

2HT504: History of Christianity II

Professor John R. Muether / RTS-Orlando

Spring 2019

Wednesdays 8am – 10am, 11am–Noon

Email: jmuether@rts.edu

A continuation of 1HT502, concentrating on leaders and movements of the church in the modern period of church history from the Reformation to the twentieth century.

Goals

1. Students will be introduced to the history of the Christian church over the past five centuries, particularly emphasizing the ways that beliefs and practices have shaped Protestant identity.
2. Students will study the progress of the Reformed faith from Europe to the new world, and the growth of international Calvinism, relating these developments to the challenges of contemporary Christian ministry.
3. Students will explore the story of Presbyterianism as a compelling expression of the Christian faith in the 21st century.

Required Texts

Gonzalez, Justo. *The Story of Christianity, vol. 2: The Reformation to Present Day*, revised edition. New York: Harper, 2010.

Luther, Martin, *Three Treatises*, second edition. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1990.

Machen, J. Gresham. *Christianity and Liberalism*, new edition. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2009.

Placher, William C., and Derek R. Nelson, eds. *Readings in the History of Christian Theology, Volume 2*, rev. ed. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2017. (selections to be assigned)

Additional readings to be assigned and uploaded to Canvas.

Requirements and Grading

1. Reflection Questions (to be loaded on canvas) that will prepare you for the class lectures and discussions (30%)
2. Research Paper (40%)
3. Final Exam (30%)

Research Paper

Each student is required to write one research paper on a topic of his/her choice. For this project, students might wish to think through a theological topic of interest to them in the company of one or more of the significant Christian thinkers whom they will meet in this course (Luther, Calvin, Edwards, etc.). Or they might wish to pursue a more strictly historical subject (for example, the impact which the Great Awakenings had on contemporary evangelical worship and missions in America). Students should email the professor and run their topic by him before beginning the research process in order to determine whether it is appropriate, feasible, etc.

Students should consult a minimum of five scholarly sources in the course of research and writing. The research paper should be 2500-3000 words (roughly 10-12 pages), should be written in Times New Roman or Cambria font, and should be double-spaced with normal margins. The word limit does not include the cover page or the bibliography. The research paper must be typed and formatted according to the standards set forth in the 8th edition of Kate L. Turabian's *Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*. Citations are to follow the "Notes–Bibliography Style" covered in Turabian.

Grades for research papers will be based on both form (style, quality of presentation) and content (a clearly stated thesis which is ably defended).

The deadline for research papers is May 17th, 11 am. Papers should be submitted electronically. Barring extraordinary circumstances, extensions will not be granted and late papers will be significantly penalized.

Final Exam

The final exam will consist of several essay questions which students are expected to answer as fully as possible in the time allotted for the exam. Both form (style) and content will factor into grades for essays, so students are encouraged to give well-structured and coherent answers to these questions. The essay questions appearing on the exam will be drawn from a larger list of potential questions given to students several weeks before the exam.

Grading scale (standard RTS scale)

97-100	A
94-96	A-
91-93	B+
88-90	B
86-87	B-
83-85	C+
80-82	C
78-79	C-
75-77	D+
72-74	D
70-71	D-
Below 70	F

Probable lecture schedule (subject to change)

Part 1: The Reformation

- Introduction: Is the Reformation Over?
- Forerunners of the Reformation
- Luther and the Development of Lutheranism
- Zwingli and Bucer
- Calvin and the Development of the Reformed Confessional Tradition
- The Radical Reformation
- The Catholic Reformation
- The Dutch Reformed Tradition
- The English Reformation

Part 2: From the Post-Reformation Era to Protestant Liberalism

- Post Reformation Reformed Scholasticism
- The Westminster Assembly and its Products
- The Scottish Reformation
- Puritanism
- Pietism and Methodism
- The Spread of Calvinism: Old World Religion in the New World
- The Enlightenment and the Rise of Protestant Liberalism
- Revivalism and the Rise of Modern Evangelicalism
- The Modern Missionary Movement

Part 3: American Presbyterianism

- Colonial American Presbyterianism
- Nineteenth Century American Presbyterianism
- American Presbyterian Division in the North
- Neo-Evangelicalism & Mainline Protestantism
- American Presbyterian Division in the South
- Contemporary Roman Catholicism
- The Church in the Global South
- Conclusion

Course Objectives Related to MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes

Course:
 Professor:
 Campus:
 Date:

<u>MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes</u>		<u>Rubric</u>	<u>Mini-Justification</u>
<p><i>In order to measure the success of the MDiv curriculum, RTS has defined the following as the intended outcomes of the student learning process. Each course contributes to these overall outcomes. This rubric shows the contribution of this course to the MDiv outcomes.</i></p> <p><i>*As the MDiv is the core degree at RTS, the MDiv rubric will be used in this syllabus.</i></p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Strong ➤ Moderate ➤ Minimal ➤ None 	
Articulation (oral & written)	Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both oral and written, of essential biblical, theological, historical, and cultural/global information, including details, concepts, and frameworks.	Strong	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Memorization of dates 2. Development of doctrine 3. Biographical studies
Scripture	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.)	Minimal	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discuss church's interpretation of Bible throughout course 2. Difference among Reformers 3. <i>Sola Scriptura</i> in Reformation
Reformed Theology	Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.	Strong	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Calvin and Geneva 2. Reformed tradition in France, Netherlands, England 3. Presbyterians in colonial America
Sanctification	Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student's sanctification.	Strong	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Calvin's view of Chr. Life 2. Spener and Pietism 3. Zinzendorf and Wesley 4. English Puritan piety
Desire for Worldview	Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God.	Minimal	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Niebuhr's Christ and Culture 2. Views of Reformers
Winsomely Reformed	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.)	Strong	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Diff. Branches of Reformation 2. R.C. Reform 3. Emergence of Evangelicalism 4. Great Awakening ecumenism
Preach	Ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.	Minimal	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Calvin as a Preacher 2. G. Whitfield's preaching
Worship	Knowledgeable of historic and modern Christian-worship forms; and ability to construct and skill to lead a worship service.	Moderate	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Liturgy in Lutheran, Reformed, Anabaptist and Anglican Traditions
Shepherd	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.	Moderate	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reformation ecclesiology 2. RC and Moravian missions 3. Preaching in Great Awakening