



WBUOnline
School of Christian Studies

Wayland Baptist University Mission Statement: Wayland Baptist University exists to educate students in an academically challenging, learning-focused and distinctively Christian environment for professional success, and service to God and humankind.

Course Prefix, Number, & Name/Title: THST 4350 Church History

Term and Year: Fall 2 2022

Full Name of Instructor: Stephen M. Stookey, Ph.D.

Office Phone and WBU Email Address:

- **Office Phone:** 806-879-2364
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Office Hours, Building, and Location:

- Office: 104 Flores Bible Building, Plainview Campus
- Office Hours: Monday 9:00 AM -11:00 AM & 1:30 PM – 3:00 PM; Tuesday 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM; Wednesday 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM; Thursday 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM and 1:30 PM – 2:30 PM
Times subject to change; Scheduling an appointment is recommended

Class Meeting Time and Location: Online; Asynchronous

Catalog Description: History of the Christian Church

Prerequisite: RLG 1301 & RLG 1302

Required Textbook and Resources: (Fill in from approved textbook list, with ISBN.)

Title	Editor/Author	Publisher	Ed	Year	ISBN
<i>A New History of Christianity</i>	Hillerbrand, Hans J.	Abingdon		2012	9780687027965
Primary Source Readings – hyperlinked in Blackboard					

This course includes an Automatic eBook. Opt out date is the 8th day of class (second Monday of the session). Click on the menu link for more details.

Optional Materials: See bibliography posted at close of syllabus

Course Outcome Competencies:

1. Be able to identify the major periods, movements, and trends in the history of western Christianity.
2. Be able to describe the life and work of selected persons who are significant in the history of western Christianity
3. Be able to interpret the relationship of Christianity to the evolution of western culture.

Attendance Requirements: As stated in the Wayland Catalog, students enrolled at one of the University's external campuses should make every effort to attend all class meetings. All absences must be explained to the instructor, who will then determine whether the omitted work may be made up. When a student reaches that number of absences considered by the instructor to be excessive, the instructor will so advise the student and file an unsatisfactory progress report with the campus executive director. Any student who misses 25 percent or more of the regularly scheduled class meetings may receive a grade of F in the course. Additional attendance policies for each course, as defined by the instructor in the course syllabus, are considered a part of the University's attendance policy. Attendance for an online course is defined as meaningful participation/completion of assigned tasks for the week. Simply logging into Blackboard for a quick check-in on the class does not constitute meaningful participation.

Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty: <http://catalog.wbu.edu/content.php?catoid=7&navoid=446>

Disability Statement: "In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), it is the policy of Wayland Baptist University that no otherwise qualified person with a disability be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any educational program or activity in the university. The Coordinator of Counseling Services serves as the coordinator of students with a disability and should be contacted concerning accommodation requests at (806) 291-3765. Documentation of a disability must accompany any request for accommodations."

Course Requirements and Grading Criteria: Students will complete the following learning activities ...

- **Discussion Board Questions (25%)—LCOs 2,3:** Each weekly unit of material includes assigned discussion board question(s) on the discussion board forum. These questions will deal with lectures and assigned readings from each week. Students will produce, weekly, a position paper (minimum 300 words) on the given topic and respond to at least two position papers posted by course colleagues (minimum 100 words per response). You will be evaluated on accuracy, originality, relevance, understanding and written quality of responses to the topics discussed. See the Discussion Board Assignment folder in Course Content for complete instructions, grading rubric, and submission process.

Note: Students are expected to engage in scholarly, informed dialogue. When addressing topics of concern or controversy, students should (1) effort to understand the concepts/ideas in question, (2) glean knowledge/insight from the concepts under consideration, and (3) practice scholarly, reasoned criticism and constructive civil. Students should also make sure all comments or questions pertain to the subject matter under consideration.

- **Biographical Analysis (20%)--LCOS 2, 3:** Each student will submit a typed, double-spaced 5 page biographical analysis of a significant figure in church history. Individual's whose primary contributions occurred before 100 CE are NOT eligible for this project. The analysis format will be a blend of analytical essay and bulleted highlights. Keep in mind this project is historical research and analysis. Research should utilize appropriate primary and secondary sources (books or scholarly journals). Avoid non-academic websites, popular magazines, review/dictionary articles, and survey history texts unless approved by the professor. A bibliography is required. See Blackboard Course Content for complete instructions, topic limitations, and grading matrix. All papers must follow style guidelines per the most recent edition of Turabian.

DUE: Week 8 (Monday)

- **Book Review (15%)--LCOs 2,3:** The student will select a classic text in Christian spiritual formation to read and review. The 3-5 page book review will follow guidelines posted in the Book Review Assignment folder in Blackboard Course Content.

DUE: Week 6

Eligible texts include:

- Athanasius, *On the Incarnation*
 - *The Sayings of the Desert Fathers*
 - Augustine, *Confessions*
 - Augustine, *City of God*
 - Julian of Norwich, *Revelations of Divine Love*
 - Thomas à Kempis, *The Imitation of Christ*
 - St. John of the Cross, *The Dark Night of the Soul*
 - Teresa of Avila, *The Interior Castle*
 - Ignatius Loyola, *Spiritual Exercises*
 - Blaise Pascal, *Pensées*
 - John Bunyan, *Pilgrim's Progress*
 - John Bunyan, *Grace Abounding to the Chief of Sinners*
 - Brother Lawrence, *The Practice of the Presence of God*
 - Unknown Author, *The Way of a Pilgrim*
 - Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *The Cost of Discipleship*
 - Thomas Merton, *The Seven Storey Mountain*
 - Henri Nouwen, *The Return of the Prodigal Son*
- **Exams (40%)--LCOs 1,2,3:** This course includes two exams. Each exam will be composed of a series of subjective (essay/written) questions to assess the student's comprehension of all assigned course content. See Course Content of Blackboard for exam instructions.
DUE: Weeks 5 & 8
 The exam will be delivered via Blackboard and will require a proctor. Students have two proctor options:
 1. Schedule a time to complete the exam at a WBU campus/teaching site
 2. Schedule to complete the exam via Proctorio (instructions in Blackboard)

Course Evaluation (Method of Determining Grade):

University Grading System

A 90-100

B 80-89

C 70-79

D 60-69

F Below 60

I Incomplete

W Withdrawal

WP Withdrawal Passing WF Withdrawal Failing

Computation of final grade: A course grade is determined by assigning a percentage to each assignment or group of assignments. Numerical course average is changed to a letter grade according to the grading system in the Academic Catalog.

Students shall have protection through orderly procedures against prejudices or capricious academic evaluation. A student who believes that he or she has not been held to realistic academic standards, just evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course by using the student grade appeal process described in the Academic Catalog. Appeals may not be made for advanced placement examinations or course bypass examinations. Appeals are limited to the final course grade, which may be upheld, raised, or lowered at any stage of the appeal process. Any recommendation to lower a course grade must be submitted through the vice president of academic affairs to the Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee for review and approval. The Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee may instruct that the course grade be upheld, raised, or lowered to a more proper evaluation.

Tentative Schedule: (Fill in calendar, topics, assignments)

Date	Session Topics	Assignments
Week 1	<p><i>Course Introduction</i></p> <p>EARLY CHURCH (30 AD – 590)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The “Fullness of time...” ▪ Jesus & the Apostolic Church ▪ Christians & Rome: Persecution ▪ Heresy, Orthodoxy, & Catholicity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hillerbrand, Preface-Chapter 1; Chronology of the Christian Religion; & source readings noted in Blackboard Acts (New Testament translation open to student choice) Pliny & Trajan on Christianity Lecture Notes • View: Week 1 PowerPoint Lectures • Discussion: Discussion Board A <p>Work ahead on your Book Review (Due Week 6) & Biographical Analysis (Due Week 8); Prepare for Mid-Term Exam (Week 5)</p>
Week 2	<p>EARLY CHURCH (30 AD – 590)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Early Christian Faith & Practice ▪ Constantine & Christian Rome ▪ Ecumenical Councils ▪ Monasticism & Spirituality ▪ Christian Intellectuals & Leaders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hillerbrand, Chapter 1; Appendix B Martyrdom of Polycarp Martyrdom of Perpetua & Felicitas 40 Martyrs of Sebaste Lecture Notes • View: Week 2 PowerPoint Lectures • Discussion: Discussion Board B <p>Work ahead on your Book Review (Due Week 6) & Biographical Analysis (Due Week 8); Prepare for Mid-Term Exam (Week 5)</p>
Week 3	<p>MEDIEVAL CHURCH (590-1500)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Germanic Invasions & Christian Expansion ▪ Gregory the Great ▪ Islam ▪ Charlemagne ▪ Medieval Papacy ▪ Medieval Monasticism ▪ Crusades 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hillerbrand, Chapter 2; Appendix C; & source readings noted in Blackboard Nicene Creed Augustine’s Conversion Conversion of Clovis Lecture Notes • View: Week 3 PowerPoint Lectures • Discussion: Discussion Board C <p>Work ahead on your Book Analysis (Due Week 6) & Research Paper (Due Week 8); Prepare for Mid-Term Exam (Week 5)</p>
Week 4	<p>MEDIEVAL CHURCH (590-1500)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Heresy, Education, & Orthodoxy ▪ Renaissance <p>AGE OF REFORM (1500-1648)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Martin Luther & Reform in Germany 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hillerbrand, Chapters 2,3; Appendix E; & source readings noted in Blackboard Luther, 95 Theses Luther’s Definition of Faith Lecture Notes • View: Week 4 PowerPoint Lectures • Discussion: Discussion Board D

		Work ahead on your Book Analysis (Due Week 6) & Research Paper (Due Week 8)); Prepare for Mid-Term Exam (Week 5)
Week 5	AGE OF REFORM (1500-1648) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ulrich Zwingli & the Swiss Reformation ▪ Radical Reformation ▪ John Calvin & the Reformed Tradition ▪ English Reformation ▪ Catholic Reformation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read: Hillerbrand, Chapter 3 & source readings noted in Blackboard Schleitheim Confession John Calvin on Predestination The Execution of Archbishop Cranmer Lecture Notes • View: Week 5 PowerPoint Lectures • Due: Exam 1 <p>Work ahead on your Book Analysis (Due Week 6) & Research Paper (Due Week 8)</p>
Week 6	MODERN CHRISTIANITY (1648-1900) <i>Age of Reason & Revival</i> <i>American Christianity</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 17th c. Christianity ▪ 18th c. Christianity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read: Hillerbrand, Chapter 4 & source readings noted in Blackboard John Wesley, The Character of a Methodist Jonathan Edwards, Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God Lecture Notes • View: Week 6 PowerPoint Lectures • Discussion: Discussion Board E • Due: Book Analysis <p>Work ahead on your Research Paper (Due Week 8) ; Prepare for Final Exam (Week 8)</p>
Week 7	MODERN CHRISTIANITY (1648-1900) <i>Age of Reason & Revival</i> <i>American Christianity</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 19th century Europe ▪ 19th century United States 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read: Hillerbrand, Chapter 5; Appendix A & source readings noted in Blackboard Charles G. Finney's New Measures Lecture Notes • View: Week 7 PowerPoint Lectures • Discussion: Discussion Board F <p>Work ahead on your Research Paper (Due Week 8); Prepare for Final Exam (Week 8)</p>
Week 8	POSTMODERN CHRISTIANITY (1900-Present) <i>Global Christianity</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 20th c. Christianity ▪ 21st c. Christianity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read: Hillerbrand, Chapter 6, Epilogue, & source readings noted in Blackboard Lecture Notes • View: Week 8 PowerPoint Lectures • Due: Research Paper (by Wednesday) • Due: Final Exam (by Saturday) <p>Please note Week 8 assignment due dates!</p>

Additional Information: Brief Bibliography

Reference Tools

Barrett, David B., ed. *World Christian Encyclopedia*. Nairobi: Oxford University Press, 1982.

Cross, F. L. and E. A. Livingstone, ed., *The Oxford Dictionary of the Christian Church*. 3rd edition, Oxford University Press, 1997.

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Sunquist, Scott W. *A Dictionary of Asian Christianity*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2001.

General

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McManners, John, ed. *The Oxford Illustrated History of Christianity*: Oxford University Press, 1992.

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Falk, Peter. *The Growth of the Church in Africa*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1979.

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_____. *Turning Points*. 3rd edition. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academics, 2012.

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Modern Church

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