



The Church: Origin to the Middle Ages

THEO333

Southwestern College Professional Studies

COURSE SYLLABUS

I. Course Catalog Description

This course introduces students to the major movements, personalities, and ideas that have shaped Christian thought and practice through the centuries. It also links these matters to issues the contemporary church and world are facing. The course covers the time frame from the church's beginnings to approximately 1300 CE/AD.

II. Required and Supplementary Instructional Materials

Walton, R. C. (2005). *Chronological and background charts of church history*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.

Nystrom, B. P., & Nystrom, D. P. (2004). *The history of Christianity: An introduction*. Boston, MA: McGraw-Hill.

III. Learning Outcomes

Learning outcomes describe the knowledge, skills, values, and attitudes that learners gain as the result of a particular learning experience. Southwestern College Professional Studies has learning outcomes specific to each course and each [undergraduate](#) and [graduate](#) program of study, as well as [institution-wide outcomes](#) related to the mission and vision of the college. Outcomes can help learners and instructors focus on the big picture of the learning experience and can help inform potential employers about a graduate's knowledge and skills.

Upon successfully completing this course, the learner will be able to:

- Outline the basic history of Christianity from its beginnings through the Early Middle Ages.
- Identify the major events and main characters in the history of Christianity from its beginnings through the Early Middle Ages.
- Integrate and apply the knowledge of the Church History with daily ministry activities.
- Recognize and integrate theological and historical themes the history of Christianity.
- Identify and explain the critical methods used in historical studies.

At the end of the course, learners may vary in their ability to achieve these outcomes. You are more likely to achieve these outcomes only if you attend class and/or online activities as required by the syllabus, complete the requirements for all assignments to the best of your ability, participate actively in class activities and group work as directed, and study diligently for exams.

IV. Course Policies

Students are expected to read and abide by the course policies located in the instructor-specific syllabus in the blackboard course.

V. Course Requirements:

Requirements	Number of Assignments	Points Possible	Percent of Grade
Discussions	6	300	30
Exams	2	500	50
Paper	1	200	20
Total Points		1,000	100

VI. Course at a Glance:

Unit	Reading & Preparation Activities	Graded Work Due
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participate in the Introductions discussion Read <i>Nystrom</i>, chapter 1 View PMSDD History of Judaism Part 1.mp4 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 1 Discussion
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read <i>Nystrom</i>, chapter 2 Read <i>Walton</i>, charts 9-12 Read Who Founded Christianity: Jesus or Paul? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 2 Discussion
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read <i>Nystrom</i>, chapter 3 Read <i>Walton</i>, charts 13-16, 29 View Jesus Rise to Power 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 3 Discussion Midterm Exam Proposed Paper Topic
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read <i>Nystrom</i>, chapter 4 Read <i>Walton</i>, charts 17-28, 30 Read An Example of a Heresy that Continues to Influence the Church Today 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 4 Discussion
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read <i>Nystrom</i>, chapter 5 Read <i>Walton</i>, charts 31-37 View Religions of the World: Orthodox and Roman Catholic Christianity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 5 Discussion Paper
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read <i>Nystrom</i>, chapter 6 Read <i>Walton</i>, charts 38-45 View The Crusades 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 6 Discussion

VII. Other Policies and Requirements

Follow this link to the Southwestern College Professional Studies [Standard Syllabus](#) in Blackboard. You may be required to log in.