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**Church History 1517 to Present (THEO 3023)**

**Spring 2023 – Tuesdays 6-9:00pm**

Southwest Church of Christ, Tigard, Oregon

Instructor: Darren T. Williamson, PhD dwilliamson.or@gmail.com

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course is a comprehensive historical survey of Christianity from the Late Middle Ages to the late 20th century. Special emphasis is given to the sixteenth-century Reformation, the Church in the Age of Enlightenment, and the development of the American Restoration Movement.

# COURSE RATIONALE AND OBJECTIVES

For the individual who seeks a deeper understanding of Christianity, a survey of the major events of its history is essential. The course provides a foundation for theological reflection and application of Christian doctrines to various cultural contexts and is foundational to theological study. Specifically, the course’ objective is...

* To increase students’ understanding of the essential narrative, influential individuals, and cultural developments in the history of Christianity
* To equip students to read and analyze primary source material historically and critically
* To enable students to encounter the most important political, religious, and intellectual developments of Church history
* To encourage students to engage thoughtfully in class discussion.

**Christian Worldview & Teaching Philosophy**

This course is an Oklahoma Christian University Bible course offered for credit at the Northwest School of Discipleship (NWSD), based in Tigard, Oregon. NWSD is a church-based educational initiative that seeks to help transform believers into the image of Christ through offering courses grounded in the three essential features of discipleship: Knowledge, Affection, Obedience.

## Course Requirements

1. **Exams** (50%) – there are three exams during the course. The two mid-term exams are non-comprehensive and cover lecture and textbook material. The final exam is comprehensive and requires retention of the entire course content. All three exams will have matching, identification, and essay questions. Note: exams are taken outside of class meeting times under proctors and conditions approved by the teacher.
2. **Essays** (30%) – each student will write two short reflection essays on important primary sources.

* **Essay #1** – students will be assigned a primary source from the ***Early Modern era (1517-1789)*** to read, engage, and reflect upon. The paper will introduce the source, describe its content, and explain the most significant theological and historical issues it raises (length: 5 pages, double spaced)
* **Essay #2** – students will be assigned a primary source from the ***Modern Period (1789-Present)*** to read, engage, and reflect upon. The paper will introduce the source, describe its content, and explain the most significant theological and historical issues it raises (length: 5 pages, double spaced)

Papers must be submitted at the time indicated in the course outline. No late papers will be accepted under any circumstances.

1. **Participation** (20%) – Active participation in class discussion is critical to the educational benefit of the course. There are two ways of assessing the participation grade:
   1. **First**, students should participate regularly in class discussion by engaging substantially with the assigned readings.
   2. **Second**, periodic pop quizzes ensure students are regularly completing the assigned textbook readings.

## Course Policies

**Grading Policy:**

Exam 1 - 15%

Exam 2 - 15%

Final Exam - 20%

Essays - 30%

Participation - 20%

100%

Course grades are calculated according to the following scale:

100 – 90% = A

89 – 80% = B

79 – 70% = C

69 – 60% = D

0-59% = F

**Required Textbooks:**

1. Justo L. Gonzalez, *The Story of Christianity: Volume 2. The Reformation to the Present Day*, 2nd Edition. HarperSanFrancisco, 2010.
2. Gary Holloway and Douglas A. Foster, *Renewing God’s People: A Concise History of Churches of Christ.* Abilene, TX: ACU Press, 2002.

**Oklahoma Christian University Policies**

Since this course is accredited through Oklahoma Christian University, the following statements apply:

Oklahoma Christian University Policy on Academic Honesty

Cheating

Cheating on examinations, assignments, roll sheets or other course related work or activities undermines the ethics of the academy and the specific Christian purposes of Oklahoma Christian University. Cheating is one form of academic dishonesty. Cheating triggers the Consequences for Academic Dishonesty.

Plagiarism

One particular form of cheating is plagiarism. Plagiarism is the transmission of another’s ideas, words, or materials as one’s own and/or the failure to credit accurately the ideas, words, or materials of another. Plagiarism also includes passing off another person’s work as one’s own. Plagiarism undermines the ethics of the academy and the specific Christian purposes of Oklahoma Christian University. Plagiarism is one form of academic dishonesty. Plagiarism triggers the following consequences.

Consequences for Academic Dishonesty

1. First offense: the mandatory consequence for academic dishonesty with regard to an examination or assignment is zero (0) credit. Faculty have discretion to assign appropriate consequences for academic dishonesty other than on examinations or assignments. Faculty must send documentation of the first offense to the appropriate chair, the dean of the appropriate college, the CAO, and the Dean of Students.
2. Second offense: the mandatory consequence for a second incident of academic dishonesty, in the same course, during the same term, is a failing grade (F) in the course. Faculty shall provide documentation of the second offense to the appropriate academic leader, dean, CAO, and the Dean of Students.
3. Appeal: A student accused of academic dishonesty may appeal the determination using the process for Grade Appeals, found below.
4. Multiple Course Violations: When a student has been academically dishonest in more than one (1) course the Academic Appeals Committee may assign consequences up to and including suspension from the University. The Academic Appeals Committee will inform the CAO and the Dean of Students in writing of consequences imposed and will report annually on its activities to the University’s Academic Affairs Committee. 5. Faculty should maintain the highest standards of academic honesty both in and out of the classroom. Faculty must report and apply the rules regarding academic dishonesty to the appropriate channels.

Copyright/Fair Use notice

Course materials provided or made available to students in class, online or via email are the property of Oklahoma Christian University, the instructor and other copyright holders and are made available for the sole use of students enrolled in this class during the semester in which the student is enrolled. Students may keep one copy (print or digital) for personal use only and may not distribute the materials in any media format to any person without the express permission of the Oklahoma Christian University and the instructor. Original materials posted and authored by students may not be distributed under any circumstances.

Sources of Help

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| Tutoring | Student Success  405.425.5907  [www.oc.edu/academics/student-success/](http://www.oc.edu/academics/student-success/) |
| Writing Lab | Writer’s Block  <http://writersblock.oc.edu/> |
| Research Help | Library  405.425.5312  Ask a Librarian ([libanswers.oc.edu](http://libanswers.oc.edu/))  [library.oc.edu](http://library.oc.edu) |
| Information Technology | Support Central  405.425.5555  [support.oc.edu/home](http://support.oc.edu/home) |
| Blackboard Help | Link in Blackboard (usually on left side) |
| Calling & Career Office | Day Six (located directly below Admissions)  Career counseling, strengths analysis, resume and portfolio building, interview mastery, network building, career search/ landing, and more.  405.425.5961  www.[oc.edu/daysix](http://oc.edu/daysix) |

Americans with Disabilities Act

If you have a diagnosed disability and need special accommodations, please notify Sharon Powell (405-425-1876) before your first scheduled class meeting. After your disability has been verified, your instructor will work with you, Sharon Powell, and the Office of Academic Affairs to provide reasonable accommodations to ensure that you have a fair opportunity to perform in this course.

Testing Center

A number of special circumstances may require students to take a test outside of the classroom. You may qualify to use the Testing Center if: 1) you have testing accommodations that allow for additional support; 2) you are a student athlete and are unable to test during the scheduled time; or 3) other circumstances that prohibit you from taking an exam in the classroom environment. Please contact [studentsuccess@oc.edu](mailto:studentsuccess@oc.edu) for more information or questions.

Policy and Procedures Addressing Sexual Harassment (Title IX)

Oklahoma Christian University is a Christian community unequivocally committed to ensuring a working and learning environment in which the dignity of every individual is respected and providing a campus environment that is free of unlawful discrimination, which includes sexual harassment, sexual assault, or sexual misconduct. [OC’s Policy and Procedures Addressing Sexual Misconduct](https://www.oc.edu/uploads/images/documents/sexual_harassment_policy_3122.pdf) are compliant with Title IX, which states, “No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.” Sexual harassment is a breach of community, which expresses disrespect, exploits and undermines relationships based on trusts, and interferes with learning and productive work. Refer to the Student Handbook in [MyOC](http://my.oc.edu) for more information.

Students are encouraged to immediately seek available assistance and report incidents of sexual misconduct as defined by the Sexual Misconduct Policy to the Title IX Coordinator:

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| **Title IX Coordinator**                 Tamie Willis | 405.425.6463  titleix@oc.edu |

Students have access to confidential services through OC’s Counseling Center.

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| **OC Counseling Center** | 405.425.5250 |

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| **Week** |  | **Lecture Topics** | **Readings & Outside Class Work** |
| 1 | Jan 24 | The Late Medieval Church |  |
|  |  | Christian Humanism | SOC chpt 1; |
| 2 | Jan 31 | Luther | SOC 2-3; DCC 202-224; |
|  |  | Luther (Continued) | SOC 4; DCC 224-236; |
|  | Feb 7 | **No Class** | Watch: *Luther* (2003) |
| 3 | Feb 14 | Anabaptism | SOC 5-6; ; Film: *The Radicals* (1990) |
|  |  | John Calvin & the Reformed Tradition | SOC 7; DCC 236-238; |
| 4 | Feb 21 | The English Reformation | SOC 8-9; DCC 241-272.  Film: *Man for All Seasons* (1966) |
|  |  | Reform in France and Low Countries | SOC 10-11; DCC 238-9; |
|  |  | The Catholic Reformation | SOC 12-13; DCC 272-282. |
|  |  | **Exam 1** |  |
| 5 | Feb 28 | The Wars of Religion | SOC 14-16; DCC 239-241; |
|  |  | The Puritan Revolution in England | SOC 17; |
|  | Mar 7 | **No Class** | Watch: *Cromwell* (1970) |
| 6 | Mar 14 | The Rise of Confessionalism | SOC 18-20; DCC 282-286; |
|  |  | The Church and The Enlightenment Rationalism | SOC 21; DCC 345-49. |
| 7 | Mar 21 | Pietism | SOC 22-23. |
|  |  | Nineteenth Century Protestant Theology | SOC 26-28. |
|  |  | Nineteenth Century Catholic Theology | SOC 29-30; DCC 286-90. ;  **Essay 1 Due** |
|  |  | **Exam 2** |  |
|  | Mar 28 | **No Class - Spring Break** |  |
| 8 |  | The Church in Early America; Origins of the Restoration Movement | SOC 24-25; HF 5-40.  Watch: *Amazing Grace* (2006) |
|  |  | Early Development of the Stone-Campbell Movement | HF 41-84. |
| 9 | Apr 4 | The Consolidation of the Restoration Movement | HF 85-114. |
|  |  | The Restoration Movement in the 20th Century; | SOC 35; HF 115-145. |
| 10 | Apr 11 | Restoration Movement (Continued) | **Essay 2 Due** |
|  |  | The Church in the Modern World | SOC 31, 32, 34. |
| 11 | Apr 18 | The Church in the Age of Ecumenism | SOC 33, 36; DCC 359-69. |
|  |  | Current Trends in N. American Christianity | for Readings |
|  |  | **Final Exam TBD** |  |

SOC = Gonzalez, *Story of Christianity*, Vol. II

DCC = Bettenson, *Documents of the Christian Church*

HF = Holloway and Foster, *Renewing God’s People: A Concise History of the Churches of Christ*