



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 5350 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: Research in the history of the Christian Church.

Prerequisite: none

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

Title	Editor/Author	Publisher	Ed	Year	ISBN
<i>Evangelicals and Nicene Faith</i>	George, Timothy	Baker Academic		2011	9780801039263
<i>Church History in Plain Language</i>	Shelley, Bruce	Zondervan Academic	5	2021	9780310115960
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.
4. Demonstrate graduate-level research, writing, and oral presentation/argumentation in the field of Church history.

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 (20%)—LCOs 2,3,4:** 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 500 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.

- **Research Project (25%)--LCOS 2, 3, 4:** Each student will submit a typed, double-spaced research paper (15 pages plus front and back matter) which examines a major figure, movement, or issue in Church history. Keep in mind this project is historical research and analysis. The paper 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. See Blackboard Assignments section for complete instructions, topic limitations, and grading matrix. All research papers must follow style guidelines per the most recent edition of Turabian.

DUE: Proposal, Monday of Week 3; Final Draft of Paper, Wednesday of Week 8

Research Proposal: Each student will submit a typed, one-page project proposal no later than Monday of Week 3. This proposal should include the following information:

1. Student's name, class title and number, date, research paper/project title.
2. Topic: Major person, movement, issue, or doctrine, (e.g. Major Person: Athanasius).
3. Thesis: A thesis statement regarding your intended approach (e.g. "This paper/project will examine the influence of Martin Luther on worship.") While the initial proposal thesis might be a bit vague, it is expected that the final thesis reflected in the research paper or creative project summary sketch will reflect greater specificity.
4. Bibliography: Complete bibliographic information (see a style manual if you are unclear) on a minimum of (3) primary sources and three (3) secondary sources as a starting point for your research. IT IS EXPECTED THAT YOUR BIBLIOGRAPHY WILL GROW, WITH APPROPRIATE SCHOLARLY SOURCES, AS YOUR RESEARCH PROGRESSES. **NOTE:** Points will be deducted from your final paper if this typed research paper proposal is not turned in on time (-5 points) or not completed (-10 points).

- **Research Paper Presentation (10%)—LCOs 2,3,4:** Each student will record a 7-minute research paper presentation on YouTube or other accessible media. Videos will be viewed by undergraduate and graduate students. The presenter will moderate the online Q&A resulting from the research presentation.
DUE: Week 7
- **Book Analysis (15%)--LCOs 3,4:** The student will prepare a book analysis on Timothy George, ed., *Evangelicals and Nicene Faith*. The analysis will be 5-7 pages in length and will include: 1) analysis and critique of the text's overarching thesis and content, and 2) summary analysis of three chapters as selected by the student. See the Book Review Assignment folder in Blackboard Course Content for complete instructions, grading rubric, and submission process.
DUE: Week 5
- **Exams (30%)--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: Shelley, Forward-Chapter 6 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 Research Proposal (Due Week 3) & Book Analysis (Due Week 5); 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: Shelly, Chapters 7-13 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 Research Proposal (Due Week 3) & Book Analysis (Due Week 5); 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: Shelley, Chapters 14-20 Nicene Creed Augustine’s Conversion Conversion of Clovis Lecture Notes • View: Week 3 PowerPoint Lectures • Discussion: Discussion Board C • Due: Research Proposal (Monday) <p>Work ahead on your Book Analysis (Due Week 5) & 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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read: Shelley, Chapters 21-24 Luther, 95 Theses Luther’s Definition of Faith

	<p>AGE OF REFORM (1500-1648)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Martin Luther & Reform in Germany 	<p>Lecture Notes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • View: Week 4 PowerPoint Lectures • Discussion: Discussion Board D <p>Work ahead on your Book Analysis (Due Week 5) & Research Paper (Due Week 8); Prepare for Mid-Term Exam (Week 5)</p>
Week 5	<p>AGE OF REFORM (1500-1648)</p> <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: Shelley, Chapters 25-28 Schleitheim Confession John Calvin on Predestination The Execution of Archbishop Cranmer Lecture Notes • View: Week 5 PowerPoint Lectures • Due: Exam 1 • Due: Book Analysis <p>Work ahead on your Research Presentation (Week 7) & Research Paper (Due Week 8)</p>
Week 6	<p>MODERN CHRISTIANITY (1648-1900) <i>Age of Reason & Revival American Christianity</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 17th c. Christianity ▪ 18th c. Christianity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read: Shelley, Chapters 29-35 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 <p>Work ahead on your Research Presentation (Week 7) & Research Paper (Due Week 8); Prepare for Final Exam (Week 8)</p>
Week 7	<p>MODERN CHRISTIANITY (1648-1900) <i>Age of Reason & Revival American Christianity</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 19th century Europe ▪ 19th century United States 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read: Shelley, Chapters 36-41 Charles G. Finney's New Measures Lecture Notes • View: Week 7 PowerPoint Lectures • Discussion: Discussion Board F • DUE: Research Presentation <p>Work ahead on your Research Paper (Due Week 8); Prepare for Final Exam (Week 8)</p>
Week 8	<p>POSTMODERN CHRISTIANITY (1900-Present) <i>Global Christianity</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 20th c. Christianity ▪ 21st c. Christianity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read: Shelley, Chapters 42-48 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.

Reid, Daniel; Linder, Robert; Shelly, Bruce; and Stout, Harry. *Dictionary of Christianity in America*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1990

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.

Noll, Mark A. *Turning Points: Decisive Moments in the History of Christianity*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 1997.

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

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_____. *A History of Christianity in the United States and Canada*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1992.

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

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Modern Church

Grenz, Stanley J., and Olson, Roger E. *20th Century Theology: God and the Word in a Transitional Age*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1992.

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Olson, Roger E. *The Story of Christian Theology: Twenty Centuries of Tradition and Reform*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1999.

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