

**COLLEGE OF THE HOLY CROSS  
DEPARTMENT OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES**

**RELS 119: History of Christianity 2  
Spring 2011**

**Joanne Pierce, Ph.D.**

Office: Smith 423

Office Hours: W 3:15-4:30 pm; Th 11:30-12:30 pm; F 11:00-11:50 am; and by appointment

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**Class Times:** MWF 2:00-2:50 [Stein 223]

**Course Description:**

This course provides a survey of the development of Christianity, both its theology and its structures, from the Reformation period to today. Special attention will be paid to the development of the various Protestant traditions, their doctrines and worship. The interplay between Roman Catholicism and the Protestant churches will be discussed. The impact of these Christian traditions on American society will also be addressed.

**Course Objectives:**

Upon completion of this course, students should have a basic knowledge of the structure of modern Christian history: important figures, periods, dates, events, and geographical areas, and should gain an understanding of how Christian denominations, with their various institutions and theologies, developed during the last 500 years, and how these both influenced, and were influenced by, the development of European/Western civilization. Students should also be left with an overall impression of the differing characteristics of each period of later Christian theology, especially in terms of culture, art, liturgy, and architecture.

**Course Requirements:**

- A. **Analytical Essay.** Each student will write one analytical essay (5-6 pages) on certain of the selections from the collections of primary sources covered in the small discussion groups. Students may choose which one of the topics to analyze further. Essays are usually due in class one week following the discussion groups, except for those at the end of the semester (see the "Quick List of Due Dates"). Each essay assignment will have its own guide sheet, made available to students in advance of the essay due date. Additional details will be given in class.

- B. **Worship Service Visit/Paper.** Each student will be expected to write one description/reflection paper (5-6 pages) on a worship service celebrated by one of the traditions under study during the course, e.g. , e.g. a Lutheran service, a Congregational service, a Baptist service, a monastic service (non-eucharistic), or a pre-20<sup>th</sup> century (Extraordinary Form/"Tridentine") Roman Catholic Mass. Additional details will be given in class.
- C. **Quizzes.** Each student will take five (5) quizzes on the course material during the semester. Quizzes include ALL material (lectures, readings, discussion groups, and videos) covered since the last quiz. Quizzes will be given, on average, every sixth class meeting. The best four (4) out of five (5) quizzes will be counted for the final grade: therefore, students may drop the lowest quiz grade, or choose to skip one of the five quizzes. **An optional sixth quiz will be given on the last day of class; students may choose to take this quiz to make up for a previous poor grade or missed quiz. Since this is the case, under ordinary circumstances no make-up quizzes will be given.**
- D. **Final Exam.** Each student will take a final (essay) exam, which will be comprehensive (i.e. will cover the entire course). A list of possible essay questions will be distributed at the end of the semester; the final exam essays will be selected from among those essay questions on the list. Additional details will be given in class.
- E. **Small Group Discussions/Videos.** Some class meetings, often but not always on Fridays, will be scheduled for small group discussions, or video presentations.

**Discussions.** Each student will be expected to post a short "response" on the small group discussion readings on the designated Moodle forum. These responses should be in the form of a brief paragraph with thoughts on one key point from the selections (e.g. a surprising idea, a new idea, a concept that the student found challenging, one that the student agreed/disagreed with), and must conclude with a proposed question for further discussion in the small group. *Responses must be posted by 8:00 pm the evening before a small group discussion so that all other students in the class can read them ahead of time.*

Students will be divided into small groups for the discussion in class. The Placher and/or Harrington books **MUST** be brought to class for discussion assignments.

Each discussion will cover the discussion questions raised by its members the night before. In addition, each discussion topic will have an accompanying guide sheet with additional suggestions of points to consider. One student will be chosen to be recorder in each discussion group: this student will take notes on the day's discussion and write up a summary of the group's thoughts. The recorder should post this summary on the appropriate Discussion Board Forum on Moodle by the next day, so that all students may read it. Different students will act as recorder for each discussion.

**Videos:** Videos will be shown on the class day assigned, and will also be left on reserve in the Multimedia Resource Center (Stein 3) for students to view outside of class time. Each video will have its own guide sheet; it is strongly recommended that students bring this sheet to class to assist note-taking during the video. **Important: Students are responsible for the material generated both in discussion groups, and presented in these videos.**

**Policies:**

- A. **Class attendance is expected.** If at all possible, students are asked to please notify me ahead of time by email or by calling my office and leaving a message if they expect to be absent from a class. Students are responsible for making up work (class notes, hand-outs, etc.) if a class is missed. More than two unexcused absences may cause serious problems in the mastery of course material, and in class participation.
- B. **Essays and papers are due on the day assigned;** late work will receive grading penalties. All assignments are to be typed using standard margins and 11 point font. **Essays and papers must be handed in both in hard copy and by email as an attached electronic file.**
- C. Class material, a course calendar, discussion forums, and announcements will all be available on Moodle. Further details will be given in class.
- D. **Plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated.** Students are expected to act with academic integrity in every course at Holy Cross. Here are some guidelines on what constitutes academic honesty:

The College academic honesty policy states:

"As an institution devoted to teaching, learning, and intellectual inquiry, Holy Cross expects all members of the College community to abide by the highest standards of academic integrity. Any violation of academic honesty undermines the student-teacher relationship, thereby wounding the whole community. The principal violations of academic honesty are plagiarism, cheating, and collusion.

Plagiarism is the act of taking the words, ideas, data, illustrative material, or statements of someone else, without full and proper acknowledgment, and presenting them as one's own.

Cheating is the use of improper means or subterfuge to gain credit or advantage. Forms of

cheating include the use, attempted use, or improper possession of unauthorized aids in any examination or other academic exercise submitted for evaluation; the fabrication or falsification of data; misrepresentation of academic or extracurricular credentials; and deceitful performance on placement examinations. It is also cheating to submit the same work for credit in more than one course, except as authorized in advance by the course instructors.

Collusion is assisting or attempting to assist another student in an act of academic dishonesty."

The full statement from the College catalogue can be found here: Academic Honesty link:  
<http://www.holycross.edu/catalog/academic-honesty-policy.pdf>

The temptation to engage in an act of academic dishonesty will almost certainly arise, but the risk of enhancing a single grade is not worth the loss of your personal integrity. If you do not know how to cite reference materials correctly, consult with the campus Writer's Workshop (see below) or visit one of these links:

Department of History:

<http://www.holycross.edu/departments/history/website/academic-honesty.htm>

Department of English (link to Houghton Mifflin booklet, "Understanding Plagiarism: A Student Guide to Writing Your Own Work"):

[http://college.cengage.com/english/plagiarism\\_prevention.html](http://college.cengage.com/english/plagiarism_prevention.html)

Houghton Mifflin, "The Plagiarism Zone"

[http://college.hmco.com/english/plagiarism\\_prevention.html](http://college.hmco.com/english/plagiarism_prevention.html)

NOTE: If in doubt about what you plan to do or write violates academic honesty, PLEASE ASK!

### **Grading/Evaluation:**

- 25% = Essay (on one discussion/analysis of primary sources)
- 25% = Paper (on worship service)
- 25% = Quiz average (4 out of 5)
- 25% = Final Exam
- 100% = Final Grade

Class participation will also have an influence on the final grade, especially in the case of borderline grades.

### **Required Texts:**

- ▶ Catherine Cory, David Landry, eds. *The Christian Theological Tradition* (3rd edition).
- ▶ Justo González. *The Story of Christianity*, vol. 2 (2nd edition)
- ▶ Joel Harrington, ed. *A Cloud of Witnesses: Readings in the History of Western Christianity*.

► William Placher, ed. *Readings in the History of Christian Theology*, Volume 2.

Additional readings will be assigned: these may be internet materials, handouts, or texts available on ERes or on Moodle. Most course materials will also be available on Moodle, and reminders or other announcements will be posted there as well.

**Video series or episodes used:**

- *Art of the Western World*
- *Hands to Work, Hearts to God: The Shakers.*
- *Saints and Sinners: The Papacy*

Additional videos may be assigned. Additional readings may also be assigned: these may be web sites, handouts, or texts either on ERes or on reserve in the library. **Most course materials will also be available on Moodle, and reminders or other announcements will be posted there as well.**

**The Bible: Best Versions On-Line**

[www.usccb.org/nab/bible/](http://www.usccb.org/nab/bible/) (New American Bible; sponsored by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops)

<http://www.biblegateway.com/> (Bible Gateway; allows a search of several different translations of the Bible [but NOT the New Revised Standard Version]; sponsored by Gospelcom.net, an alliance of several more evangelical ministerial organizations)

The Bible: *Also Available in Reference, Dinand Library (Main Reading Room, First Floor)*

The Holy Bible (New Revised Standard Version, 1989): Ref. BS 191.5 .A1 1989 N48

The Holy Bible (New International Version, 1984): Ref. BS 195 .N37 1984

**Notes:**

**→ON THE INTERNET:**

Materials on the internet are helpful, but these MUST be used with caution.

ALWAYS check the source (and the age; the main texts of articles from the online *Catholic Encyclopedia* on NewAdvent.com, for example, were originally written almost 100 years ago) of a document. Both are usually noted at the end of a document with a copyright; usually a link to some “Home” page is provided.

Remember that search engines will list all materials that refer to the search term(s), and some of these may be the sheer opinion of private individuals or groups (Wikipedia, for example), and are therefore very unreliable as sources of fact or dependable scholarly research. Entries from peer-

reviewed encyclopedias or journal articles (from, say, the *Encyclopedia Britannica Online*, available through the Dinand Library homepage) must be approved, in a “blind review” by a panel or board of editors, and are therefore much more reliable.

And general Internet “rules” apply: NEVER reply or send comments to a person unknown to you, and be very wary of entering into chat room conversations.

### →ON THE COURSE OUTLINE:

1) *Text Readings* are assigned from the textbook for each topic covered in the syllabus. Students may read these readings before, during, or after the material is covered in class, depending on how they best integrate lecture material with readings.

2) *Source Readings* are usually assigned from the two books of primary source readings (Placher and Harrington) and are designed to provide specific examples or writings from the periods and authors covered within the general topic. The source readings for the six small group discussions MUST be read in advance of the class meeting (see above).

3) Dates for quizzes are set and cannot be extended.

4) Due dates for essays MAY be extended for individuals for serious reasons (I will decide on a case-by-case basis).

### Course Outline

Week of:

1) 1/24                      **W (1/26):** Course introduction, then Topic: The Eve of the Reformation  
Topic Readings: González, Ch. 1, Cory, Ch. 16, pp. 303-306, and Ch. 17  
Source Readings: Harrington Ch. 4 A.2, and Ch. 5 A.1

F: Continue Topic

2) 1/31                      M: Topic: The Reformation: Martin Luther  
Topic Readings: G, Ch. 2-4; C, Ch. 18  
Source Readings: Placher, pp. 11-19, 23-26; H, Ch. 5 A.2, B.1

W: Continue Topic

F: Video: *Saints and Sinners IV: Protest and Division*

3) 2/07                      M: Topic: The Reformation: Zwingli and Anabaptists

Topic Readings: G, Ch. 5 and 6; C, Ch. 19, to p. 344 (except for pp. 337-340, on Calvin)

Source Readings: P, rest of Ch. 1; H, Ch. 5 C.1, 2, 3

W: Continue Topic

**F: Discussion 1: Luther, Zwingli and the Anabaptists**

4) 2/14

M: Q1, then Topic: John Calvin

Topic Readings: G, Ch. 7; C, pp. 337-340

Source Readings: P, pp. 59-66; H, Ch. 5 B.2, D.4

W: Topic: The Reformation: England and Europe

Topic Readings: G, Ch. 8, 9, 11; C, pp. 344-349 (except for “Later Influence”)

Source Readings: P, pp. 69-75; H, Ch. 5 A.3, E.1

F: Continue Topic

5) 2/21

M: The Thirty Years’ War/Puritanism

Topic Readings: G, Ch. 15, 16, 18

Source Readings: P, pp. 75-79; H, Ch. 6 A.1 and 2

W: Continue Topic

**F: Discussion 2: The Reformation in England**

6) 2/28

M: **Quiz 2**, then Topic: The Catholic Reformation

Topic Readings: G, Ch. 12; C, Ch. 20

Source Readings: P, pp. 38-52; H, Ch. 5 B.3, D.1, 2 and 5

W: Continue Topic

**Friday 3/04:** Video: *Art of the Western World: Realms of Light: The Baroque*

7) 3/07

**[Spring Break Week: No Classes]**

8) 3/14

M: Topic: Catholic and Protestant "Orthodoxy"

Topic Readings: G, Chs. 19, 20, 21

Source Readings: P, pp. 34-37, 66-69, 52-57; H, Ch. 6 B.1 and 2

W: Continue Topic

F: Topic: The Rationalist Option

Topic Readings: G, Ch. 22; C, Ch. 22 (to p. 388)

Source Readings: P, pp. 82-90, 98-106

9) 3/21

M: **Quiz 3**, then Topic: The Spiritualist and Pietist Options

Topic Readings: G, Chs. 23, 24

Source Readings: P, pp. 91-98; H Ch. 6, A.3; C.2; D.1 and 2

W: Continue Topic

F: **Video:** *Hands to Work, Hearts to God* (The Shakers)

Reading: G, pp. 325-26

10) 3/28

M: Topic: The Thirteen Colonies

Topic Readings: G, Ch. 27 ; C, Ch. 23 to p. 404, then 411-412

Source Readings: P, 107-113; H, Ch. 6 B.3, Ch. 7 B.1

W: Topic: 19th Century Summary: U.S., Europe

Topic Readings: G, Chs. 27, 28

Source Readings: P, pp. 114-126; H, Ch. 7 C.1, D.2 and 3

**F: Discussion 3: Jonathan Edwards**

Readings: **TBA**

11) 4/04

M: **Quiz 4**, then Topic: 19th Century: Protestant and Catholic Theology  
Topic Readings: G, Chs. 31, 32; C, pp. 405-411, 412, 422-425  
Source Readings: P, pp. 131-136, 139-155, 165-167; H, Ch. 8 A.1 and 2, B.2, and 3, C.1 and 2 (“Protestant”); Ch. 8 D (all; Catholic)

W: Continue Topic

F: Continue Topic

12) 4/11

M: **Discussion 4: Trends in Nineteenth-Century Theology**

[**On Reserve:** Video: *Saints and Sinners V: The Pope and the People*]

W: Topic: 20th Century: Roman Catholicism  
Topic Readings: G, Ch. 34; C, pp. 412-415, Ch. 24, p. 425-436  
Source Readings: P, pp. 176-181; H, Ch. 9, E.2

F: Continue Topic

13) 4/18

M: Quiz 5, then Begin Topic: 20th Century: Protestantism  
Topic Readings: G, Chs. 35, 36; C, pp. 415-419  
Source Readings: P, pp. 156-164, 167-176; H, Ch. 9 A.2 and 3, D.1, 2, 3 and 4

W: Video: *Saints and Sinners VI: The Oracles of God*

**F: Easter Break – No Class**

14) 4/25

M: **Easter Break – No Class**

W: Continue Topic

F: Continue Topic

15) 5/02

M: **Discussion 6: Trends in Twentieth-Century Theology**

W: Ecumenism and Liberation Theology

Topic Readings: G, Ch. 37 (beginning at p. 507), and Ch. 38; C, pp. 436-439, and Ch. 25 and 26

Source Readings: P, pp. 190-195, 197-203; H, Ch. 9 E.1 and 2; Ch. 10 A.1, 2 and 3; B. 1 and 2

F: Continue Topic

16) 5/09

M: Last Day of Class:

**Quiz 6 (optional)**, then Summary and questions on Final Exam

**[Study Period Begins Tuesday, May 10]**

Final Exams Begin Thursday, May 12

**\*Final Exam: Date TBA \***

NOTE: The above schedule and procedures in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances.