

## Acts, Paul and Earliest Christianity

MWF 4<sup>th</sup>

Turlington 2306

**Instructor:**

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**Office Hours:**

MW 5<sup>th</sup> period  
F 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> periods  
or by appointment

**Purpose:**

The purpose of the course is to expose the student to both canonical and non-canonical texts that helped to shape the various forms of earliest Christianities.

**Required Texts:**

Attridge, H., The HarperCollins Study Bible (New Revised Standard Version)  
Fortress Commentary on the Bible: New Testament  
Sanders, E.P., Paul: A Very Short Introduction  
Klauck, H.-J., The Apocryphal Acts of the Apostles  
Jefford, Clayton, Reading the Apostolic Fathers

**Course Grade:**

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|-----|---|
| 20% | Class Participation/Attendance  |
| 40% | Quizzes – 4 Quizzes (Acts, Apocryphal Acts, Pauline Quotations, Apostolic Fathers)    |
| 40% | Research paper – 10-12 pages – topic to be determined in consultation with instructor |

Attendance is required at all class meetings. Excessive unexcused absenteeism will result in lowering of the student's grade.

For UF policies on grading, please see:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

## ASSIGNMENTS

- JAN 7            General Introduction to the Course
- 9                Earliest Christianity – What came first?
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- 12              Luke/Acts  
                  Fortress Commentary, pp. 309-328
- 14              Acts 1-8  
                  Fortress Commentary, pp. 328-40
- 16              Acts 9-15.35  
                  Fortress Commentary, pp. 340-51  
                  Sanders, pp. 1-31
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- 19              Martin Luther King Day – no class**
- 21              Acts 15.36-23.35  
                  Fortress Commentary, pp. 351-357, 365-93
- 23              Acts 24.1-28.31  
                  Fortress Commentary, pp. 357-63
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- 26              Apocryphal Acts – Introduction  
                  Klauck, pp. 1-14
- 28              **QUIZ 1 – Acts (canonical)**
- 30              Apocryphal Acts – Acts of John  
                  Translation: <http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/text/actsjohn.html>  
                  Klauck, pp. 15-45
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- FEB 2            Apocryphal Acts – Acts of Paul  
                  Translation: <http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/text/actspaul.html>  
                  Klauck, pp. 47-79
- 4                Apocryphal Acts – Acts of Peter  
                  Translation: <http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/text/actspeter.html>  
                  Klauck, pp. 81-112
- 6                Apocryphal Acts – Acts of Andrew  
                  Translation: <http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/text/actsandrew.html>  
                  Klauck, pp. 113-40
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9 Apocryphal Acts – Acts of Thomas  
Translation: <http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/text/actsthomas.html>  
Klauck, pp. 141-79

11 Apocryphal Acts – Later Acts of Apostles and Summary  
Klauck, pp. 231-63

13 1,2 Thessalonians  
Fortress Commentary, pp. 573-88  
Sanders, pp. 32-40

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16 **QUIZ 2 – Apocryphal Acts**

18 Galatians 1-2 and Acts  
Fortress Commentary, 503-13  
Sanders, pp. 52-75

20 Galatians 3-5  
Fortress Commentary, pp. 513-25  
Sanders, pp. 98-117

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23 Corinthian Correspondence and 1 Corinthians 1-7  
Fortress Commentary, pp. 427-446  
Sanders, pp. 118-36

25 1 Corinthians 8-16  
Fortress Commentary, pp. 446-71

27 2 Corinthians  
Fortress Commentary, pp. 473-501

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**MAR 2-6 Spring Break**  
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9 Romans 1-6  
Fortress Commentary, pp. 395-407  
Sanders, pp. 76-90

11 Romans 7-11  
Fortress Commentary, pp. 407-16  
Sanders, pp. 137-49

13 Romans 12-16  
Fortress Commentary, pp. 416-26  
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- 16 Philippians, Philemon  
Fortress Commentary, pp. 543-56, 613-20  
Sanders, pp. 91-97
- 18 Colossians  
Fortress Commentary, pp. 557-72
- 20 Post-Pauline – Ephesians; Pastoral Epistles; Hebrews; 1,2 Peter; Jude; Hebrews; James; Jude;  
1,2,3 John; Revelation  
Fortress Commentary, pp. 527-28, 589-90, 601, 607, 621-27, 655-66, 667-68, 685-86,  
691-93, 705, 707, 711-12, 715-18
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- 23 **QUIZ 3 – Pauline Quotations**
- 25 Post-Pauline - Ephesians; Pastoral Epistles; Hebrews; 1,2 Peter; Jude; Hebrews; James; Jude;  
1,2,3 John; Revelation  
Fortress Commentary, pp. 527-28, 589-90, 601, 607, 621-27, 655-66, 667-68, 685-86,  
691-93, 705, 707, 711-12, 715-18
- 27 Apostolic Fathers - Letter of Barnabas  
Translation: <http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/text/barnabas-lake.html>  
Jefford, pp. xvii-xxviii, 1-21
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- 30 Apostolic Fathers – Didache (The Teaching of the Twelve Apostles)  
Translation: <http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/text/didache-lake.html>  
Jefford, pp. 23-42
- APR 1 Apostolic Fathers – Letters of Ignatius; Papias  
Translation: <http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/ignatius.html>  
(read Roberts-Donaldson translations of each letter – to Polycarp,  
Smyrnaeans, Philadelphians, Romans, Trallians, Magnesians, Ephesians)  
Jefford, pp. 43-72
- 3 Apostolic Fathers - Letter of Polycarp to the Philippians  
Translation: <http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/text/polycarp-lake.html>  
Jefford, pp. 73-85
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- 6 Apostolic Fathers - Martyrdom of Polycarp  
Translation: <http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/text/polycarp-lake.html>  
Jefford, pp. 87-101
- 8 Apostolic Fathers - 1 Clement  
Translation: <http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/text/1clement-roberts.html>  
Jefford, pp. 103-21

- 10 Apostolic Fathers - 2 Clement  
Translation: <http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/text/2clement-roberts.html>  
Jefford, pp. 123-39
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- 13 Apostolic Fathers – Shepherd of Hermas  
Translation: <http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/text/shepherd.html>  
Jefford, pp. 141-64
- 15 Apostolic Fathers – Letter to Diognetus  
Translation: <http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/text/diognetus-roberts.html>  
Jefford, pp. 165-77
- 17 Post-Pauline Letters and the Apostolic Fathers
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- 20 Conclusions and Summary
- 22 **QUIZ 4 - Apostolic Fathers**