



**NTEN/HIST 6340 CHRISTIAN STUDIES IN CONTEXT
NEW ORLEANS BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
THEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL STUDIES DIVISION
FALL 2022 [TURKEY STUDY TOUR]**

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I. Mission Statement

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Leavell College prepare servants to walk with Christ, proclaim His truth, and fulfill His mission.

II. Course Description:

An examination of the biblical, theological, and historical developments of the church giving attention to major individuals, ideas, institutions, movements, and crises. The interaction of Christianity and its cultural, religious, and political environments is addressed. This course is intended to accompany a seminary-led study tour, and its parameters will be set by the context of the tour.

Supplemental Course Description

For this tour of Turkey, the study will include, but not be limited to, New Testament issues found in the Books of Acts, Paul's Letters, and Revelation; and historical issues such as the persecutions under Domitian and Trajan, the establishment of Constantinople as Constantine's capital, the four ecumenical councils, and various early church fathers.

III. Student Learning Outcomes:

By the completion of this course, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate knowledge of biblical, theological, and historical developments of the church, which they learned in context
- Apply what they learned from Christian studies in context to their lives and ministries
- Communicate knowledge of biblical, theological, and historical developments of the church clearly and concisely through oral presentations and written assignments.

IV. Required Texts:

There are two required textbooks for this class:

William Tabbernee, *Early Christianity in Contexts: An Exploration across Cultures and Continents* (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2014).

Wilson, Mark W., *Biblical Turkey: A Guide to the Jewish and Christian Sites of Asia Minor*, 4th Updated and Revised ed. (Ege Yayinlari, 2020).

There will be additional required reading from the Bible and from primary sources that are available on the Internet.

V. Requirements:

A. **Book Summaries:** Each student will write two summaries on selected sections of the two textbooks. Each summary 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 summary. The review also should contain 1) a brief biographical sketch of the author, 2) a brief summary [three to five pages] of the contents of the selected readings, 3) a statement of the book's purpose and the extent to which the purpose was realized, 4) a concluding evaluation. Submit this assignment on Canvas under Assignments.

The summary of *Biblical Turkey* is due on **September 15**, two weeks before departure for the study tour of Turkey. – read all the sections related to tour itinerary.
The summary of *Early Christianity in Contexts* is due on **October 31**, three weeks after the return from the study tour of Turkey.

B. **Research Project:** Each student will complete a research project on a historical figure, event, movement, or biblical material connected to Asia Minor. Each written project will be five to six pages long and written according to standard guidelines (Turabian; Times New Roman 12 pt. font; double-spaced; standard margins, etc.) and include a bibliography of at least three resources (biographies or history surveys are preferred, but textbooks, reference books, and the Internet are allowed).

The project is due on **September 22**. Submit this assignment on Canvas on the Discussion Board.

During the trip, each student will present a brief, ten to fifteen-minute summary of the subject of his or her project. The quality of the presentation will be figured into the student's grade for the project.

The subjects of these projects will be chosen by the students or assigned by the professor no later than the beginning of the summer. The subjects include:

- John the Apostle
- Polycarp
- Montanism
- Constantine
- Council of Nicea
- Nicholas of Myra
- Council of Constantinople
- Cappadocian Fathers
- Macrina
- John Chrysostom
- Council of Ephesus
- Council of Chalcedon
- Islam
- Local References to the cities of Revelation

The research project 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.
2. Clarity and Coherence: Organization; logical development; overall sense of the paper.
3. Research: Bibliography; type and variety of sources (primary, secondary, monographs, journal articles, websites, etc.); most bibliographic entries should be accompanied by footnote citations.
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.
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 a strong and insightful conclusion.

C. **Biblical Studies Project**: Journal: Each student will maintain a journal with notes on the sites, pictures, the lectures, and personal impressions. This journal (or a copy) is to be submitted on **October 24**, two weeks after the study tour. Submit a hard copy to one professor, or scan and email it.

D. Summary

1. *Work before the study tour.*
 - a. **Friday, September 15** – Summary of *Biblical Turkey*, submit on Canvas under Assignments.
 - b. **Friday, September 22** – Research project is due; submit to Canvas under Assignments and on the Discussion Board.
2. *Study Tour:*
Friday, September 29-Saturday, October 8
 - a. Maintain your Journal
 - b. Presentation of biography
 - c. Attend lectures
3. *Post-Work:*
 - a. **Monday, October 24** - Journal (or copy) is due. Submit a hard copy to one professor, or scan and email it.
 - b. **Monday, October 31** - Summary of *Early Christianity in Contexts*, submit on Canvas under Assignments.

VI. Penalties:

Attendance: Attendance at all class meetings is required, per the Graduate Catalog of NOBTS.

Late Work: A late project assignment will be assessed a **10 percent penalty if it is submitted after the deadline.**

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.

VII. Grading:

First Book Summary:	25%
Second Book Summary:	25%
Research Project:	25%
Biblical Studies Project:	25%
	100%

VIII. Resources:

Technical Assistance

For assistance regarding technology, consult ITC (504-816-8180) or the following websites:

1. Selfserve@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the Selfserve.nobts.edu site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.)
2. Canvas.NOBTS.com Click on the "Help" button for technical questions/support requests regarding the NOBTS Canvas System. You can also email questions to Canvas@nobts.edu.
3. ITCSupport@nobts.edu - Email for general technical questions/support requests.
4. www.NOBTS.edu/itc/ - General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.

Help for Writing Papers at "The Write Stuff"

NOBTS maintains a Writing Center designed to improve English writing at the graduate level. Students can receive writing guides, tips, and valuable information to help in becoming a better writer. A copy of the approved NOBTS Style Guide can be found in the course Canvas shell, or can be located online at the Writing Center's page on the seminary website at: https://www.nobts.edu/_resources/pdf/writing/StyleGuide.pdf

IX. Selected Bibliography

General History

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Cross, Frank and E. Livingstone. *Oxford Dictionary of the Christian Church*. 3d ed. Oxford University Press, 2005.

Duffy, Eamon. *Saints and Sinners: A History of the Popes*. 2d ed. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2001.

Gonzalez, Justo. *A History of Christian Thought*. 3 volumes.

Leith, John H., ed. *Creeds of the Churches: A Reader in Christian Doctrine From the Bible to the Present*. 3d ed. Louisville: John Knox Press, 1982.

Neill, Stephen. *A History of Christian Missions*. 2d ed. Penguin, 1991.

Olson, Roger. *The Story of Christian Theology*. InterVarsity Press, 1999.

Pelikan, Jaroslav. *The Christian Tradition: A History of the Development of Doctrine*. 5 volumes. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1971-1989.

Walker, Williston, et al. *A History of the Christian Church*, 4th ed. Scribner's, 1985.

Early Church

Brown, Peter. *The Rise of Western Christendom: Triumph and Diversity, AD 200-1000*. 2d ed. Blackwell, 2002.

Chadwick, Henry. *The Church in Ancient Society*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2002.

_____. *The Early Church*. Baltimore: Penguin Books, 1967.

Cohick, Lynn H. and Amy Brown Hughes. *Christian Women in the Patristic World: Their Influence, Authority, and Legacy in the Second through Fifth Centuries*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2017.

Drobner, Hubertus. *The Fathers of the Church*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 2005.

Ferguson, Everett, ed. *Encyclopedia of Early Christianity*. 2d ed. Garland, 1997.

Frend, W. H. C. *The Rise of Christianity*. Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1986.

Hartog, Paul, ed. *The Contemporary Church and the Early Church: Case Studies in Ressourcement*. Eugene, OR: Pickwick Publications, 2010.

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Holmes, Michael. *The Apostolic Fathers: Greek Texts and English Translations*. 3d ed. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2007.

- Jefford, Clayton. *Reading the Apostolic Fathers*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 1996.
- Kelly, Joseph Norman Davidson. *Early Christian Doctrines*. Revised ed. NY: HarperCollins, 1978. Reprint ed. Peabody, MA: Prince Press, 2004.
- Litfin, Bryan M. *After Acts: Exploring the Lives and Legends of the Apostles*. Chicago, IL: Moody Publishers, 2015.
- _____. *Early Christian Martyr Stories: An Evangelical Introduction with New Translations*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2014.
- _____. *Getting to Know the Church Fathers: An Evangelical Introduction*. 2d ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2016.
- Oden, Thomas C. *How Africa Shaped the Christian Mind: Rediscovering the African Seedbed of Western Christianity*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Press, 2007.
- McKechnie, Paul. *The First Christian Centuries*. InterVarsity Press, 2002.
- Shelton, W. Brian. *Quest for the Historical Apostles: Tracing Their Lives and Legacies*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2018.
- Wilken, Robert L. *The Spirit of Early Christian Thought: Seeking the Face of God*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2003.