



**WAYLAND BAPTIST UNIVERSITY
VIRTUAL CAMPUS
SCHOOL OF RELIGION AND PHILOSOPHY**

Wayland 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 Title and Number: RLGN 4307 Church History

Term: Spring 2018 (2/26/18 – 5/19/18)

Name of Instructor: Dr. Stephen M. Stookey
Professor of Religion
Director, Online Religion Programs

Office Phone Number and WBU Email Address:

Office Phone: 809-291-1161

WBU Email: stookeys@wbu.edu

Office Hours, Building, and Location:

Flores Bible Building, Plainview campus Hours:

M 8:30-9:30 AM & 1:30-4:00 PM; T 10:45-11:45 AM (By Appointment); W 8:30-9:30 AM & 1:30-4:00 PM (By Appointment); Th 3:00-4:00 PM (By Appointment); F 8:30-9:30 AM

Class Meeting Time and Location: Virtual Campus

Catalog Description: History of the Christian church.

Prerequisites:

1. Application or admission to the Wayland graduate program and completion of any required leveling.
2. The student must have constant access to the internet and be able to use Blackboard. It is the student's responsibility to become familiar with Blackboard, if necessary. Tutorials are available on Blackboard for the student.
3. Each student must have a valid, working email address. The primary means of student-instructor communication is through email and Blackboard. Emails sent by the instructor are sent to the student's wayland.wbu.edu email address. Students should regularly check "Announcements" on the course page in Blackboard as well as their wayland.wbu.edu email. When the student has read this entire syllabus, the student should send an email from her/his wayland.wbu.edu email address to the instructor with the following message: "OK, Prof." This initial email message sent by the student is interpreted to mean that the student has read and understands the entire syllabus.

Required Textbook(s) and/or Resource Material:

- Shelley, Bruce L., *Church History in Plain Language*, 4th ed. Revised by R. L. Hatchett, Thomas Nelson, 2013.

- Class handouts posted to Blackboard and online readings/resources

Become familiar with WBU MABEE LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER for research papers and additional personal study.

- LRC website: <http://library.wbu.edu>.

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:

1. Student "attendance" in an online course is defined as active participation in the course through discussion boards and submitting weekly assignments on time. Students aware of necessary absences must inform the professor with as much advance notice as possible in order to make appropriate arrangements. Any student absent 25 percent or more of the online course, i.e., non-participatory during 3 or more weeks of an 11 week term, may receive an F for that course.
2. Any student who has not actively participated in an online class prior to the census date for any given term is considered a "no-show" and will be administratively withdrawn from the class without record.
3. To be counted as actively participating, it is not sufficient to log in and view the course. The student must be submitting work as described in the course syllabus.
4. When a student reaches a number of absences considered by the instructor to be excessive, the instructor will submit a Report of Unsatisfactory Progress to the student's WBU student email account and to appropriate university personnel.

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."

Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty: Writing is a collaborative art. Working out ideas for your paper with an instructor, writing tutor, classmate, family member, or friend is encouraged not only for this class, but also for other classes that involve writing. Discussion and collaborative brainstorming are good. However, passing off another's writing or ideas as your own is plagiarism. It is unethical, it constitutes Academic Dishonesty (cheating), and it is sufficient grounds both for failure of a course and suspension from the university. For more information, see http://www.wbu.edu/academics/schools/religion_and_philosophy/student_help/documents/StatementonPlagiarismandAcademicDishonesty.pdf

Course Requirements and Grading Criteria:

Course Assignments:

- **Discussion Board Questions (25%):** 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 1-2 page position paper on the given topic and respond to at least two position papers posted

by course colleagues (minimum one paragraph 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 (30%):** Each student will submit a typed, double-spaced research paper (10-15 pages plus front & back matter) which examines a major figure, movement, doctrine, or issue in Church history. 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 and grading matrix. All research papers must follow guidelines in the writing instruction notebook used in the Theological Research and Writing Lab.
 - **Research Proposal**
 - Each student will submit a typed, one-page project proposal no later than the close of Week 4. This proposal should include the following information:
 1. Student's name, class title and number, date, research paper/project title.
 2. Major person, movement, issue, or doctrine, (e.g. Major Person: Athanasius).
 3. 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. Complete bibliographic information (see a style manual if you are unclear) on a minimum of three (3) primary sources and three (3) secondary sources as a starting point for your research.
 - Points (5) will be deducted from your final paper if this typed research paper proposal is not turned in on time.
- **Exams (45%):** This course includes a mid-term and a final exam. 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 the exam instructions in Course Content for complete instructions, test-taking procedures, and grading rubric.

Course Evaluation (Method of Determining Grade):

- **University Grading System**

A 90-100	I Incomplete
B 80-89	W Withdrawal
C 70-79	WP Withdrawal Passing
D 60-69	WF Withdrawal Failing
F Below 60	
- **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.

Research Paper 30%

Exams 45%

- 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 Executive Vice President/Provost 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:

Full schedule, with assignments, will be available at the beginning of the term.

Important dates:

Week 1 – February 26-March 4

Week 2 – March 5-11

Spring Break (March 12-18)

Week 3 – March 19-25

Week 4 – March 26-April 1

Week 5 – April 2-8

Week 6 – April 9-15

Week 7 – April 16-22

Week 8 – April 23-29

Week 9 – April 30-May 6

Week 10 – May 7-13

Week 11 – May 14-19

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*. Downer's Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1990

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

General

Foster, Richard J. *Streams of Living Water: Celebrating the Great Traditions of the Christian Faith*. San Francisco, CA: Harper, 1998.

Gonzalez, Justo L. *A History of Christian Thought*, Vols. 1-3; revised ed. Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 1987.

Hoekema, Anthony A. *The Four Major Cults*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1963.

Latourette, Kenneth Scott. *A History of Christianity*, Vols. 1 & 2; revised ed. NY: Harper Collins, 1975.

_____. *A History of the Expansion of Christianity*. Vols. 1-3; reprinted, ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1967.

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.

Africa

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

Sanneh, Lamin. *West African Christianity: The Religious Impact*. Maryknoll: NY: Orbis, 1983.

Asia

Boxer, C. R. *Japan's Christian Century*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1951.

Cary-Elwys, Columba. *China and the Cross: A Survey of Missionary History*. New York: Kennedy, 1957.

Covell, Ralph R. *Confucius, the Buddha, and Christ: A History of the Gospel in Chinese*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis, 1986.

Drummond, Richard H. *A History of Christianity in Japan*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1971.

Elison, George. *Deus Destroyed: The Image of Christianity in Early Modern Japan*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1988.

Endo, Shusaku. *Silence*. Trans. By W. Johnston. New York: Taplinger, 1980.

Neill, Stephen. *A History of Christianity in India: The Beginnings to 1707*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1984.

Latin America

Dussel, Enrique D. *A History of the Church in Latin America: Colonialism to Liberation*. Trans. By A. Neely. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1981.

Gibson, Charles. *Spain in America*. New York: Harper and Row, 1966.

North America

Braswell, George W. *Understanding Sectarian Groups in America*. Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman, 1994.

Bremer, Francis J. *The Puritan Experiment: New England Society from Bradford to Edwards*. New York: St. Martin's, 1976.

Gaustad, Edwin S. *A Documentary History of Religion in America*. 2 Vols. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1982.

- Hatch, Nathan O. *The Democratization of American Christianity*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1989.
- Marsden, George M. *Religion and American Culture*. New York: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1990.
- McLoughlin, William G. *Isaac Backus and the American Pietistic Tradition*. Boston: Little, Brown, 1967.
- Noll, Mark A. *Christians and the American Revolution*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1978.
- _____. *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.
- Ryken, Leland. *Worldly Saints: The Puritans As They Really Were*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1986.

Modern Church

- Grenz, Stanley J., and Olson, Roger E. *20th Century Theology: God and the Word in a Transitional Age*. Downer's Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1992.
- Marty, Martin. *Modern American Religion*, 3 Vols. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1996.
- Olson, Roger E. *The Story of Christian Theology: Twenty Centuries of Tradition and Reform*. Downer's Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1999.
- Wuthnow, Robert. *Christianity in the 21st Century: Reflections on the Challenges Ahead*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1993.