HIST 5301 HISTORY OF CHRISTIANITY: REFORMATION-MODERN
INTERNET COURSE

Disclaimer: This syllabus is generic in form and does not contain dates. You will receive your working class syllabus in the Blackboard course shell once the class opens. This syllabus is simply for the student to peruse for textbook purchasing and class load purposes.

I. Mission Statement

The mission of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary is to equip leaders to fulfill the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.

II. Core Values Focus

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary has five core values: Doctrinal Integrity, Spiritual Vitality, Mission Focus, Characteristic Excellence, and Servant Leadership. This course addresses Doctrinal Integrity specifically in that the course is designed to prepare the student to grow in the understanding and interpreting of the Word of God. Characteristic Excellence is also addressed in that the student should be as prepared as possible to be ministers for Christ. Mission Focus is emphasized in that interpreting the Bible is a key element in presenting the Good News of the Gospel to the world. Proper interpretation is vital in fulfilling the Great Commission. This course addresses the competency of Biblical Exposition by preparing the student to interpret and communicate the Bible accurately. The Core Value for the academic year 2011-2012 is Characteristic Excellence.

III. Curriculum Competencies Addressed

The Seminary has seven key competencies in its academic program. They are: Biblical Exposition, Christian Theological Heritage, Discipleship Making, Interpersonal Skills, Servant Leadership, Spiritual and Character Formation, and Worship Leadership. The key competency addressed in this course is Christian Theological Heritage.

IV. Course Description:

This course provides a general historical survey of the Christian movement from the Protestant Reformation to the present. Attention is given to significant ideas, individuals, movements, and institutions in the development of Christianity during the Reformation and modern periods.

V. Objectives:

In order to understand and interpret Christian theological heritage and Baptist polity for the church, the student, by the end of the course, should:

1. Be able to apply their knowledge and understanding of the formation and development of the Christian movement from the Protestant Reformation to the present to the process of interpreting Christian theological heritage and Baptist polity for the church.
2. Value the ideas, individuals, movements, and institutions in the development of Christianity during the Reformation and modern periods.

3. Be able to accomplish the following:

- Practice the historical method and historiography.
- Place individuals, movements, and ideas within their proper historical context.

VI. Required Texts:

There are three required textbooks for this class:


There will be additional required reading from primary sources that are available on the Internet.
VII. Requirements:

A. Exams: There will be six (6) exams, each worth 25 points, given throughout the semester. The lowest test grade will be dropped. Exams will be available throughout the course and must be completed by midnight on the last day of the unit. Each test will last 20 minutes and be timed. Exams should be taken without notes in front of you. Please study for the test; then take it “open memory.” You are on the honor system. The final days by which unit exams must be completed are as follows:

- Unit 1: TBA
- Unit 2: TBA
- Unit 3: TBA
- Unit 4: TBA
- Unit 5: TBA
- Unit 6 TBA

B. Assigned Reading: Students are expected to read the assigned pages listed for each unit. A report is due on the last day of each unit on the percentage completed (in 20% increments) of that unit's assigned reading. Each report is worth up to 5 points. Reading Reports are found under Course Documents with the Unit Exams. An additional 5 point bonus will be awarded to students who have completed all the assigned reading by TBA. This allows you to catch up on reading you have missed during the semester.

C. Book Review: Each student will write a book review of Mark Noll, Turning Points. The review should be between five to six double-spaced typewritten pages in length. Bibliographical information should appear at the top of the first page of the review. The review also should contain: 1) a brief summary [one to two pages] of the contents of the book, 2) a statement of the author’s purpose and the extent to which the purpose was realized, 3) a statement regarding the book’s uniqueness, 4) a description of the author’s style, 5) a description of the author’s biases, and 6) a concluding evaluation. Due TBA.

D. Biography/Research Paper: Each student will research and write a biography or a research paper on a significant person, movement, or event in Christian history. This paper will be eight to twelve pages long and should reflect scholarly research. You should discuss the historical context and influence of your subject in church history and conclude with a summary statement about the contributions and lasting consequences of your subject to history. It will be written according to standard guidelines (Turabian; Times New Roman 12 pt. font; double-spaced; standard margins; footnotes, etc.) and include a bibliography of at least six resources (Textbooks, reference books, and the Internet are allowed, but you must consult a minimum of three biographies, monographs, and/or church histories as well).

The Biography/Research Paper will be evaluated as follows:
1. Grammar and style: Spelling, sentence and paragraph development; punctuation; and conformity to the 6th or 7th edition of Turabian. (20 points)
2. Clarity and Coherence: Balance; thoroughness; organization; logical development; overall sense of the paper. (20 points)
3. **Research**: Bibliography; type and variety of sources (primary, secondary, monographs, journal articles, websites, etc.); most bibliographic entries should be accompanied by footnote citations. (20 points)

4. **Historical Awareness and Insight**: Factual accuracy; awareness of historical connections (continuity/discontinuity, cause/effect, contrasts/comparisons); sensitivity to historical context; awareness of the historical impact of a person. (20 points)

5. **Analysis and Evaluation**: Going beyond the mere reporting of facts to include explanation, interpretation, analysis of material; evaluation of strengths and weakness of a person; demonstration that you have thought about the material that you have researched. Give strong and insightful introduction and conclusion. (20 points)

Suggested reference works and surveys:
Bainton, Roland H. *Here I Stand: A Life of Martin Luther.*
________. *The Travail of Religious Liberty: Nine Biographical Studies.*
Carpenter, Joel A. *Revive Us Again.*
Dickens, A. G. *Reformation and Society in Sixteenth-Century Europe.*
Dillenberger and Welch. *Protestant Christianity.*
Estep, William H. *The Anabaptist Story.*
________. *Renaissance and Reformation.*
McNeill, John T. *The History and Character of Calvinism.*
Steinmetz, David D. *Reformers in the Wings.*

Suggested subjects are:

- Martin Luther
- Ulrich Zwingli
- John Calvin
- Michael Servetus
- Martin Bucer
- Michael Sattler
- Balthasar Hubmaier
- Menno Simons
- John Knox
- Jacob Arminius
- Henry VIII
- Thomas More
- Thomas Cranmer
- Teresa of Avila
- Ignatius Loyola
- Francis Xavier
- Matteo Ricci
- Blaise Pascal
- René Descartes
- John Locke
- Immanuel Kant
- Philipp Jakob Spener
- August Hermann Francke
- Count Zinzendorf
- Jonathan Edwards
- George Whitefield
- John Wesley
- Charles Finney
- Joseph Smith
- David Livingstone
- Friedrich Schleiermacher
- Albert Schweitzer
- Soren Kierkegaard
- Karl Barth
- Dietrich Bonhoeffer
- William and Catherine Booth
- Charles Haddon Spurgeon
- C. S. Lewis
- D. L. Moody
- Billy Sunday
- William Seymour
- Aimee Semple McPherson
- Billy Graham
- Martin Luther King, Jr.
- Mother Theresa
- Pope John Paul II

- Martin Luther’s Defense of Infant Baptism
- Theology of the Cross vs. Theology of Glory
- Luther’s Three Treatises of 1520 & Their Impact on the Reformation
- Luther’s Attitude toward Jews & His Influence on Anti-Semitism in Germany
- Ulrich Zwingli vs. the Swiss Brethren on the Issue of Infant Baptism
- Ulrich Zwingli’s Influence on the Swiss Reformed Movement
- Theology of Michael Sattler & Balthasar Hubmaier
- Anabaptist Theology of Martyrdom
- Selected Lives of Anabaptist Women
- John Calvin’s Theology of the Church
- John Calvin’s Sacramental Theology
- Calvinism & Its Positive Impact on Evangelism
- Calvinism & Its Negative Impact on Evangelism
- Women in the Reformation
- The Aftermath of the Wars of Religion in Europe
- The History of the English Bible from Wycliffe to King James I
- Anglican Theology, Practice & The Book of Common Prayer
- René Descarte & Platonic Philosophy
- John Locke & Aristotelian Philosophy
- Pietism: Its Causes & Influences
- Wesleyan Perfectionism & Its Influence on American Christianity
- Catholicism in New Spain
- Puritans in America: The City on a Hill & the Half-Way Covenant
- Dawning of the First Great Awakening
- The Theologies of John Wesley & Jonathan Edwards
- Preaching For & Against American Independence
- Characteristics & Effects of the Camp Meetings in the Early Nineteenth Century
- Charles Finney’s Arminianism & His Influence on Revivalism
- Women in Nineteenth-Century American Christianity
- Jesuit Missions
- Moravian Missions
- The Relationship of Colonialism & Missions
- The French Revolution & Its Impact on European Christianity
- Neo-Orthodoxy: Its Proponents & Opponents
- John Nelson Darby & the Rise of Dispensationalism
- American Preachers For & Against Slavery
- The History of the Jehovah’s Witnesses
- The Rise of Fundamentalism
- Presbyterians in Twentieth-Century America
- The “Scopes Monkey Trial” & Its Impact on American Fundamentalism
You may choose a subject not on this list for your research paper, but you must have prior approval from the professor. Send me your top three choices by email. DUPLICATIONS ARE NOT ALLOWED. First come; first served.

Safe Assignment: Blackboard offers a service known as “SafeAssignment.” If you click on “Assignments” on the left menu, you will be directed to Major Research Papers and another link that says “View/Complete.” Follow the instructions there to submit a draft of your paper for review.

A paper submitted through this service will be compared to other papers in the database and checked for the percentage of copying from other sources. Your work will not be used for any purpose other than preventing plagiarism in the Seminary and other participating institutions. Ownership of the intellectual property contained in your written work will not be transferred to any third party.

Your paper will be assessed for the amount of material copied from other sources and returned to you. The highlighted passages do not indicate plagiarism necessarily, but they point out the percentage of your paper that can be found in other sources. You need to be sure that you properly quote and cite such passages, and you may need to put more of your paper in your own words.

By the way, you probably will find that your footnotes and bibliographical entries are highlighted. That should be expected, since the papers in the database also cite the same sources that you use.

Due TBA. Submit the paper to me under Assignments and post it on the Discussion Board so that your fellow students will have access to your research and writing.

E. Interactive Discussions: Each student will participate in four threaded discussions. During the time of the unit containing the interactive discussion required, you will enter the discussion at least three times: once near the beginning of the unit and twice toward the end as you respond to your classmates’ comments (see above for unit completion dates). Your initial comments express your opinion on the topic. You must then respond to at least two people. This stipulation means that for each discussion you will have a minimum of three entries in order to receive full credit.

You must respond to the initial question no later than four days before the end of the unit, preferably earlier in the unit. In this way, you will respond early enough in the unit to allow your classmates to learn from you. After your initial response, it is best to wait a couple of days before posting your replies to other students.

You will be graded on your contributions to the discussion and on your interaction with what other students have said. It is EXTREMELY important that students remember to
use courtesy when critiquing the ideas of their fellow students. Speak truth, but only in love and let your conversations be characterized by grace. The first interactive discussion will not be graded. This will allow you to become familiar with the program. The others are worth 15 points each.

Following is a list of the topics:

**Unit 1**  
Please describe yourself. Please include your educational background (where you went to school, major), unique experiences, current degree plan, current ministry, ministry goals, and information about your family (spouse, children, etc.). Include only information that you feel comfortable sharing with the class.

**Unit 2**  
Many of the Reformers saw the State as a legitimate partner in the Church's mission, including the enforcement of correct beliefs and correct moral lifestyles. Discuss the benefits and drawbacks of such a situation.

**Unit 3:**  
No Discussion Thread

**Unit 4**  
Christian groups tend to define themselves doctrinally (focus on belief in certain doctrines) or experientially (focus on how one's Christian life is being lived). Discuss the benefits and drawbacks of these differences. Where do/should Baptists fit into this dichotomy?

**Unit 5:**  
No Discussion Thread

**Unit 6**  
Some of the most aggressive and rapidly expanding religious groups are discussed in Units Five and Six. Some of them are heresies and cults, while others espouse doctrines and practices that Baptists consider errors. Choose one of these religious groups; describe the heresies or errors that you perceive among its adherents; and share a possible apologetic response. If you have had an encounter with a member of this group, you may share that story. As you reply to other students, you may share your own suggestion for responding to a member of the religious group under discussion. In your response and replies, please remember to speak the truth in love.

**F. Final Exam:** This exam will consist of six (6) take-home essay questions. It will be comprehensive of the entire course, affording the student the opportunity to integrate information from throughout the course. Questions will cover material from online lectures and assigned reading. The questions are included in this syllabus. It is recommended that you answer each unit’s essay question at the conclusion of that unit. In that way, you will be nearly completed by the due date, which is **December 12.**

**VIII. Penalties:**

*Unit Exams & Reading Reports:* Unit Exams and Reading Reports must be submitted by the date of the unit completion. One unit exam grade will be dropped.
**Tardiness:** A late written assignment will be assessed a **10 percent penalty if it is submitted after the deadline and a 20 percent penalty after five days. No assignment will be accepted after one week past the deadline.**

**Interactive Discussions:** Failure to participate adequately in the threaded discussions and to do so in a timely manner will affect the amount of points awarded.

**Plagiarism:** New Orleans Baptist Seminary maintains high academic standards and is not tolerant of plagiarism. If you copy another author’s work and present it as your own, you will be caught, and the penalty could be failure on that assignment or the course or expulsion from the Seminary.

**IX. Submission of Assignments**

1. The Unit Tests, Reading Reports, and Discussion Threads will be conducted on Blackboard. Unit Tests and Reading Reports are under Course Documents and under each respective unit. Go to the Discussion Board to add your Threads.

2. You will submit the Major Research Paper under Assignments and on the Discussion Board. Attach your paper by clicking on the Browse button. The reasons for submitting your paper both ways are: 1) for ease in grading; and 2) to make it available to the other students. I want every student to be able to benefit from each other’s research and writing.

3. Your Book Review and Final Exam will be submitted under Assignments. Click on the link to each assignment, click on the button to Browse My Computer, and attach your document.

4. Please do not send your assignments to me as email attachments unless I request you to do so or unless there is a compelling reason. You may send me an email announcing that you have submitted an assignment, but, if you follow the correct procedures, I will find it. I enjoy hearing from my students, but my Inbox fills up pretty quickly with attachments, and then I have to shift them over to the proper location.

**X. Possible Points & Grading Scale:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Possible Points</th>
<th>Grading Scale</th>
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<tr>
<td>Reading: 30 pts.</td>
<td>A = 390-420 pts.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Biography: 100 pts.</td>
<td>D = 290-319 pts.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discussions: 45 pts.</td>
<td>F = 289 - 41 pts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam: 60 pts.</td>
<td>420 pts.</td>
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XI. Emergency Plan

In case of hurricane or any other emergency, go to the seminary web site for information: www.nobts.edu

The administration will communicate information that relates to the seminary: the nature of the emergency, instructions for responses, evacuation, contingency plans, duration of the emergency, and plans to return to campus and/or resume the schedule.

Also, check Blackboard for instructions related to this class. Because this class is available on Blackboard, there should be minimal disruption unless the emergency affects electrical power and connection to the Internet.

In any emergency, communication is important, and our best means of staying connected is through the seminary’s web site and Blackboard.
**XII. Reading Schedule**

B = Henry Bettenson, *Documents of the Christian Church*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Reading</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>B: 205-13, 221-24</td>
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</table>
|      | Luther’s Theology               | G: 29-37  
|      |         | B: 213-21, 224-36               |
|      | Ulrich Zwingli                   | G: 46-52 |
|      | Anabaptists                      | Schleitheim Confession |
|      |         | http://www.anabaptists.org/history/schleith.html |
|      |         | G: 53-60 |
|      |         | B: 236-38 |
|      | Wars of Religion                 | G: 86-109, 128-48  
|      |         | B: 238-41 |
|      | English Reformation              | G: 70-85  
|      |         | B: 252-53, 259-66               |
|      | English Dissent                  | G: 149-63, 196-204  
|      |         | B: 319-23, 329-41               |
|      |         | B: 272-82 |
|      | Catholic Orthodoxy               | G: 164-71  
|      |         | B: 284-86 |
|      | Lutheran & Reformed Orthodoxy    | G: 172-84  
|      |         | B: 282-84 |
Age of Enlightenment  
G: 185-95  
B: 345-49

Pietism  
G: 205-216

John Wesley  
John Wesley’s Conversion  
http://members.cox.net/stegcraj/meditation2.html

Christianity in Early America  
G: 217-28

First Great Awakening  
Jonathan Edwards’ *Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God*  
http://www.ccel.org/ccel/edwards/sermons.sinners.html

Religious Liberty  
G: 262-81

2\textsuperscript{nd} & 3\textsuperscript{rd} Great Awakenings  
G:250-58

New Religions  
G: 258-61

Global Expansion  
G: 303-23

Modern European Christianity  
G: 282-93  
B: 372-5

American Christianity  
G: 360-98  
B: 426-29, 435  
Martin Luther King, Jr.’s “I Have a Dream”  
http://www.americanrhetoric.com/speeches/mlkihaveadream.htm  
Billy Graham, New York Crusade, 1957  

Modern Roman Catholics  
G: 294-302, 345-59  
B: 286-89, 359-69, 450-1

Eastern Orthodoxy  
G: 326-44
History of Christianity: Reformation and Modern
Final Essay Questions

Each essay question is worth 10 points. Your responses must be in complete sentences and in your own words. Do not simply "cut and paste" information from the lecture notes or any other source. No research outside of the lecture notes and textbooks is expected. Each essay should be about one single-spaced page. Because each question corresponds generally to each unit, I recommend that you write one essay at the end of each unit so that you are nearly finished with the assignment at the end of the semester. The Final Exam should be submitted under Assignments.

1. Describe the formation and development of the Anabaptist movement. Include key individuals, issues, and writings.

2. Compare and contrast the position of the Remonstrants (Arminians) and Theodore Beza (Strict Calvinists) at the Synod of Dort.


4. Describe the people, events, and impact that the local regional revivals and the Great Awakening had both in America and on American denominations.

5. Describe the emergence of the “new evangelicalism” in the twentieth century. Include leading figures, issues, and centers.

6. Describe the issues and changes associated with Vatican II.

BONUS (3 points)
From this period of Christian history, choose one person (other than the subject of your biography) that you feel had the biggest impact on Christianity and explain why.
XIV. Bibliography

General History

Baker History of the Church.


**Modern**


**North American**


