



On-Campus Course Syllabus

THS 201 FA.L2

Church History

Fall 2021

Class Information

Day and Time: Tuesday/Thursday: 8:00 am – 9:15 am

Room Number: E208

Contact Information

Instructor Name: Dr. Joseph Lee

Instructor Email: jlee@criswell.edu

Instructor Phone: 214-384-3142

Instructor Office Hours: TBD

Course Description and Prerequisites

An examination of the history of the Christian church from the first century to the present with emphasis on the roots of American Christianity.

Course Objectives

1. Students will gain a progressive and comprehensive awareness of Christian history from the first century to the present day.
2. Students will gain a knowledge of key movements and traditions throughout Christian history.
3. Students will gain a knowledge of key issues and individuals regarding the development of doctrine through history.
4. Students will recognize their connection to the historic, Christian church.
5. Students will gain an awareness of the birth, nature, and progression of American Evangelicalism.
6. Students will be able to appreciate and evaluate Christian history in order to inform Christian ministry and life.

Required Textbooks

Noll, Mark. *The New Shape of World Christianity*. Downers Grove: Intervarsity, 2009.

Shelly, Bruce. *Church History in Plain Language*. 5th ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Academic, 2021.

Course Requirements and Assignments

Reading Assignments (40%)

Students will read and complete the assigned reading according to the class schedule. A reading report indicating the percentage of reading completed will be recorded by students in Canvas twice: the first will be prior to the midterm exam (**Due 10/15**) and the second will be at the end of the final week of class (**Due 12/3**). Note that it is expected for students to read the required texts critically and for comprehension. Comprehension of the required texts will be demonstrated on the response paper.

Midterm Exam (20%)

The midterm exam will cover the Patristic Period through the Reformation Period and will be over the class lectures up to that point. Note that no texts, notes, or other helps are allowed in the taking of the exam. The nature of the midterm is short essay with students responding to two questions. Students can take as long as needed to complete the exam but it must be completed in one sitting. The questions will be unlocked in Canvas and the exam is to be completed on a Word document. Upon completion of the exam, students will convert the Word document to a PDF file and upload the document on the exam submission page when completed. The midterm exam must be taken within the allotted period (**10/18–10/22**). Criteria for grading will be: clarity, accuracy, response to key arguments, and depth of thinking.

Final Exam (20%)

The final exam will cover the Modern Period up to the Present Day and will be over the class lectures. Note that no texts, notes, or other helps are allowed in the taking of the exam. The nature of the final is short essay with students responding to two questions. Students can take as long as needed to complete the exam but it must be completed in one sitting. The questions will be unlocked in Canvas and the exam is to be completed on a Word document. Upon completion of the exam, students will convert the Word document to a PDF file and upload the document on the exam submission page when completed. The final exam must be taken within finals week (**12/6–12/10**). Criteria for grading will be: clarity, accuracy, response to key arguments, and depth of thinking.

Paper (20%)

Students will write a 7–10 page response paper to Bruce Shelley's *Church History in Plain Language*. You are to identify and exposit the top five points that have made the most personal impact in furthering your comprehension of church history (5–7 pages) and provide personal and ministry application points of this material (2–3). The response paper is **Due 12/3**.

Due Dates and Late Assignments

Exams must be taken within the allotted period of time (**5 days**) and the response paper will not be accepted past the end of the last week of class (**12/3**). The two reading reports need to be recorded by the respective deadlines (**10/15** and **12/3**) in order for students to receive credit. Please note: no assignments will be accepted past the assigned due dates.

Class Attendance

Students are responsible for enrolling in courses for which they anticipate being able to attend every class session on the day and time appearing on course schedules, and then making every effort to do so. When unavoidable situations result in absence or tardiness, students are responsible for acquiring any information missed. Instructors are not obliged to allow students to make up missed work. Per their independent discretion, individual instructors may determine how attendance affects students' ability to meet course learning objectives and whether attendance affects course grades.

Instructors work closely with the Student Success Manager. To help provide resources to students who may need it most, I will communicate the names of students who have two consecutive absences, low grades, or any other signs that they may be struggling. The Student Success Manager will reach out to these students and help find appropriate resources.

Campus Closure

To ensure the health and safety of students and employees, college administrators may decide it is necessary on rare occasions to close the campus. Once this decision is announced, instructors will contact students to provide further details regarding the campus closure's impact on those courses. Students are responsible to watch for communication from their instructors and respond appropriately. (Unless otherwise specified by the instructor in this syllabus, this communication will be sent to the student's Criswell College e-mail account.)

In order to make progress toward the courses' objectives, instructors have the freedom during most campus closures to require students to participate in activities as alternatives to meeting on campus. An instructor may, for example, hold class remotely (through Zoom) at the scheduled time, provide a recording of a class or presentation for students to watch independently, or assign other activities that students are to accomplish before returning to campus. Students are responsible for accomplishing these alternative activities as well as any course requirements listed in this syllabus during the period of the campus closure. If, during the period of the campus closure, personal circumstances prohibit a student from accomplishing these alternative activities or course requirements and assignment listed in the syllabus during the campus closure, the student is responsible for communicating with the instructor as soon as possible. Instructors will not penalize students who do not have the means to accomplish the alternative activities during the period of the campus's closure and will work with students whose circumstances during the campus closure prohibited their timely completion of course requirements and assignments in the syllabus.

Grading Scale

A	93-100	4.0 grade points per semester hour	
A-	90-92	3.7 grade points per semester hour	
B+	87-89	3.3 grade points per semester hour	
B	83-86	3.0 grade points per semester hour	
B-	80-82	2.7 grade points per semester hour	
C+	77-79	2.3 grade points per semester hour	
C	73-76	2.0 grade points per semester hour	
C-	70-72	1.7 grade points per semester hour	
D+	67-69	1.3 grade points per semester hour	
D	63-66	1.0 grade point per semester hour	
D-	60-62	0.7 grade points per semester hour	
F	0-59	0.0 grade points per semester hour	

Incomplete Grades

Students requesting a grade of Incomplete (I) must understand that incomplete grades may be given only upon approval of the faculty member involved. An "I" may be assigned only when a student is currently passing a course and in situations involving extended illness, serious injury, death in the family, or employment or government reassignment, not student neglect.

Students are responsible for contacting their instructors prior to the end of the semester, plus filing the appropriate completed and approved academic request form with the Registrar's Office. The "I" must be removed (by completing the remaining course requirements) no later than 60 calendar days after the close of the term or semester in which the grade was awarded, or the "I" will become an "F."

Academic Honesty

Absolute truth is an essential belief and basis of behavior for those who believe in a God who cannot lie and forbids falsehood. Academic honesty is the application of the principle of truth in the classroom setting. Academic honesty includes the basic premise that all work submitted by students must be their own and any ideas derived or copied from elsewhere must be carefully documented.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to:

- cheating of any kind,
- submitting, without proper approval, work originally prepared by the student for another course,
- plagiarism, which is the submitting of work prepared by someone else as if it were his own, and
- failing to credit sources properly in written work.

Institutional Assessment

Material submitted by students in this course may be used for assessment of the college's academic programs. Since programmatic and institutional assessment is done without reference to specific students, the results of these assessments have no effect on a student's course grade or academic standing at the college. Before submitting a student's work for this type of assessment, the course instructor redacts the work to remove anything that identifies the student.

Institutional Email Policy

All official college email communications to students enrolled in this course will be sent exclusively to students' institutional email accounts. Students are expected to check their student email accounts regularly and to respond in an appropriate and timely manner to all communications from faculty and administrative departments.

Students are permitted to setup automatic forwarding of emails from their student email accounts to one or more personal email accounts. The student is responsible to setup and maintain email forwarding without assistance from college staff. If a student chooses to use this forwarding option, he/she will continue to be responsible for responding appropriately to all communications from faculty and administrative departments of the college. Criswell College bears no responsibility for the use of emails that have been forwarded from student email accounts to other email accounts.

Disabilities

Criswell College recognizes and supports the standards set forth in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, and similar state laws, which are designed to eliminate discrimination against qualified individuals with disabilities. Criswell College is committed to making reasonable accommodations for qualifying students, faculty, and employees with disabilities as required by applicable laws. For more information, please contact the Student Services Office.

Intellectual Property Rights

Unless otherwise specifically instructed in writing by the instructor, students must neither materially nor digitally reproduce materials from any course offered by Criswell College for or with the significant possibility of distribution.

Resources and Supports

Canvas and SONIS: Criswell College uses Canvas as its web-based learning tool and SONIS for student data. Students needing assistance with Canvas should contact the Canvas Help Support line at (844) 358-6140. Tech support is available at this number, twenty-four hours a day. Students needing help with SONIS should contact the Campus Software Manager at studenttechsupport@criswell.edu.

Student Services: The Student Services Office exists to foster and encourage success in all areas of life—physical, intellectual, spiritual, social, and emotional. Students are encouraged to reach out for assistance by contacting the office at 214.818.1332 or studentservices@criswell.edu. Pastoral and certified counseling services are also available to Criswell students. Appointments are scheduled through the Dean of Students, at deanofstudents@criswell.edu.

Wallace Library: Students can access academic resources and obtain research assistance by contacting or visiting the Wallace Library, which is located on campus. For more information, email the Wallace Library at library@criswell.edu. Offsite login information is available in Canvas in the “Criswell Student Training Course” under “Library Information.”

Tutoring Center: Students are encouraged to consult with tutors to improve and enhance their skills and confidence in any subject matter taught at the college. Tutors have been recommended by the faculty to ensure that the tutor(s) are qualified to serve the student body. Every tutor brings experience and expertise in an effort to provide the proper resources for the subject matter at hand. To consult with a tutor, students can visit the Tutoring Center located on the second floor in room E203, or schedule an appointment by emailing tutoringcenter@criswell.edu or by calling 214.818.1373.

Course Outline/Calendar

Date	Topic	Assignment
8/17; 8/19	Syllabus/Course Introduction	<i>None</i>
8/24; 8/26	Patristic Period (part 1)	Shelley: chpts. 1-8
8/31; 9/2	Patristic Period (part 2)	Shelley: chpts. 9-12
9/7; 9/9	Patristic Period (part 3)	Shelley: chpts. 13-16
9/14; 9/16	Medieval Period (part 1)	Shelley: chpts. 17-19

9/21; 9/23	Medieval Period (part 2)	Shelley: chpts. 20-23
9/28; 9/30	Reformation Period (part 1)	Shelley: chpts. 24-27
10/5; 10/7	Reformation Period (part 2)	Shelley: chpts. 28-31
10/12; 10/14	Mid-Semester Recap/Review	Shelley: chpts. 32-35 Due 10/15: Reading Report 1
(10/18- 10/22)		MIDTERM EXAMINATION
10/19; 10/21	The Modern Period (part 1)	Shelley: 36-41
10/26; 10/28	The Modern Period (part 2)	Shelley: 42-45
11/2; 11/4	The Modern Period (part 3)	Shelley: 46-48/Epilogue
11/9; 11/11	American Evangelicalism (part 1)	Noll: chpts. 1-4
11/16; 11/18	American Evangelicalism (part 2)	Noll: chpts. 5-8
(11/22- 26)	<i>Fall Break: No Class</i>	<i>None</i>
11/30; 12/2	Course Recap/Review	Noll: chpts. 9-11 Due 12/3: Reading Report 2, Response Paper
(12/6- 12/10)		FINAL EXAMINATION