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:**  

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

**Recommended Texts:**  

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 hand-written 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
3) 1 Maccabees 1-2; 2 Maccabees 6-7; 4 Maccabees 1, 5-7, 15, 18, available at http://www.biblestudytools.com/apocrypha/nrsa/
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 Diogonetus, in Holmes, ed., or at http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/diogonetus.html
3) Pliny the Younger, Letters 10.96-97, at http://faculty.georgetown.edu/jod/texts/pliny.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)

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, li.x.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)
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
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)
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)
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 https://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.
- Additional monitor – Live video conferencing is best facilitated with two monitors.
Church History Select Bibliography
compiled by Dr. K. Stanglin

General:


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


**Medieval:**


**Websites:**


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

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


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