

FND 100/FTH 400 EARLY CHURCH HISTORY

FALL 2019

Course Outline

Class Start Date & End Date

September 4th – December 9th 2019

Class Meeting Time, Location, and Room

Thursday. 8.30 – 9.50 am

Room: Ste Marguerite Bourgeoys Room

Instructors Name: Dr. Maria Kozakiewicz
Office: N/A
Office Hours: By appointment.
Telephone:
Email: Maria.Kozakiewicz@newman.edu
Skype:

Course Description

The historical development of the Church from the second century to the rise of Islam. The relationship of Church and Empire, the beginnings of monasticism, the contributions of women, the development of institutions and doctrine, and the missionary activity of Christians beyond the Greco-Roman World.

3 Credits.

Course Objectives

This course is designed to encourage and develop learning and skill in the following four areas, with varying degrees of focus depending on the program of the student in question:

- a) Intellectual Formation - The program shall foster source-based knowledge of the early history of the Church as it grew within the (often hostile) Graeco-Roman world.
- b) Cultural Context - The program shall allow the students understand the pre-Christian ancient culture and appreciate challenges faced by the early Christians as they were spreading the faith among the peoples guided by very different value systems.
- c) Personal and Spiritual Formation – The program shall foster trust in God’s Providence. Close study of history of the Church from its raise in the 1st century to ca 650 AD leads to understanding that God is the true master of history of humanity.

Course Assignments and Evaluation

Midterm exam	20%
Essay #1 (on paganism)	20%
Essay #2 (on Christianity)	20%
Attendance and participation	10%
Final Exam	30%
Total	100%

Essays (one reflective and one research) will be no longer than 5 pages each, on topics selected from the list which the students will be given during the first week of classes.

Format of Exams (all are closed-book)

- i. The Midterm Exam may include the following: identifications (names of historic individuals, places, specific events, religious terminology), map question, short questions, an image of artwork, short answer questions, long answer questions, short essay.
- ii. The Final Exam will use the same format as the midterm exam, but it will be longer (time to write it will be about 3 hours) with the reflective essay as its major part.

Textbooks

Plutarch's Lives: Alexander the Great-Julius Caesar, Franklin Classics (2018)

Virgil: The Aeneid, translation by Robert Fagles. Penguin Classics Deluxe Edition, 2008

Eusebius, The History of the Church: from Christ to Constantine, Penguin Classics (1990)

Early Christian Writings: The Apostolic Fathers, Penguin Classics, 1987

Early Christian Lives (Athanasius, Jerome, Sulpicius Severus and two more) Penguin Classics 1998

Ryan S Topping, *The Gift of the Church*, vol 1, Tan Books, 2018

Recommended Readings

Pope Benedict XVI, *The Fathers*, Our Sunday Visitor, 2008

Seneca: *Letters from a Stoic*, Penguin Classics (1969 or any other edition)

Warren H Carroll, *The Founding of Christianity: A History of Christianity (Vol1)* and *The Building of Christianity, 324-1100*, Christianity Press, 2004

Course Schedule (tentative and subject to change)

Lecture Topics and Readings:

Week 1 September 5

Introduction, Geography and History of the early civilisations of the Mediterranean. Rise of religion in the prehistoric societies; religion of the Bronze Age civilisations. Temples and burials. Hebrew monotheism. Old Testament times. Abraham and Moses

Readings: PowerPoint presentation in class

Eusebius, *The History of the Church*: Introduction
Week 2 September 12

History of Greece from the Archaic Age to the conquest by Rome. Greek religion, literature and thought; Periclean Athens; Alexander the Great. Raise of the ruler cult. *Koine*. Raise of Rome.

Reading: Plutarch, *Alexander the Great*

Week 3 September 19
History of the Roman Republic and its conquests

Readings: Plutarch, *Lives, Julius Caesar*

Week 4 September 26

Roman religion and views on afterlife. Roman art and architecture. Crisis of the 1st century before the birth of Christ. Triumvirates, end of the Republic and the Age of Augustus. Conquest of Gaul and Spain. Revival of *virtus*, *pietas* and *auctoritas*. Raise of the Ruler Cult after 14AD.

Readings: Cicero's Letters – Letters written after death of Tullia, his daughter.
Res Gestae Divi Augusti (handout) Virgil's *4th Eclogue* (Handout),
Virgil's *Aeneid* (books 1- 6)

Week 5 October 3

Roman imperial art and architecture – the Imperial Fora, Colosseum, Arches, Palaces and Baths; Art and Architecture in the provinces – Athens, Leptis Magna, Caesarea on the Sea. Temple in Jerusalem.

Readings: Virgil's *Aeneid* (books 6-12); Powerpoint

October 10th – ESSAY NO 1 DUE

Week 6 October 10

Historical background to the coming of the Messiah. The political situation and expectations of the Jews. The Person and Work of Christ. The Church at Jerusalem.

Readings: Eusebius, *Church History*, chapters 1-3
Topping, *The Gift of the Church*; Foreword, Preface, Chapter 1 - *Prophets*

OCTOBER 14th – THANKSGIVING

Week 7 **Thursday, Oct 17th –Midterm exam**

Week 8 October 24

1st century AD: Julio-Claudians : Augustus, Tiberius, Gaius (Caligula), Claudius, Nero.
Conquest of Germania and Britannia. St James and the Jewish Christians in Jerusalem.
Fire of Rome and the first persecutions. Death of St Peter and St Paul. Missions of the Apostles and the Disciples.

Readings: *The First Letter of St Paul to the Corinthians*
The First Epistle of Clement to the Corinthians
Eusebius, *The Church History*, book 2 (The Apostles)

Week 9 October 31

The Flavians, the Jewish War and destruction of Jerusalem. Dispersion of the Jews.
Persecutions of Domitian.

Readings:: Eusebius, Book 3 (*Missions and Persecutions*)
Topping, *The Gift of the Church*, chapter 2 – Martyrs: the Gift of Witness

NOVEMBER 11 – 15 REMEMBRANCE DAY and THE READING WEEK – no classes

Week 10 November 7

2nd Century AD Five Good Emperors: Nerva, Trajan, Hadrian, Antoninus Pius and Marcus Aurelius
Conquest of Dacia under Trajan; Pliny the Younger's problems with persecution of Christians. The Plague and military struggles with the Marcomanii. More persecutions.
Martyrdom of Polycarp of Smyrna and Ignatius of Antioch. Rise of heresy.

Readings: Eusebius, chapter 4 and 5
Early Christian Writings: *Didache* , *Martyrdom of Polycarp*, two letters of Ignatius of Antioch

NOVEMBER 21st – ESSAY no 2 DUE

Week 11 November 21

Roman soldier-emperors and the economic decline of Rome in the 3rd century AD. More intense persecutions of Christians (under Valerian, Decius then Galerius and Diocletian and Galerius).
New pagan cults: Sol and Mithras.

Readings: Eusebius, book 6 and 7 (Origen and Atrocities at Alexandria; Diocletian to Maximian)

Week 12 November 28

Conversion of emperor Constantine and the Act of Tolerance. St Helen's pilgrimage to Holy Land.

Constantine moves capital to Constantinople – reasons and results.
Legal status of the Catholic Church. Churchbuilding style. "Old" St Peter's Basilica and Lateran. Santa Maria in Trastevere. Pantheon.
Christian radicalism - from martyrdom to desert. Monastic life.

Readings; St Athanasius "Life of Antony" (in "Early Christian Lives")
Eusebius, book 9 and 10 (Peace and Recovery; Constantine)
Topping, *The Gift of the Church*, chapter 3 and 4

Week 13 December 5

Gradual (and painful) fall of the Western Roman Empire; spread of Christianity.
Challenges of the Eastern Empire and Emperor Heraclius. Rise of Islam (622) – just when the Persians have been conquered. Conquest (by the Muslim caliphs) of Mesopotamia, Middle East and Egypt. Christian missions to the West (Britain and Ireland) and to China

Reading: *Life of Benedict* (by Gregory the Great)
Topping, *The Gift of the Church*, chapters 5, 6 and 9

Final Exam - TBA

General Academic Information

Late Submission Policy.

Essays are due on appointed dates at the beginning of class. Late submissions will be accepted for valid reasons only. Penalty of 5% by one day missed. Paper copies are required

Missed Exams: If you know in advance that you will not be able to write the midterm or final exam on the scheduled date for a legitimate and documentable reason, please let me know as soon as possible

Course Attendance

No credit will be given for a course if the student has been absent, for any reason whatever, from one-third or more of the lectures and/or seminars scheduled for the term. Likewise, no credit will be given if term assignments or other assignments are or remain incomplete.

Leave of Absence and Policy for Incompletes

Extensions to an incomplete grade may be granted in extenuating circumstances, but may not exceed 16 weeks following the end of the course. Students who fail to complete course work by the agreed deadline will have a grade assigned which is based on work completed.

Academic Integrity

Acts of academic dishonesty (plagiarism, cheating, etc.) are subject to an appropriate penalty. The grade “F” may be assigned to a student guilty of such acts by the professor of the course in which the infraction occurred. A second offense against academic integrity renders the student liable to automatic dismissal from NTC. Further details are available in the Student Handbook in the Academic Misconduct Policy.

Academic Grievances

Students may appeal grades received; the procedure is outlined in the Student Handbook in the Grade Appeal Policy. For other grievances, students will refer to the Student Grievances Policy also outlined in the Student Handbook.

NOTE: The GPA is computed on the basis of cumulative grade point (letter) values, not percentage values. All courses are included in this calculation except those exceeding degree requirements and/or received as transfer credits from other recognized institutions.

Grading System

Undergraduate Studies C.Th., Dip.Th., B.Th.			Graduate Studies M.T.S., M.Div., M.Th., G.C.C.S.A., M.R.E.		
Grade Meaning	Grade	Grade Point	Grade Meaning	Grade	Grade Point
Excellent	A+	4.0	Excellent	A+	4.0
	A	4.0		A	4.0
	A-	3.7		A-	3.7
Good	B+	3.3	Good	B+	3.3
	B	3.0		B	3.0
	B-	2.7		B-	2.7
Adequate	C+	2.3	Adequate	C+	2.3
	C	2.0		C	2.0
	C-	1.7		C-	1.7
Marginal	D+	1.3			
	D	1.0			
Fail	F	0.0	Fail	D+	1.3
				D	1.0
				F	0.0

Written Assignments - Style and Format

Newman Theological College requires that all written work be submitted in acceptable academic format and style. Please note the following regulations:

Regulations

Research papers, book reports, article summaries, reflection papers, and essays should be double-spaced, printed on one side only, and submitted on white, 8.5" x 11" paper.

A standard type style, such as Times New Roman, with a 12-point font size, must be used. The instructor will specify the most recent edition of the style manual to be used:

1. Kate Turabian, "A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations" (Chicago: University of Chicago Press).
2. Joseph Gibaldi & William Ahters, eds., "MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers" (New York: Modern Language Association of America).
3. American Psychological Association "Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association" (Washington: APA Publications).

Copies of these standard references may be purchased in the NTC bookstore.

Ignorance of standard form is not considered an acceptable excuse for deviation from required standards of format and style.

Academic Regulations

The following Academic Regulations are located in the Academic Calendar for your reference:

- Changes in Registration: Add/Drop/Withdraw Notice
- Course Work
- Final Examination Schedule
- Incomplete Grade Policy
- Inclusive Language

Related Academic Matters

The following Related Academic Matters are located in the Academic Calendar for your reference:

- Grade Reports & Posting
- Glossary of Academic Terms

Other Related Policies

The following policies are located in the Student Handbook for your reference:

- Academic Misconduct Policy
- Grade Appeal Policy

Recording of Lectures

Audio or video recording of lectures, seminars or any other teaching environment by students is allowed only with the prior consent of the instructor. Recorded material is to be used solely for personal study, and is not to be used or distributed for any other purpose without prior written consent from the content author(s).

Student Accessibility Services:

If you have special needs that could affect your performance in this class, please let me know during the first week of the term so that appropriate arrangements can be made. If you are not already

registered with Student Services, contact Doreen Bloos at 780-392-2450 ext. 2212; Email doreen.bloos@newman.edu .

