



# TYNDALE

• SEMINARY •

## Course Syllabus

### Fall 2012

HISTORY OF CHRISTIANITY I  
HIST 0561

TUESDAYS 6:30 – 8:30 PM – SECTION 1  
WEDNESDAYS 8:30 – 11:30 AM – SECTION 2

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Office Hours: Tuesdays 4:00 – 5:00 PM

To access your course material, please go to <http://mytyndale.ca>

## I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Long before 1500 global Christianity had stretched from Iceland and Ireland to Mongolia and south to Ethiopia. Across this vast area people of faith confronted dramatically differing and constantly changing circumstances. They made decisions about culture, political power, the spiritual life, the canon of Scripture, and doctrine, decisions which shaped the flow of human history, and they experienced both success and loss on the grand scale. This course follows their story. The narrative of the course and the readings from materials they wrote carries students into the dynamism of early Christian life.

## II. LEARNING OUTCOMES

The story of the Church centres on human beings attempting to respond to God in the midst of the complexity of their lives. During this course students will acquire a sense of the profound challenge inherent in attempting this. The degree to which they engage with this will be seen in the written material which they will submit.

Working with historical sources is always a cross-cultural adventure. Students will learn to read primary sources with a strong recognition the contexts from which they came. This awareness will shape their interactive papers.

Effective communication is essential in all areas of life. In all the written material related to this course, student will demonstrate their ability to express themselves with clarity.

## III. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

### A. REQUIRED TEXTS

Gonzalez, Justo L. *The Story of Christianity, Vol. I*. San Francisco: Harper Collins, 1984. (ISBN 0-06-063315-8) **(Reading G)**.

Kydd, Ronald A. N. *Finding Pieces of the Puzzle: A Fresh Look at the Christian Story*. Eugene, Oregon: Wipf & Stock, 2011. (ISBN 13:978-1-60608-567-7) **(Reading K)**

Oberman, Heiko A. [\*Luther, Man between God and the Devil\*](#). Toronto: Image Books. 1992. (ISBN 0-385-42278-4)

Online Primary Source Readings. **(Reading S)**

### B. ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

**1. Interactive Paper #1 - The Early Church:** Due on the date the Online Primary Source Reading is discussed; 33% of final grade.

This paper is based on one of the five Early Church readings.

*Instructions:* To be selected from the listed Online Primary Source Readings. This will involve a “close” reading of the text, looking, first, for the author’s main ideas. In addition, be alert for any clues regarding any other details about the author, e.g., character, spirituality,

biography, or historical situation. Paper is due on the date the Online Primary Source Reading is discussed (for example, the reading S3, "The Life of St. Antony", due October 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup>). Late papers will not be accepted.

*Length:* 1500 words

- 2. Interactive Paper #2 - The Medieval Church:** Due on the date the Online Primary Source Reading is discussed; 33% of final grade.

This paper is based on one of the six Medieval Church Readings.

*Instructions:* same as Interactive Paper #1 (see above).

*Length:* 1500 words

- 3. Integration Paper:** Due on November 27<sup>th</sup>/28<sup>th</sup>, 2012; 34% of final grade.

This paper will examine Luther's integration of faith and life. It will use two sources:

- 1) Oberman's *Luther* biography;
- 2) the Online Primary Source Reading by Luther, *On Christian Liberty*.

The paper will have two components:

- 1) a brief examination of Luther's theology of "servant" activity;
- 2) an examination of two case studies drawn from Luther's life based on Oberman.

*Length:* 1500 words.

## C. GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR THE SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN WORK

Interactive Papers will not be accepted as late.

All other papers will be penalized 2% per day.

### Academic Integrity

Integrity in academic work is required of all our students. Academic dishonesty is any breach of this integrity, and includes such practices as cheating (the use of unauthorized material on tests and examinations), submitting the same work for different classes without permission of the instructors; using false information (including false references to secondary sources) in an assignment; improper or unacknowledged collaboration with other students, and plagiarism. Tyndale University College & Seminary takes seriously its responsibility to uphold academic integrity, and to penalize academic dishonesty.

Students should consult the current *Academic Calendar* for academic policies on Academic Honesty, Gender Inclusive Language in Written Assignments, Late Papers and Extensions, Return of Assignments, and Grading System. The Academic Calendar is posted at [www.tyndale.ca/registrar/calendar](http://www.tyndale.ca/registrar/calendar). An excerpt is attached with this syllabus for easy reference.

## D. SUMMARY OF ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

Evaluation is based upon the completion of the following assignments:

Interactive Paper #1	33%
Interactive Paper #2	33%
Integration Paper	34%
Total Grade	100%

## IV. COURSE SCHEDULE, CONTENT AND REQUIRED READINGS

Date	Topic	Reading
Sept. 11/12	The 'why?' of Church History	G 1
I. The Early Church		
Sept. 18/19	c. 49 A.D. — The Council of Jerusalem The Church Moves Out.	G 2, 3, 4 K1
Sept. 25/26	203 A.D. — Martyrdom in North Africa Expansion and Persecution,	G 5, 6 K2S 1, 2
Oct. 2/3	c. 230 A.D. — Origen's Ordination Early Theology and Theologians.	G 7-12 S 3
Oct. 9/10	325 A.D. — The Council of Nicaea Growth of Power and Orthodoxy.	G 13-19 K3 S 4
Oct. 16/17	459 A.D. — The Death of Simeon Stylites Asceticism, the 'East,' and the Atlantic Isles.	G 20-26 S 5, S6
II. The Medieval Church		
Oct. 30/31	635 A. D. — The Tang Emperor and the Monk Christianity Reaches China	G 27 K4 S 7

Nov. 6/7	781 A.D.	— Debate in Baghdad The Church Living in Islam	G 28,29 K5 S 8
Nov. 13/14	1095 A.D.	— The Call to ‘Take the Cross’ The Struggle with Islam.	G 30 K6 S 9
Nov. 20/21	1215 A.D.	— Lateran Council IV Papal power; Mendicant Orders.	G 31 S 10
Nov. 27/28	1414-18 A.D.	— The Council of Constance Longing for Change.	G 32, 33, 34 S none
		III. Reformation	
Dec. 4/5	1517 A.D.	— A Hammer on the Door Luther and the Launching of Reform.	G 35, 36 S 11

## V. ONLINE PRIMARY SOURCE READINGS

The readings below can be found as PDF files on the *course web page* at <http://mytyndale.ca> under “handouts”.

(Please note that the questions or comments with each reading are there to help you access the document. They are not meant to serve as a thesis statement. Do not try to answer them.)

### THE EARLY CHURCH

- **Reading S1: Early Christian Fathers.** *Early Christian Fathers*. Vol. 1, LLC. Ed. C.C. Richardson. Westminster, 1953.
  - Read [Didache \(pp.171-179\)](#) only.
  - Read [Ignatius, "Letter to the Ephesians" \(pp.87-93\)](#) only.
  - Read [Clement, "First Corinthian Letter" \(pp.43-73\)](#) only.

*Q Consider consistency and diversity in church government in the first two centuries.*

- **Reading S2: Acts of Perpetua and Felicitas.** Tr. Alexander Roberts and James Donaldson.
  - Read [The Passion of the Holy Martyrs Perpetua and Felicitas](#), all.

*Q What was Perpetua’s theology?*

- **Reading S3: Athanasius of Alexandria.** "The Life of St. Antony." *Athanasius: Select Works and Letters*. Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers II. Vol 4. Ed. Philip Schaff and Henry Wace. Eerdmans, 1924.
  - Read [1-20](#), [53-58](#), and [65-94](#) only.

*Q Consider spiritual and cultural principles in desert asceticism.*
- **Reading S4: Augustine of Hippo.** *Confessions*. Tr. F.J. Sheed. Continuum International Publishing Group, 1943.
  - Read [Book II](#) and [Book III](#) only.

*Q What motivates Augustine?*
- **Reading S5: St. Patrick.** *The Confession of St. Patrick*. Tr. Ludwig Bieler. CCEL.
  - Read [The Confession](#).

*Q How can Patrick's Confession be used as an historical source for his life and ministry?*
- **Reading S6: Benedict of Nursia.** *The Rule of St. Benedict*. Tr. Boniface Verheyen. OSB, 1949.
  - Read **The Rule of St. Benedict**, all, found at <http://rule.kansasmonks.org>

*Q How could this Rule have become a vehicle for renewal?*

## THE MEDIEVAL CHURCH

- **Reading S7: The Jesus Sutras.** *The Jesus Sutras: Rediscovering the Lost Scrolls of Taoist Christianity*. Ed. Martin Palmer. Ballantine, 2001. **NB:** available as [Ebrary e-book](#) to Tyndale students & faculty only.
  - Read **pp. 224-232; 139-146; 147-150; 159-168**

*Q What could these documents show us about the "inculturation" of the Gospel?*
- **Reading S8: Timothy I and Caliph Mahdi.** "The Debate on the Christian Faith between Timothy I and Caliph Mahdi in 781 A.D." *Bulletin of the John Rylands Library* 12. Vol 2. Cambridge W. Heffer & Sons Limited, 1928.
  - Read [Preface, Edition, and Translation by A. Mingana \(pp.11-12\)](#).
  - Read [Timothy I, Apology for Christianity \(pp.60-90\)](#).

*Q What might this tell us about inter-religion dialogue?*
- **Reading S9: The First Crusade.**
  - Read **Pope Urban II (1088-1099): Speech at Council of Clermont; Four Versions of the Speech.**
    - Read [The Version of Robert the Monk](#). "Urban and the Crusaders." *Translations and Reprints from the Original Sources of European History. Vol 1:2*. Tr. Dana C. Munro. University of Pennsylvania, 1895.
    - Read [The Gesta Version](#). *The First Crusade: The Accounts of Eyewitnesses and Participants..* Ed. August. C. Krey. Princeton, 1921.

- Read [The Version of Baldric of Dol](#). *The First Crusade: The Accounts of Eyewitnesses and Participants*.. Ed. August. C. Krey. Princeton, 1921.
- Read [The Version of Guibert of Nogent](#). *The First Crusade: The Accounts of Eyewitnesses and Participants*.. Ed. August. C. Krey. Princeton, 1921.
- Read [Urban II's Letter of Instruction to the Crusaders, Dec. 1095](#). *The First Crusade: The Accounts of Eyewitnesses and Participants*. Ed. August. C. Krey. Princeton, 1921.
- Read **The Siege and Capture of Antioch: The Discovery of the Holy Lance**.
  - Read [The Gesta Version](#). *The First Crusade: The Accounts of Eyewitnesses and Participants*.. Ed. August. C. Krey. Princeton, 1921.
  - Read [The Version of Raymond d'Aguiliers](#). *The First Crusade: The Accounts of Eyewitnesses and Participants*.. Ed. August. C. Krey. Princeton, 1921.
- Read **The Siege and Fall of Jerusalem**.
  - Read [The Fall of Jerusalem, The Version of Raymond d'Aguiliers](#). *The First Crusade: The Accounts of Eyewitnesses and Participants*.. Ed. August. C. Krey. Princeton, 1921.
  - Read [The Fall of Jerusalem, The Gesta Version](#). *The First Crusade: The Accounts of Eyewitnesses and Participants*.. Ed. August. C. Krey. Princeton, 1921.
  - Read [The Frankish Victory, The Version of Raymond d'Aguiliers](#). *The First Crusade: The Accounts of Eyewitnesses and Participants*.. Ed. August. C. Krey. Princeton, 1921.
  - Read ["The Vision of Peace," The Gesta Version](#). *The First Crusade: The Accounts of Eyewitnesses and Participants*.. Ed. August. C. Krey. Princeton, 1921.
  - Read ["The Vision of Peace," The Version of Raymond d'Aguiliers](#). *The First Crusade: The Accounts of Eyewitnesses and Participants*.. Ed. August. C. Krey. Princeton, 1921.
  - Read [The News Spreads: The Letter of Manasses II, Archbishop of Reims](#). *The First Crusade: The Accounts of Eyewitnesses and Participants*.. Ed. August. C. Krey. Princeton, 1921.

Q What were the various historical and theological motives behind the Crusades?

- **Reading S10: St. Francis of Assisi.** *The Writings of St. Francis of Assisi*. Ed. Paschal Robinson. BiblioBazaar, 2008.
  - Read *First Rule of the Friars Minor (1221)*, [pp.1-27](#) only.
 Q According to Francis, what is the essence of the Christian life?
- **Reading S11: Luther, Martin.** *Concerning Christian Liberty*, 1520. Tr. R.S. Grignon. Collier and Son, 1910.
  - Read [Part II](#) and [Part III](#).
 Q How does Luther use paradox? Why