**North Portland Bible College**

**Portland, Oregon**

**CH202 Independent Study: Apostolic Church to the Reformation**

**Winter 2017**

**(3 credits)**

Instructor: Christopher R. Smith

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**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course is designed to study the unfolding of God’s redemptive plan of salvation from the time of Jesus and the apostles to the reformation with emphasis on key people, events, development of doctrine, and how these historical situations have formed our present reality as believers.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

After completing this course, students will:

* Gain an appreciation of the Judea-Christian connection to understand fully God’s holistic plan of salvation.
* Understand the chronology of the Imperial Church and its significance to contemporary society.
* Identify the key elements of Medieval Christianity (Monasticism, The Papacy, Islam, etc.).
* Demonstrate the ability to relate problems and struggles of the Church throughout its early history to the student’s present ministry and worship experience.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

Reading Required:

* *The Story of Christianity, Vol. 1: The Early Church to the Dawn of the Reformation*. 2nd ed; Gonzalez, Justo L.; Full Version

Reading Recommended:

* *Turning Points: Decisive Moments in the History of Christianity*. 3 ed; Noll, Mark A.; Full version
* *Historical Theology: An Introduction to Christian Doctrine*. Allison, Gregg. Full version
* *Church History in Plain Language: Fourth Edition*. 4th ed. Shelley, Bruce. Chapter 1-23

Major Assignments

1. Reading (for weekly due dates see schedule below)

2. Worksheets (for weekly due dates see schedule below)

3. Final Paper (Due Mar. 6th)

**COURSE EXPECTATIONS AND POLICIES**

Assignments

*Readings*

Weekly reading assignments will be due weekly ranging from 20 to 40 pages. Chapters assigned should be read in their entirety unless otherwise noted. Reading will be worth 60% of student’s overall grade.

*Worksheets*

Worksheet questions from the reading will be posted to the classroom website on Mondays and will be due the following Monday (see schedule for due dates). Worksheets will contain 3-5 questions pertaining to the weeks reading. Worksheets can be submitted via email or posted to the classroom website. Worksheets will be worth 20% of student’s overall grade.

*Final Paper*

The student will have a choice to write on either a noted figure or an event between the Apostolic to pre-reformation period. Choose from the list below to select a topic. Students will need to select and report their paper topic by Jan. 30th. Reporting topic can be reported via email. If a student desires to do a project outside the list it must be cleared with instructor by Jan. 30th. The final paper would need to be no less than five pages and no more than seven. Paper should conform to the NPBC standards. Include three academic sources in the paper to support your comments and conclusions. Bibliographies will be supplied upon request. The final paper will be worth 20% of student’s overall grade.

***Final Paper Topics***

***Noted Figures***

Origen of Alexandria

Constantine

Athanasius

Ambrose of Milan

John Chrysostom

Jerome

Augustine of Hippo

John Wycliffe

**Noted Events & Movements**

Persecution Under Nero

Early Christian Apologists

Persecution Under Domitian

The Rise to Power of Constantine

The Monastic Life

The Council of Nicea

The Papacy

Islam & Christianity Conflict

Evaluation and Grading Policy

Students will be graded on reading, interaction with weekly questions, assignments, and final paper. In regards to the reading assignment student will be evaluated based on percentage and timeliness of their reading. For questions assignment students will be graded on relevant interaction with the question and demonstrated knowledge of the reading assignments. Final paper will be evaluated based on intelligibility, compliance to NPBC writing standards, sources used and compliance with chosen topic.

Late assignment policy

Late assignment will be accepted 3 weeks past to due date with 10% reduction of assignment’s grade for each week past due date. Readings, Questions and Final paper will not be accepted past end of term (Mar. 13th) without previous arrangements.

**NPBC Writing Standards:**

All written work must be typed in the format designated by the college. Excessive errors such as grammar, punctuation, format, and spelling will affect your grade. A copy of NPBC Writing Guidelines is available through the office.

All written material submitted must be the original work of the student. **Plagiarism** is a violation of academic integrity and constitutes a serious breach of scholarship standards at North Portland Bible College. When quoting the work of an author or an author’s ideas are used in your paper, document, document, and document.

**COURSE SCHEDULE AND CONTENT TOPICS**

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| **Date** | **Week** | **Assigned Reading Due Date** | **Assignments** |
| 2-Jan | Week #1 | *Read Chapters 1-3*  |   |
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| 9-Jan | Week #2 | Chapters 1, 2, & 3 (30 pages) | Due: Worksheet #1 |
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| 16-Jan | Week #3 | Chapter 5, 6, 8, & 10 (40 pages) | Due: Worksheet #2 |
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| 23-Jan | Week #4 | Chapter 12 & 13 (30 pages) | Due: Worksheet #3 |
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| 30-Jan | Week #5 | Chapter 17, 19, 21 & 22 (36 pages) | Due: Worksheet #4 |
|  |  |  | Report Paper Topic |
| 6-Feb | Week #6 | Chapter 23, 24 & 26 ( 24 pages) | Due: Worksheet #5 |
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| 13-Feb | Week #7 | Chapter 27 & 28 (36 pages) | Due: Worksheet #6 |
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| 20-Feb | Week #8 | Chapter 29 & 31 (25 pages) | Due: Worksheet #7 |
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| 27-Feb | Week #9 | Chapter 32 (30 pages) | Due: Worksheet #8 |
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| 6-Mar | Week #10 | Chapter 33 (20 pages) | Due: Worksheet #9 |
|  |  |  | Final Paper Due |
| 13-Mar | Week #11 | Chapter 34 (26 pages) | Due: Worksheet #10 |