History of Christianity II
04HT504
Fall 2014 | Mondays, 1-4PM
Dr. Brian H. Cosby

COURSE DESCRIPTION

History of Christianity II presents a survey of the Christian church from the Reformation to the 20th century. The course is designed to provide the student with a broad understanding of the major figures as well as the political, historical, and theological trends within the church and the culture during this timeframe. Special emphasis will be placed upon the development and history of the Reformed and evangelical tradition.

REQUIRED READING


COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. **Book Review**
   - Write a review of *Theology of the Reformers* by Timothy George.
   - The review should be between 800 and 1,000 words, Turabian or Chicago footnote style, double-spaced, Times New Roman, 12 pt. font.
   - It should be well written and should include information about the author, the purpose of the book, the audience, an overview of the content, and your evaluation.

2. **Research Papers**
   - Write three papers researching either a specific individual, a historical/theological movement, or an event. They should correspond to the time periods of the Reformation, the Post-Reformation/Early Evangelicalism, and modern church history, respectively.
   - The papers should be around 2,500 words, Turabian or Chicago footnote style, double-spaced, Times New Roman, 12 pt. font. Please include a bibliography and use reliable primary and secondary sources.
   - The papers should be well written, organized, and should demonstrate your understanding of the historical/theological context and subject matter.
   - Tackling a very specific theme or making an argument is encouraged.
3. **Presentation**
   - Students will give a 10-15 minute presentation arguing a position on the “why” of an historical event (e.g., English Reformation, Puritanism, Great Awakening, rise of “liberal theology,” etc.).
   - The presentation should be informative, organized, and the student should be prepared to answer a couple of follow up questions.

**COURSE EVALUATION AND GRADING**

Grading will be based on following the guidelines outlined above in the course requirements. The breakdown of your final grade will be as follows:

- Book Review 10%
- Research Papers (25% each) 75%
- Presentation 15%

100%

**SCHEDULE OF ASSIGNMENTS**

- August 25 – No Assignments Due
- September 1 – NO CLASS (Labor Day)
- September 8 – No Assignments Due
- September 15 – **Book Review Due**
- September 22 – No Assignments Due
- September 29 – **Research Paper Due** (Reformation)
- October 6 – No Assignments Due
- October 13 – No Assignments Due
- October 20 – **Research Paper Due** (Post-Reformation/Early Evangelicalism)
- October 27 – No Assignments Due
- November 3 – No Assignments Due
- November 10 – **Student Presentations** (Group A)
- November 17 – **Student Presentations** (Group B)
- November 24 – NO CLASS (Fall Break)
- December 1 – No Assignments Due
- December 8 – **Research Paper Due** (Modern History) – *postmarked*

**OPTIONAL READINGS**


MY CONTACT INFO

Brian H. Cosby
2506 Fairmount Pike
Signal Mountain, TN 37377
brian@waysidechurch.org
423.599.9643

EXTENSION POLICY

All assignments and exams are to be completed by the deadlines announced in this syllabus or in class.

Extensions for assignments and exams due within the normal duration of the course must be approved beforehand by the Professor. Extensions of two weeks or less beyond the date of the last deadline for the course must be approved beforehand by the Professor. A grade penalty may be assessed.

Extensions of greater than two weeks but not more than six weeks beyond the last deadline for the course may be granted in extenuating circumstances (i.e. illness, family emergency). For an extension of more than two weeks the student must request an Extension Request Form from the Student Services Office. The request must be approved by the Professor and the Academic Dean. A grade penalty may be assessed. (RTS Catalog p. 42 and RTS Atlanta Student Handbook p. 14)

Any incompletes not cleared six weeks after the last published due date for course work will be converted to a failing grade. Professors may have the failing grade changed to a passing grade by request. (RTS Catalog p. 42)
### Course Objectives Related to MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes

**Course:** History of Christianity II  
**Professor:** Dr. Brian H. Cosby  
**Campus:** Atlanta  
**Date:** May 8, 2014  

*As the MDiv is the core degree at RTS, the MDiv rubric will be used in this syllabus.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><em><em>MDiv</em> Student Learning Outcomes</em>*</th>
<th><strong>Rubric</strong></th>
<th><strong>Mini-Justification</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Articulation (oral &amp; written)</strong></td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>The student will write a book review, 3 research papers, and give a presentation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both oral and written, of essential biblical, theological, historical, and cultural/global information, including details, concepts, and frameworks.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Scripture</strong></td>
<td>Minimal</td>
<td>While historical theology will be considered in light of Scripture, the focused study of Scripture will not be a major part of this course.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Significant knowledge of the original meaning of Scripture. Also, the concepts for and skill to research further into the original meaning of Scripture and to apply Scripture to a variety of modern circumstances. (Includes appropriate use of original languages and hermeneutics; and integrates theological, historical, and cultural/global perspectives.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reformed Theology</strong></td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>One of the primary areas of study will be the Protestant Reformation. This course will also follow the people and events of the Reformed tradition.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sanctification</strong></td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>It is the professor’s hope to apply the lessons learned to the students’ lives for the purpose of growth and sanctification.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student’s sanctification.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Desire for Worldview</strong></td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>Understanding history and historical theology helps frame a person’s worldview.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Winsomely Reformed</strong></td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Course will help explain our place in the broader ecumenical church and how Christians can see both similarities and differences between various denominations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Embraces a winsomely Reformed ethos. (Includes an appropriate ecumenical spirit with other Christians, especially Evangelicals; a concern to present the Gospel in a God-honoring manner to non-Christians; and a truth-in-love attitude in disagreements.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preach</td>
<td>Ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.</td>
<td>Minimal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Worship</td>
<td>Knowledgeable of historic and modern Christian-worship forms; and ability to construct and skill to lead a worship service.</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shepherd</td>
<td>Ability to shepherd the local congregation: aiding in spiritual maturity; promoting use of gifts and callings; and encouraging a concern for non-Christians, both in America and worldwide.</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Church/World</td>
<td>Ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues.</td>
<td>Minimal</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>