

**HISTORY OF CHRISTIANITY I  
(To 843CE)**

Instructor: Brian Clarke  
EC 005  
416-585-4547  
b.clarke@utoronto.ca  
Office hours: Tuesdays, 4:30 PM to 5:30 PM.  
Or by appointment

This course explores Christianity's formation and transformation from the post-apostolic era to the "Triumph of Orthodoxy" in the East and the Carolingian revival and the Treaty of Verdun in the West in the year 843. Along the way, we will explore how Christians described their religious experience, practised their faith, articulated their beliefs, and structured their ecclesial communities. We will learn about Christianity's changing relationship to political power; its engagement with other religions and cultures; the ways of life, theological mindsets, and models of community proposed and debated by Christian leaders; the political and theological challenges associated with the movement's early marginalization, eventual expansion, and encounter with Islam in the East and "the barbarians" in the West; and the formation of "Christian Europe."

**REQUIRED READING**

Justo González, *The Story of Christianity*, vol. 1 *The Early Church to the Dawn of the Reformation*, rev. ed. and updated (HarperOne)

Augustine, *Confessions*, trans., Henry Chadwick (Oxford University Press)

Both books available at the Crux bookstore, Wycliffe College.

Readings from the **course reader**, indicated by \* in the class schedule

Course reader available at Print City, 180 Bloor Street West (just west of Avenue Road and Bloor), tel. 416-920-3040.

**CLASS FORMAT**

Each class session will have a mix of formats, with both a lecture and small-group discussions. Discussion groups will be led by students on a rotating basis.

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS** (Six in All)

### 1. Reading Assignments

Read Assignments Before Each Class

**Note reading for first class.**

### 2. Research Methods Workshop

Attendance required

Tuesday, 23 September, 5:00PM-6:00PM, Pratt Library, Room 306

### 3. Discussion Groups (15%)

(For further information see hand-outs)

Leadership in discussion groups 5%

Participation in discussion groups 10%

### 4. Two Short Essays (35%)

(For further information see hand-outs)

Essays are to be 1500-1650 words in length (about 5-6 pages long, typed and double-spaced in Times Roman 12 pt.).

Length does not include citations of your source.

There will be an assigned question for each assignment.

First essay on the *Martyrdom of Perpetua and Felicitas* 15%

Due on **27 September**

Second essay on either Justin Martyr, *Dialogue with Trypho* or Augustine, *Confessions* 20%

Due on **22 November**.

### 5. Identification Quiz (10 %)

An identification quiz (45 minutes) will be held for all students on **December 13** based on the lists of terms that will be distributed for each class during the term. There will be opportunities to do some review/practice quizzes in class.

### 6. Choice of a Final Assignment (40%)

An **Examination** (2 hours) in exam period based on lectures, discussions and readings (**13 December**).

or

A **Research Paper** of about 4,500 words (approximately fifteen pages, typed and double-spaced in Times Roman 12 pt.)

Brief description of your topic along with a list of your main primary and secondary sources due **1 November**.

Papers are due at lecture on **6 December**.

All assignments (except the quiz and final exam) are to be submitted both electronically and in hard copy. Hard copy of each assignment must be received by their respective due dates at class time. Students are responsible for delivering their assignments on time.

Assignments are to be submitted electronically to [b.clarke@utoronto.ca](mailto:b.clarke@utoronto.ca). Electronic submissions may be used in an anonymous form to evaluate degree programs.

When writing your papers on a computer be sure to regularly back up your work on at least one secure storage device. When submitting your work, be sure to keep one hard copy for your records.

### **Grading**

Assessment of assigned work will follow the grading scale and standards outlined in the TST Basic Degree Handbook. <http://www.emmanuel.utoronto.ca/students/handbooks.htm>

### **Style**

In matters of style (especially for reference notes and bibliographies), all papers should follow Kate L. Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*.

For a quick overview:

[http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools\\_citationguide.html](http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/tools_citationguide.html).

### **Electronic Communications**

In keeping with Emmanuel College policy, all electronic communications relating to this course are to be done via UTOR webmail and the course website on Blackboard.

All members of this class are expected to check their UTOR email and the Blackboard site for this course regularly.

For an introduction to Blackboard:

<http://www.portalinfo.utoronto.ca/content/information-students>

## **Class Attendance**

Please be advised as to Emmanuel College's policy on class attendance:

“Academic credit for a course requires regular class attendance, unless otherwise indicated in the course syllabus. Attendance means being present in the class for the entire scheduled class meeting, not just part of it. In the event of absence for any reason, including sickness, students are responsible for any information or class content missed. Students are expected to inform the professor prior to class. The professor may require additional work to make up for an absence.

The professor will be required to inform the Basic Degree Committee if students miss two classes. For students who miss three regular classes ... this may result in a lower grade or even a failing grade for the course. If attendance is poor due to extenuating circumstances, students may petition the Basic Degree Committee to drop a course without academic or financial penalty.”

## **Return of Final Assignments**

Please note that due to provincial privacy legislation instructors can no longer leave final assignment at the Emmanuel College office for pick-up. If you wish to have your final assignment returned to you either provide a post-paid self-addressed envelope or make an appointment.

## **Plagiarism**

All students enrolled in this course should consult the University of Toronto's Code of Academic Behaviour on Academic Matters. The code can be found in Appendix III of the TST BD Handbook 2009-2010. <http://www.emmanuel.utoronto.ca/students/handbooks.htm>

## **Accessibility Services**

Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. Please feel free to approach me or Accessibility Services so we can assist you in achieving academic success in this course.

As it takes time to make arrangements with the Accessibility Office, students who may require accommodation should get in touch with the office as soon as possible. Please contact the Accessibility Office by email at [disability.services@utoronto.ca](mailto:disability.services@utoronto.ca) or by visiting one of its two locations on the University of Toronto St. George Campus:

Robarts Library, First Floor  
(Ground floor)  
130 St. George  
Voice: 416-978-8060  
Fax: 416-978-8246  
TTY: 416-978-1902

215 Huron St.  
9<sup>th</sup> Floor, Room 939  
(north of College)  
Voice: 416-978-7677  
Fax: 416-978-5729  
TTY: 416-978-1902

For more information, visit the Accessibility Services website at <http://www.accessibility.utoronto.ca/Contact-Us.htm>

## **University of Toronto Code of Conduct**

All students in this course are governed by the University of Toronto's code of student conduct. <http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/studentc.htm>

## **Advanced Degree Students**

Advanced degree students please see me regarding course requirements.

## **INTENDED STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR THIS COURSE**

Weekly assignments, short assignments, and the final assignments together with class sessions and small-group discussions are intended to help you to develop a variety of areas of knowledge, skills, capacities, and values.

In successfully undertaking course work students will learn to:

### *Christian Faith & Heritage*

- 1) Demonstrate Knowledge of Christian Heritage
  - a) Identify important historical events, movements, and issues in the development of Early Christian heritage
  - b) Interpret and critically appraise texts relevant to Early Christian heritage
- 2) Identify and Respect Diversity in Theological Viewpoint and Practices
  - a) Distinguish theological and diversity of viewpoints and practices in Christianity
  - b) Show awareness of contexts and rationale for various Christian perspectives

### *Culture and Context*

- 3) Demonstrate an ability to employ diverse methods of contextual analysis
  - a) Identifies and understands context(s), their social and cultural character
  - b) Employs critical analytical skills in appraising context(s)

## CLASS SCHEDULE

September 12 Introduction: What is History?  
From Jewish Sect to Gentile Community: Paul and the Expansion of Christianity

Selections from Cantor and Schneider\*  
González, Chaps 1-4  
Galatians 2:1-3:29  
I Thessalonians

September 20 Roman Persecution and Christian Martyrdom: Christianity and Greco-Roman Religion In Conflict

González, chaps. 5-7, 10 (pp. 97-102); pp. 91-2 (on Montanism)  
Pliny-Trajan Correspondence\*  
*The Martyrdom of Perpetua and Felicitas*\*

September 27 The Challenge of Gnosticism and the Emergence of Orthodoxy

González, Chaps. 8-9 (pp. 83-86)  
*Gospel of Thomas*\*  
Irenaeus, *Against Heresies* I. 1-10:3; III. Pr. & 1-5:3\*

### **First Essay Due**

Research Methods Workshop (before class)

Attendance required

5:00-6:00, Pratt Library, Room 306

October 4 The Emergence of Christian Philosophy: Controversies and Engagement with Greco-Roman Culture

González, chap. 9 (pp. 86-96)  
Justin Martyr, *First Apology*\*  
Origen, *On First Principles*\*

- October 11    Piety and Community: From the First Century to the Third Century  
                   Worship and Leadership: The Emergence of the Episcopate  
                   Christianity and Its Jewish Heritage
- González, chap. 11  
*The Didache*\*  
 Justin Martyr, *Dialogue with Trypho*\*
- October 18    From Persecution to Privilege: The Conversion of Constantine and the Creation of  
                   an Imperial Church and a Christian Empire
- González, chaps.10 (pp. 102-104), 12-14  
 Edict of Milan\*  
 Eusebius, *In Praise of the Emperor  
 Constantine*\*
- October 25    Reading Week - No Classes
- November 1    Council of Nicea: Politics, Theological Factionalism, and the Making of Christian  
                   Doctrine
- González, chaps. 17-19  
 Placher, "Truly Human, Truly Divine"\* (pp.  
 68-79)  
*The Confession of the Arians*\*  
*Acts of the Council of Nicea*\*

### Descriptions for Term Papers Due

- November 8    Asceticism: A New Model of Holy Living
- González, chap. 15, 20-23  
 Elizabeth A. Clark, "Early Christian  
 Women"\*  
 Athanasius, "Life of Anthony"\*  
 Jerome, Letter 107\*



November 15 Augustine and the Development of Western Christianity: Faith, Grace, and Human Nature

González, chap. 24 & 26  
Augustine, *Confessions*, Books I-IX

November 22 The Development of Orthodoxy: From Nicea to Chalcedon

González, chap 28  
Placher, "Truly Human, Truly Divine"\*  
(pp.80-87)  
Gregory of Nazianzus, Letter 101\*  
*Tome of Leo\**  
*The Chalcedonian Decree\**

### **Second Assignment Due**

November 29 Islam and the Eastern Empire

González, chap. 25 (pp. 253-7); chap. 28  
(pp. 289-93)  
Irwin and Sunquist, "The Land of Arabia"\*  
*Apology of Patriarch Timothy of  
Baghdad before the Caliph Mahdi\**

December 6 Monks and Nuns: The Emergence of Latin Christianity

González, Chap. 25 (pp. 257-8) chap. 28  
(pp.269-89)  
*Rule of St. Benedict\**

December 13 6:00-6:45 PM Identification Quiz (all students)  
7:00-9:00 PM Final Exam (Option A)

## SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY

### Reference Works

#### Encyclopedias and Dictionaries:

*Encyclopedia of Early Christianity* (useful bibliographies)

*New Catholic Encyclopedia*

*Oxford Dictionary of the Christian Church* (good, short definitions of technical terms and the like)

*Westminster Dictionary of the Church*

#### Bibliographies:

Thomas A. Robinson, *The Early Church: An Annotated Bibliography of Literature in English Bibliographica Patristica*

Not to be overlooked is the *ATLA Religion Database*, available on line.

Two helpful guides to doing research and writing history are Norman F. Cantor and Richard I. Schneider, *How to Study History*, and Jacques Barzun and Henry F. Graff, *The Modern Researcher*.

On the history of Christianity see James E. Bradley and Richard A. Muller, *Church History: An Introduction to Research, Reference Works, and Methods*.

### Collections of Documents

*The Ante-Nicene Fathers*

*The Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers*

Some titles in The Library of Christian Classics

*Early Christian Fathers*

*Alexandrian Christianity*

*Christology of the Later Fathers*

*Early Latin Theology*

*Augustine: Earlier Writings*

Edgar J. Goodspeed, ed., *The Apostolic Fathers: An American Translation*  
Robert M. Grant, ed., *The Apostolic Fathers: A New Translation*, 6 vols.  
Maxwell Staniforth, ed. and trans., *Early Christian Writings: The Apostolic Fathers*

Routledge Books is publishing new translations of individual early Christian authors. If you are interested in a particular author check the library catalogue to see if there is Routledge edition available. Handy introductions.

*The Classics of Western Spirituality* published by the Paulist Press is also a useful series.

The works listed in this bibliography contain useful bibliographies for historical documents as well as for the historical literature on these documents.

### **General Works**

Peter Brown, *The World of Late Antiquity*  
Virginia Burrus, ed., *Late Ancient Christianity*  
Augustine Casiday and Frederick W. Norris, eds., *The Cambridge History of Christianity*, vol. 2, *Constantine to 600*  
Henry Chadwick, *The Early Church*  
W.H.C. Frend, *The Rise of Christianity* (useful bibliographies)  
Justo González, *A History of Christian Thought*, vol. 1  
Charles Freeman, *A New History of Early Christianity*  
Ian Hazlett, ed., *Early Christianity: Origins and Evolution to A.D. 600* (offers good overviews on various topics)  
Robert M. Grant, *Augustus to Constantine*  
Hans Lietzmann, *A History of the Early Church*, 4 vols.  
Christoph Markschies, *Between Two Worlds: Structures of Earliest Christianity*  
Margaret M. Mitchell and Frances Young, eds., *Cambridge History of Christianity*, vol. 1, *Origins to Constantine*  
Jaroslav Pelikan, *The Emergence of the Christian Tradition, 100-600*

### **Martyrdom and Persecution**

Stephen Benko, *Pagan Rome and the Early Christians*  
G.W. Bowersock, *Martyrdom and Rome*  
Elizabeth A. Castelli, *Martyrdom and Memory: Early Christian Culture Making*  
W.H.C. Frend, *Martyrdom and Persecution in the Early Church*  
Candida Moss, *The Myth of Persecution*  
H. Musurillo, ed. and trans., *The Acts of the Christian Martyrs*  
Joyce Salisbury, *Pertpetua's Passion*  
Robin Darling Young, *In Procession before the World: Martyrdom as Public Liturgy in Early Christianity*

## **Christians and Greco-Roman Society**

G.W. Bowersock, *Hellenism in Late Antiquity*  
Peter Brown, *Through the Eye of a Needle: Wealth, the Fall of Rome and Making of Christianity*  
C. Cadoux, *Christian Attitudes to War and Peace*  
Robin Lane Fox, *Pagans and Christians*  
Justo González, *Faith and Wealth*  
Robert M. Grant, *Early Christians and Society*  
Keith Hopkins, *A World Filled with Gods*  
Luke Timothy Johnson, *Among the Gentiles: Greco-Roman Religion and Christianity*  
Ross Shepard Kraemer, *Her Share of Blessings: Women's Religions Among Pagans, Jews and Christians in the Greco-Roman World*  
Ramsey MacMullen, *Christianity and Paganism*  
Robert L. Wilken, *The Christians as the Romans Saw Them*

## **The Development of Orthodoxy and Christian Philosophy**

Lewis Ayres, *Nicaea and Its Legacy*  
Walter Bauer, *Orthodoxy and Heresy in Earliest Christianity*  
David Brakke, *The Gnostics: Myth, Ritual, and Diversity in Early Christianity*  
Henry Chadwick, *Early Christian Thought and the Classical Tradition*  
Henri Crouzel, *Origen*  
Robert M. Grant, *Greek Apologists of the Second Century*  
Robert M. Grant, *Gods and the One God*  
Robert M. Grant, *Irenaeus of Lyons*  
R.C. Gregg and Dennis Groh, *Early Arianism*  
Bart Ehrman, *Lost Christianities: The Battles for Scripture and the Faith We Never Knew*  
R.P.C. Hanson, *The Search for the Christian Doctrine of God*  
Charles Kannengiesser, *Holy Scripture and Hellenistic Hermeneutics in Alexandrian Christology*  
J.N.D. Kelly, *Early Christian Creeds*  
J.N.D. Kelly, *Early Christian Doctrines*  
Karen L. King, *What Is Gnosticism?*  
Catherine La Cugna, *God for Us: The Trinity and Christian Life*  
Eric Osborn, *Tertullian: the First Theologian of the West*  
Elaine Pagels, *The Gnostic Gospels*  
Jaroslav Pelikan, *The Emergence of the Catholic Tradition, 100-600*  
Kurt Rudolph, *Gnosis: The Nature and History of Gnosticism*  
Christine Trevett, *Montanism: Gender, Authority, and the New Prophecy*

Joseph W. Trigg, *Origen: The Bible and Philosophy in the Third-Century Church*  
Peter Widdicombe, *The Fatherhood of God From Origen to Athanasius*  
Maurice Wiles, *The Making of Christian Doctrine*  
Michael Allen Williams, *Rethinking "Gnosticism"*  
Rowan Williams, *Arius, Heresy, and Tradition*  
Frances Young, *The Making of the Creeds*

### **Constantine and the Church**

T.D. Barnes, *Constantine and Eusebius*  
Averil Cameron, *Christianity and the Rhetoric of Empire: The Development of Christian Discourse*  
H. A. Drake, *Constantine and the Bishops: The Politics of Intolerance*  
Robin Lane Fox, *Pagans and Christians in the Mediterranean World from the Second Century to the Conversion of Constantine*  
S.L Greenslade, *Church and State from Constantine to Theodosius*  
A.H.M. Jones, *Constantine and the Conversion of Europe*  
Ramsay MacMullen, *Constantine*  
Ramsay MacMullen, *Christianizing the Roman Empire*  
Arnoldo Momigliano, ed., *The Conflict Between Paganism and Christianity in the Fourth Century*

### **Asceticism**

Peter Brown, "The Notion of Virginity in the Early Church," in Bernard McGinn, ed., *Christian Spirituality: Origins to the Twelfth Century*  
Peter Brown, *The Body and Society: Men, Women, and Sexual Renunciation in Early Christianity*  
Virginia Burrus, "Begotten, Not Made": *Conceiving Manhood in Late Antiquity*  
Derwas Chitty, *The Desert a City*  
Elizabeth Clark, *Ascetic Piety and Women's Faith: Essays in Late Ancient Christianity*  
Susanna Elm, *Virgins of God: The Making of Asceticism in Late Antiquity*  
J.N.D. Kelley, *Jerome*  
Elaine Pagels, *Adam, Eve, and the Serpent*  
Philip Rousseau, *Ascetics, Authority, and the Church in the Age of Jerome*  
Philip Rousseau, *Basil of Caesarea*  
Philip Rousseau, *Pachomius: The Making of a Community in Fourth-Century Egypt*  
Vincent L. Wimbush, ed., *Ascetic Behaviour in Greco-Roman Antiquity: A Source Book*

## **Worship and Spirituality**

Paul Bradshaw, *The Search for the Origins of Christian Worship*  
Paul Bradshaw, *Daily Prayer in the Early Church*  
Peter Brown, *The Cult of Saints*  
Peter Brown, *The Ransom of the Soul*  
Dom Gregory Dix, *The Shape of the Liturgy*  
Stuart Hall, *Doctrine and Practice in the Early Church*  
Dennis E. Smith, *From Symposium to Eucharist*  
Bard Thompson, *Liturgies of the Western Church*  
Michael L. White, *The Social Origins of Christian Architecture*, 2 vols.

## **Augustine and the Church in Late Antiquity**

Peter Brown, *Augustine of Hippo: A Biography*  
Peter Brown, *Religion and Society in the Age of Saint Augustine*  
Gerald Bonner, *St. Augustine of Hippo: Life and Controversies*  
John Burnaby, *Amor Dei: A Study of the Religion of Saint Augustine*  
G.R. Evans, *Augustine on Evil*  
Garth Fowden, *Empire to Commonwealth: Consequences of Monotheism in Late Antiquity*  
Robin Lane Fox, *Augustine: Conversions and Confessions*  
J.N.D. Kelly, *Golden Mouth: The Story of John Chrysostom*  
Serge Lancel, *St Augustine*  
R.A. Markus, *Saeculum: History and Society in the Theology of St. Augustine*  
Neil McLynn, *Ambrose of Milan*  
Margaret M. Miles, *Desire and Delight: A New Reading of Augustine's Confessions*  
James J. O'Donnel, *Augustine, Sinner and Saint*  
John M. Rist, *Augustine: Ancient Thought Baptized*

## **Early Medieval**

Geoffrey Barraclough, *The Medieval Papacy*  
Christopher Dawson, *The Making of Europe*  
G.R. Evans, *The Thought of Gregory the Great*  
Robert A. Fletcher, *The Barbarian Conversion*  
Judith Herrin, *The Formation of Christendom*  
Ferdinand Lot, *The End of the Ancient World*  
R.A. Markus, *The End of Ancient Christianity*  
Thomas F.X. Noble and Julia M. Smith, eds., *Cambridge History of Christianity*, vol. 3, *Early Medieval Christianity c. 600-c. 1100*

James Russell, *The Germanization of Early Medieval Christianity*  
Julia M.H. Smith, *Europe after Rome*  
Carole Straw, *Gregory the Great*  
Walter Ullman, *A Short History of the Papacy in the Middle Ages*  
Chris Wickham, *The Inheritance of Rome: A History of Europe from 400 to 1000*

## **Islam**

Kenneth Cragg, *The House of Islam*  
Fred M. Donner, *Muhammad and the Believers: At the Origins of Islam*  
John Esposito, *Islam: The Straight Path*  
Marshall G.S. Hodgson, *The Venture of Islam* (vol. 1)  
Fazlur Rahman, *Islam*  
Maxime Rodinson, *Mohammed*