwritings.com NT, Apocrypha, Gnostics, Church Fathers.

www.earlychurch.org.uk An internet resource for studying the early church.

<http://www.fourthcentury.com/> Fourth-century Christian sources.

https://books.google.com/advanced_book_search Google Books, full texts in public domain.

www.iclnet.org/pub/resources/christian-history.html Guide to early church documents.

<https://archive.org/> Internet Archive, with full texts of many public domain books.

<http://patristics.org/resources/early-christian-texts/> Early Christian Texts, from NAPS

www.wabashcenter.wabash.edu/resources/result_browse.aspx?topic=664&pid=650

<http://www.christianitytoday.com/ch/> *Christianity Today's* Christian History.net

<https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/sbook.asp> Internet Medieval Sourcebook, Fordham University

www.prddl.org Post-Reformation Digital Library. Links to primary sources from Reformation.