



INDIANAPOLIS THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

HT 601

The Church Fathers & Middle Ages

3 credits

Spring 2018

Weekends—Fridays, 7–10pm; Saturdays, 9am–5pm

February 9–10

March 9–10

April 6–7

May 4–5

Redeemer Presbyterian Church
1505 N. Delaware Street, Indpls 46202

Professor

The Rev. Joseph Murphy, Ph.D.

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Course Description

HT 601 The Church Fathers & Middle Ages 3 credits

A survey of significant events, persons and doctrinal developments during the eras of “The Fathers” and Middle Ages. Attention will be specifically given to the trajectories that gave rise to “Western Christianity.”

Course Objectives

By the end of the course, the faithful student will have:

1. To gain a basic understanding of the major events and social and cultural conditions in the Early and medieval eras of Church history.
2. To gain a basic understanding of the development of Christian doctrine and the discipline of historical theology in clarifying that development.
3. To gain a basic familiarity with the major theological figures and movements of the Church in the Early and Medieval eras as the Church faced challenges unique to those times.
4. To gain a basic competence in theological and historical analysis of church history and its texts.
5. To gain an understanding of the historical processes and thought-forms that shaped theological discussion in the Early and Medieval eras.

Learning Outcomes

Within the ITS Learning Outcomes, this course contributes to shaping students' aptitude in

Historical & Systematic Theology

becoming conversant with the historic theological loci as well as their biblical bases and historical developments, and possessing a coherent and cogent Reformed worldview.

Spiritual Transformation

continually growing in Christ-likeness and bringing forth the fruits of the Spirit, having been transformed by the gospel, and living by grace, applying the gospel to all of life.

Teaching Method

Classes will be a fluid mix of lecture and discussion, along with formal participation by the students in presentations described below.

Course Readings:

Required:

Abbrev	Texts	
G	González, Justo L. <i>The Story of Christianity. Volume 1, the Early Church to the Reformation.</i> Rev. and updated, 2nd ed. New York: Harper One, 2010.	13-445
Aq	<i>Aquinas' Shorter Summa:: Saint Thomas's Own Concise Version of His Summa Theologica.</i> Revised edition. Manchester, NH: Sophia Inst Press, 2001.	3-211
ANF	<i>The Ante-Nicene Fathers</i> , edited by Alexander Roberts and James Donaldson, vol I. Original Publication, 1884; Reprint, Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1981.	Available online and at the ITS library.
NPNF S1, S2	<i>A Select Library of the Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers</i> , edited by P. Schaff, Original Publication, 1886; Reprint, Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1983.	Available online and at the ITS library.
F	Fairweather, E. R., ed. <i>A Scholastic Miscellany: Anselm to Ockham.</i> Library of Christian Classics. Edited by J. Baillie, J. T. McNeill and H. P. Van Dusen. Vol. X. Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1956. "Bonaventure: Disputed Questions Concerning Christ's Knowledge," 379-401. "John Duns Scotus: Commentary on the Sentences," 428-36. "William Ockham: An Excerpt from Eight Questions on the Power of the Pope," 437-42.	Pdf file.
M	McCracken, G. E. <i>Early Medieval Theology.</i> The Library of Christian Classics. Vol. IX. Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1957. Radbertus, P. "Paschasius Radbertus of Corbie: The Lord's Body and Blood," 90-108. Ratramnus. "Ratramnus of Corbie: Christ's Body and Blood," 109-47.	Pdf file

Abbrev	Readings in ANF, NPNF	Pages
Au	(1) Augustine. "On Grace and Free Will." In <i>Saint Augustin: Anti-Pelagian Writings</i> . Translated by P. Holmes, R. E. Wallis and B. B. Warfield. <i>NPNF</i> S1, vol. V.	436-65
	(2) Augustine. "On the Holy Trinity." In <i>St. Augustine: On the Holy Trinity, Doctrinal Treatises, Moral Treatises</i> . Edited by Philip Schaff, <i>NPNF</i> , S1, vol. III.	Book XV 199-228.
	(3) Augustine. "City of God." In <i>St. Augustine's City of God and Christian Doctrine</i> . Edited by Philip Schaff. <i>NPNF</i> , S1, vol. III.	Book XIX 397-420 Book XX 421-51.
Ath	Athanasius, St. <i>On the Incarnation</i> . Translated by A Religious of C.S.M.V. Crestwood, NY: St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary, 1953. Originally published, 1944. Preferred.	
Ath	Or Athanasius, St. "On the Incarnation of the Word." In <i>St. Athanasius: Select Works and Letters</i> . <i>NPNF</i> , S2, vol. IV.	36-67
Ig	Ignatius of Antioch, "The Epistles of S. Ignatius." In Holmes, Michael W., J. B. Lightfoot, and J. R. Harmer. <i>The Apostolic Fathers in English</i> . 3rd ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2006. Preferred	
Ig	Or Ignatius of Antioch, "The Epistles of Ignatius To [Churches]" In <i>The Apostolic Fathers - Justin Martyr - Irenaeus</i> , <i>ANF</i> , vol. I.	49-92 (longer)
J	John of Damascus, "Exposition of the Orthodox Faith." In <i>St. Hilary of Poitiers; John of Damascus</i> . Edited by W. Sanday, Translated by S. D. F. Salmond. <i>NPNF</i> , S2 vol. IX.	Book I, 1-17. Book III, 45-73.
N	Nazianzen, Gregory. <i>The Fifth Theological Oration: On the Holy Spirit</i> . Translated by Charles Gordon Browne and James Edward Swallow. <i>NPNF</i> , S2, vol. IX.	318-28
T	Tertullian, "Against Praxeas." In <i>Latin Christianity: Its Founder, Tertullian</i> . <i>ANF</i> , vol. III.	597-627
T	Tertullian, "On Modesty." In <i>Tertullian, Part Fourth; Minucius Felix; Commodian; Origen, Parts First and Second</i> . <i>ANF</i> , vol. IV.	74-101

Recommended:

Brown, Harold O. J. *Heresies: The Image of Christ in the Mirror of Heresy and Orthodoxy from the Apostles to the Present*. Garden City, NY: Doubleday & Company, 1984.

Haskins, Charles Homer. *The Renaissance of the Twelfth Century*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1927. Reprint, 1982.

Huizinga, Johan. *The Waning of the Middle Ages : A Study of the Forms of Life, Thought and Art in France and the Netherlands in the Xivth and Xvth Centuries*. New York: St. Martin's Press, 1924.

Kelly, J. N. D. *Early Christian Creeds*. 3d ed. New York: D. McKay Co., 1972.

Leclercq, Jean. *The Love of Learning and the Desire for God : A Study of Monastic Culture*. 3rd ed. New York: Fordham University Press, 1982.

Leithart, Peter J. *Defending Constantine : The Twilight of an Empire and the Dawn of Christendom*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2010.

Litfin, Bryan M. *Getting to Know the Church Fathers : An Evangelical Introduction*. Grand Rapids, MI: Brazos Press, 2007.

Pelikan, Jaroslav. *Credo: Historical and Theological Guide to Creeds and Confessions of Faith in the Christian Tradition*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2003.

Smalley, Beryl. *The Study of the Bible in the Middle Ages*. 3rd ed. Oxford, England: B. Blackwell, 1983.

Southern, R. W. *The Making of the Middle Ages*. Pimlico ed. London: Pimlico, 1993.

Stark, Rodney. *God's Battalions : The Case for the Crusades*. 1st HarperCollins pbk. ed. New York: Harper One, 2009.

Torrance, Thomas F. *The Doctrine of Grace in the Apostolic Fathers*. Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans, 1959.

Course Schedule:

Weekend	Date Due By	Topic	Presentation	Reading Due
1	Feb 9	Introduction		G 13-127
	Feb 10	Jerusalem to Nicaea	The Apostolic Fathers	
2	March 9	Nicaea to Chalcedon	Irenaeus of Lyons	G 131-260 Ig 49-92 (longer) T 597-627 T 74-101 Ath 36-67 N 318-28 Au (1) 436-65
	March 10	The Rise of Rome: 300-900	The Desert Fathers	
3	April 6		Gregory the Great	G 263-344 Au (2) 199-228 Au (3) 397-451 M 90-147 J 1-17, 45-73
	April 7	The Papacy: 900-1200	John Scotus Eriugena	
4	May 4	The 12 th Century	Anselm	G 345-445 Aq 3-211 F 379-401, 428-42
	May 5	Cracks in the Façade: 1300-1500	Bernard of Clairvaux Thomas à Kempis	
	May 15	Final Exam		

Course Assignments

1. **Presentation and Short Paper (30% of grade):** This requirement entails
 - a. One class presentation, up to 30 minutes in length, of the historical setting of an author and a specific work of that author (both to be assigned in class #1), including its intended audience and its theological opponents and their thought.
 - b. An evaluation of the importance of the work at the time and in the following centuries;
 - c. An overview of the argument;
 - d. A description of the specific themes and doctrines;
 - e. A description and assessment of the author's development of the doctrines included by this author in this particular work as he or she has received them;
 - f. A critical appraisal of the work giving full weight to the historical setting. This appraisal should include the positive contributions, and the negative results of the work. Explain fully upon what ground the appraisal is made (biblical, confessional, etc.).
 - g. A paper handout of from 3 to 5 (**maximum**) pages (using both sides) that summarizes the presentation, and includes a contemporary bibliography for the author and the work (where available). This should be the best of what is available. NB: the goal of the handout is to equip the rest of the class to be able to readily access and present that historical theological material to others. Bring paper to the presentation, but making electronic copies available to the class would be gracious.

Presentation Topics (To be assigned to one or more students)

10-Feb	The Apostolic Fathers
9-Mar	*Irenaeus and Hans Urs von Balthasar. <i>The Scandal of the Incarnation: Irenaeus against the Heresies</i> . San Francisco: Ignatius Press, 1990.
10-Mar	The Desert Fathers. Athanasius, St. "Life of Antony." In <i>St. Athanasius: Select Works and Letters</i> , edited by Archibald Robertson. <i>NPNF</i> , S2, vol. IV. 197-221. *Nigg, Walter. <i>Warriors of God : The Great Religious Orders and Their Founders</i> . New York: Knopf, 1972, 10-49.
	Gregory the Great. "The Book of Pastoral Rule." In <i>Leo the Great; Gregory the Great</i> , Translated by J. Barmby. <i>NPNF</i> , S2, vol. XIII. 1-72.
6-Apr	*Eriugena, J. S. <i>Iohannis Scotti Eriugenae Periphyseon (De divisione naturae) Liber Primus</i> . <i>Scriptores Latini Hiberniae</i> . Dublin: The Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies, 1968. 37-221 recto only.
7-Apr	*Anselm and Gaunilo. <i>St. Anselm's Proslogion with A Reply on Behalf of the Fool</i> . Edited by M. J. Charlesworth. Notre Dame, IN: University of Notre Dame Press, 1979. 3-46; 101-91, recto.
4-May	*Thomas à Kempis and J. N. Tylenda. <i>The Imitation of Christ : In Four Books</i> . Wilmington, Del.: M. Glazier, 1984. (preferred; any edition acceptable). Books I, 3-43; II, 47-70; and IV, 179-215.

5-May	<p>*Bernard of Clairvaux, "On Grace and Free Choice." "On Contemplating God." "On Loving God." In Bernard, William and Aelred. <i>The Love of God, and Spiritual Friendship</i>. Abridged ed. Edited by J. M. Houston. Portland, OR: Multnomah Press, 1983. III. 21-56; V. 107-30; VI. 131-63.</p>
	*Available to borrow

2. Class Participation (30% of grade): Each weekend’s reading will be discussed in class.

Each student should attend and attentively participate in every class session. Please notify the instructor in advance of necessary absences. Otherwise, absences and lack of preparation for class will negatively affect grading, according to the Absentee policy below. Note that Friday sessions count for one, and Saturday sessions for 2 in that policy.

Please bring your textbooks to class for specific discussions.

Students will be expected to have read the course materials in advance of each class, and will be held accountable for their contents regardless of whether the material was actually discussed in class. Should you have questions about things in the readings not discussed in the class, please do not hesitate to raise those at any time.

3. Final Exam (40% of grade): There will be a comprehensive final on Thursday, May 5th, closed book, essay form.

Grading Scale

Letter	Percent	Points	C	74–76	2.00
A	96–100	4.00	C-	71–73	1.67
A-	92–95	3.67	D+	69–70	1.33
B+	88–91	3.33	D	67–68	1.00
B	84–87	3.00	D-	65–66	0.66
B-	80–83	2.67	F	< 65	0.00
C+	77–79	2.33	I	Incomplete	0.0

Course Policies

Attendance in class is critical for learning the necessary material. Students are, therefore, expected to attend every class session. ITS understands, however, that unexpected and unavoidable emergencies do occur in the course of study. Two absences in one course will not result in a lower grade. Three or four absence, however, will result in lowering the student's grade by one letter. Five absences will result in an automatic F.

Incompletes can be granted at the professor's discretion based on the likelihood that the student can complete the necessary coursework with no more than one month of extra time, and given that the student is currently passing the course at the time of the request. The regular attendance policy still applies. Students are, therefore, encouraged to withdraw if more than four classes will need to be missed.

Plagiarism and cheating will be grounds for an immediate F in any given course. A second occurrence will result in expulsion from the school.