

**History of World Christianity, c.100 to c.1300**

**WOH 3233/REL 3938  
Fall 2013**

**Martyrs, Monks, Crusaders:  
History of World Christianity, c.100 to c.1300**

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**Course Description:**

This course surveys the history of world Christianity from its status as a persecuted minority religion of the Roman Empire to its position of dominance in the civilizations of medieval Europe and Byzantium. We will study not only the emerging western (Latin) tradition but Christian traditions in Asia and Africa as well reflecting the wide geographical and cultural scope of ancient and medieval Christianity. In addition to examining major figures, institutions, and ideas, we will pay special attention to issues of unity and diversity within the Christian movement; the relationship between Christianity and culture; the "losers" as well as the "winners" in theological debates; Christian encounters with pagans, Jews, Muslims, and Buddhists; the roles of women in the church; and various expressions of spirituality which flourished in the Middle Ages.

Objectives, Requirements, Grading

**Course Objectives**

There are two primary goals of the course:

1. To gain an appreciation of a) the diversity of traditions, perspectives and practices that characterized ancient and medieval Christianity as well as the factors that unified the Christian movement, and b) some of the different ways in which Christians both shaped and were shaped by their culture.
2. A related goal is to help you acquire a critical and analytical approach to history in general.

Toward these ends, in addition to weekly lectures, we will be reading, writing about, and discussing together a wide variety of primary-source documents concerning ancient and medieval Christianity.

**Reading**

Required reading for this course will consist in a one-volume survey of the history of world Christianity up to 1453, a sourcebook of primary-source readings, Augustine's *Confessions*, and a number of primary sources available on the Internet.

a) **Required Texts** (ordered at University Bookstore):

Dale T. Irvin and Scott W. Sunquist, *History of the World Christian Movement*, Volume 1  
 John W. Coakley & Andrea Sterk, eds., *Readings in World Christian History*  
 St. Augustine, *Confessions* (Penguin edition)

b) You will be reading a few important primary sources (both whole texts and shorter excerpts) on line or through Sakai. These sources for can be accessed through links on the course syllabus. Please click on the highlighted text where appropriate to access online reading material.

c) Students must bring with them to discussion sections any primary-source readings listed for discussion. At times this might mean that you must print out the relevant on-line document. Please try to access and print out reading for discussion early in the week so that you have time to overcome any printing difficulties or delays.

**Course Requirements**

**1. Participation & Preparation**

Students are expected to attend all class meetings, and noticeable absences will significantly lower your participation grade. You will also miss lectures at your own peril since we will often cover material that is not included in your texts. If you must miss a lecture due to sickness or some other unavoidable conflict be sure to get notes from another member of the class. Attendance at Friday discussion sections is **absolutely required**, and participation in these discussions will comprise an important part of your grade. You are allowed four unexcused absences at lectures or discussions; **after that each unexcused absence will result in a 1% (10 point) reduction of your final grade.**

A series of 1-page responses to questions on the primary-source readings, due on discussion days, will be required throughout the semester. You will be able to access through Sakai a short list of questions each week. You should work through all of these questions in preparation for discussions, but you must also choose one question to answer in written form (unless you have a 3-page paper due that week). You may respond to the question in one or two paragraphs; absolutely no more than one-typed page! These short responses will not be graded, but submission of these 1-page assignments will count toward your participation grade for the course. Late 1-page responses will not be accepted!

**2. Written work**

Over the course of the semester you will write three short papers (3 pages; approximately 800-1000 words) analyzing and responding to three different primary-source texts or sets of texts. These papers will be written on a cyclical basis, so each week one third of the students in the class will write a paper while the others will submit a short response to one of the questions posed for discussion. More information about what to include in your short papers will be provided during the first two weeks of class. (Note: Late papers will drop a full letter grade each day, and late one-page assignments will not be accepted!)

You will have the option at the end of the semester to write one additional short paper. This paper may be written to replace a low grade on one of your other papers. This optional paper is recommended only for those who have received a grade below the B range on at least one of their papers.

**3. Exams**

There will be an in-class midterm examination and a final examination at the end of the semester. These exams will include a combination of objective and essay questions. They will be designed to test both your mastery of significant details (who, what, when, where) of the history the course covers and your ability to synthesize important details and themes.

	<b>Grading Scale</b>
<b>Grading</b>	A = 92.5-100 A- = 90-92.4 B+ = 87.5-89.9 B = 82.5-87.4 B- = 80-82.4
Midterm exam 20%	C+ = 77.5-79.9 C = 72.5-77.4 C- = 70-72.4
Final exam 20%	D+ = 67.5-69.9 D = 62.5-67.4 D- = 60-62.4
3 Short Papers 45% (15 % each)	E = Below 60
Participation 15% (includes 1-page responses)	

**Plagiarism**

In writing papers, be certain to give proper credit whenever you use words, phrases, ideas, arguments, and conclusions drawn from someone else’s work. Failure to give credit by quoting and/or footnoting is PLAGIARISM and is unacceptable. Please review the University’s honesty policy at [www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/).

**Schedule of Lectures and Readings**

(Subject to slight variation; be sure to check this syllabus regularly for readings and assignments!)

**Note on readings:** Textbook readings are listed for the week. The textbook reading should be completed by the end of each week.

The primary source readings are listed under different days of the week and should be read by the day under which they are assigned. You should be prepared to discuss the primary-source readings in your discussion where there will be a 1-page response paper or a 3-page cycle paper **due every week** except for weeks 1, 4, and 14. Be sure to print out any necessary documents and bring them and/or your reader to your Friday discussion.

HWCM = Dale Irvin & Scott Sunquist, *History of the World Christian Movement* (your textbook for the course)  
 RWCH = John Coakley & Andrea Sterk, eds., *Readings in World Christian History. Earliest Christianity to 1453* (your main sourcebook for the course)

WEEK	TOPIC	READING & ASSIGNMENTS (to be completed by date listed)
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**Week 1** - Introduction to the Course; Christian Beginnings

**Textbook Reading:** HWCM, chs. 1-3, pp. 1-44 & 66-71 (for context of Pliny/Trajan correspondence).

W, 8/21	Introductions and Course Overview <u>Rise of Christianity</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gospel of Mark, Matthew, 5-7, 1 Corinthians 15:1-28 (Use any version of the Bible; click <a href="#">here</a> for an on-line version)</li> </ul>
F, 8/23	<b>Discussion:</b> Introductions & Information Brief Discussion of Pliny-Trajan Correspondence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Correspondence of Pliny &amp; Trajan</a>, RWCH, 23-24 (Be ready to discuss)</li> <li><a href="#">How to Read A Document</a> (Useful suggestions for all your readings!)</li> </ul>

**Week 2** - Christian Beginnings; Geography & Diversity

**Textbook Reading:** HWCM, chs. 4-9, pp. 47-96; be sure to do all the primary source reading by Friday!

M, 8/26	<u>Early Christianity: Jewish, Hellenistic, &amp; Roman Contexts</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Didache</a>, RWCH, 12-16; Hippolytus of Rome, 17-22;</li> </ul>
W, 8/28	<u>Internal Developments, External Expansion, &amp; the Roman Response</u> (2nd-early 3rd century)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bardaisan of Edessa, RWCH, 82-84;</li> <li>Justin Martyr, <i>Second Apology</i>, 37-43</li> </ul>
F, 8/30	<b>Discussion:</b> Justin's Apology; Choose Cycles for short papers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Justin Martyr, <i>Second Apology</i>, RWCH, 37-43</li> <li><b>1-page response due.</b> Questions for class discussion &amp; 1-page assignment are posted. Click <a href="#">here</a>.</li> </ul>

**Week 3** - Early Challenges; Martyrs & Martyrdom

**Textbook Reading:** Review HWCM, 80-81 (on Marcion) & 86-91; HWCM, 99-152. Get started reading martyrdom accounts.

M, 9/2	<b>Labor Day</b> - No class	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Start readings for Wednesday &amp; Friday</li> </ul>
W, 9/4	<u>Heresy, Orthodoxy, and the Bible: The Gnostic Challenge</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Apostles' Creed</a></li> <li><a href="#">Acts of Paul and Thecla</a>, RWCH, 48-52</li> <li><a href="#">Irenaeus, Against Heresies</a>, Book III, RWCH, 58-66</li> <li>The Muratorian Fragment, 66-67</li> <li>Study guide (<a href="#">questions for reflection</a>) on Irenaeus</li> </ul>

F, 9/6	<b>Discussion:</b> Martyrdom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">The Martyrs of Lyons &amp; The Martyrdom of Perpetua and Felicity</a>, RWCH, 24-37</li> <li>• <b>Papers Due: Cycle A</b> - For paper guidelines click <a href="#">here</a>. You may focus on the North African accounts or compare the two.</li> </ul>
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**Week 4** - Christianity & Culture; the Constantinian Era

**Textbook Reading:** HWCM, 166-183

M, 9/9	<u>Christianity and Pagan Culture: Confrontation &amp; Integration</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Origen of Alexandria, <i>On First Principles</i>, RWCH, 68-76; <a href="#">Porphyry, Against the Christians</a> [excerpt]</li> </ul>
W, 9/11	<u>Constantine, Christianity, &amp; Culture</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eusebius of Caesarea, <i>Life of Constantine</i> [excerpts], RWCH, 87-97 [<a href="#">Eusebius, Life of Constantine</a> (whole text on-line)]</li> <li>• <a href="#">The Nicene Creed</a>, RWCH, 101</li> </ul>
F, 9/13	<b>Discussion:</b> A Christian Roman Emperor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eusebius of Caesarea, <i>Life of Constantine</i> [excerpts], RWCH, 87-97; questions for reflection and discussion listed.</li> </ul>

**Week 5** - Theology & Politics; Monasticism

**Textbook Reading:** HWCM, 155-183 & 209-214

M, 9/16	<u>Theology &amp; Politics in the Roman Empire</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emperor <a href="#">Julian, Rescript on Christian Teachers</a></li> <li>• Start Wednesday &amp; Friday readings (Athanasius &amp; Palladius)</li> </ul>
W, 9/18	<u>Mothers &amp; Fathers of the Desert: The Rise of the Monastic Movement</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Athanasius of Alexandria, <i>Life of Anthony of Egypt</i>, RWCH, 131-144;</li> <li>• Palladius, <i>Lausiac History</i>, 155-158</li> </ul>
F, 9/20	<b>Discussion:</b> Christian Monasticism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finish Athanasius &amp; Palladius</li> <li>• Basil of Caesarea, <i>Longer Rule</i>, RWCH, 144-147;</li> <li>• <a href="#">The Rule of St. Benedict (short excerpts)</a>;</li> <li>• <b>Recommended:</b> <a href="#">Full text of The Rule of St. Benedict</a></li> <li>• <b>Papers Due: Cycle B</b></li> </ul>

**Week 6** - Christianity on the Frontiers

**Textbook Reading:** HWCM, 184-219

M, 9/23	<u>On and Beyond the Roman Frontiers</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Auxentius of Durostorum, <i>Letter on the Life and Work of Ulifila, Apostle to the Goths</i>, RWCH, 102-105;</li> <li>• "The Martyrdom of Martha...Daughter of the Covenant," RWCH, 110-112</li> <li>• The Christianization of Ethiopia, RWCH, 107-108</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Definition of Faith of the Council of Chalcedon</a>. RWCH.</li> </ul>

W, 9/25	<u>Christology &amp; the Churches of the East</u>	175-176
F, 10/27	<b>Discussion:</b> Christianity & Christianization in Persia, the Caucasus, & on the Danube Frontier	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Auxentius, <i>On the Life and Work of Ulfila</i>, Apostle to the Goths</li> <li>• "The Martyrdom of Martha...Daughter of the Covenant," 110-112</li> <li>• Agathangelos, <i>History of the Armenians</i>, RWCH, 122-130</li> <li>• The Christianization of Georgia, RWCH, 108-109</li> <li>• <b>Papers Due: Cycle C - on any single text or comparison of texts</b></li> </ul>

**Week 7** - Parting of Ways between East & West

**Textbook Reading:** HWCM, 220-239; 240-254

M, 9/30	<u>Augustine of Hippo and Western Christianity</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Get started on <i>Confessions</i>, Books 6-8</li> </ul>
W, 10/2	Justinian, Byzantine Christianity, & Developments in the West	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Christianization of Nubia, RWCH, 188-192</li> </ul>
F, 10/4	<b>Discussion:</b> Augustine of Hippo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Augustine, <i>Confessions</i>, Books 6-8</li> <li>• <b>Recommended:</b> Augustine, <i>Confessions</i>, all of Books 1-9</li> <li>• <b>Papers Due: Cycle A</b></li> </ul>

**Week 8** - Rise of Islam; Christianity in Asia

**Textbook Readings:** HWCM, chapters 22-25

M, 10/7	<u>The Rise and Impact of Islam</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Apology of Patriarch Timothy of Baghdad before the Caliph Mahdi, RWCH, 231-242</li> </ul>
W, 10/9	<u>Monks, Merchants &amp; Heretics: Christianity en route to China</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inscription of the Monument at Xian, RWCH, 243-247</li> </ul>
F, 10/11	<b>Discussion:</b> Christians Encounter Islamic & Buddhist Worlds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Apology of Patriarch Timothy with the Caliph, RWCH, 231-242</li> <li>• Inscription of the Monument at Xian, 243-247; Chinese Christian Sutras, 247-251</li> <li>• <b>Papers Due: Cycle B</b></li> </ul>

**Week 9** - The Making of Western Christendom

**Textbook Reading:** HWCM, chs. 26-27, pp. 323-353 (after midterm)

M, 10/14	<b>Midterm Exam</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Study for Midterm</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bede, <i>A History of the English Church and People</i>,</li> </ul>

W, 10/16	<u>Monks &amp; Their Missions: The "Christianization" of Northern Europe</u>	<p>RWCH, 258-264</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Start: <i>The Heliand. The Saxon Gospel</i>, Songs 1, 5, 16-19, 24, and 68-69, RWCH, 271-280</li> <li>Rudolf of Fulda, <i>Life of Leoba</i>, 264-270</li> </ul>
F, 10/18	<b>Discussion:</b> Contextualizing the Gospel for Northern & Western Europe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Excerpts from Bede and <i>The Heliand</i> (RWCH 258-264 &amp; 271-280)</li> <li><b>Papers Due: Cycle C</b></li> </ul>

### **Week 10** - Roman Catholic & Byzantine Christianity

**Textbook Reading:** HWCM, Review ch. 26, esp. pp.332-342; chs. 28-29, pp.354-380

M, 10/21	<u>Charlemagne &amp; the Carolingian Church: The Consolidation of Roman Catholic Christianity</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>John of Damascus, <i>On the Divine Images</i>, RWCH, 289-297</li> <li><a href="#">Decree of the Second Council of Nicaea. 787</a></li> </ul>
W, 10/23	<u>Rome, Byzantium &amp; the Slavs: Christianizing East &amp; Central Europe</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Letters of Patriarch Photius &amp; Pope Nicholas I on Disputed Issues, RWCH, 297-302;</li> <li><i>Life of Constantine [Cyril]</i>, RWCH, 302-310</li> <li>The Christianization of Russia according to the <i>Russian Primary Chronicle</i>, RWCH, 310-315</li> </ul>
F, 10/25	<b>Discussion:</b> Byzantine Christianity and Mission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Byzantine texts from 10/21 &amp; 10/23</li> <li><b>Papers Due: Cycle A</b></li> </ul>

### **Week 12** - Reforming & Defending Christendom

**Textbook Reading:** HWCM, Part VI and Chs. 27 (pp. 343-353) and 30-31 (pp.383-405)

M, 10/28	<u>Monks, Popes &amp; Emperors: Movements of Reform</u>	Start reading for 10/30 & 11/1
W, 10/30	<u>The Crusading Movement</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Pope Urban II's Speech</a> at the Council of Clermont (1095) according to Fulcher of Chartres</li> <li>Guibert of Nogent, <i>The Deeds of God through the Franks</i>. RWCH, 324-334</li> </ul>
F, 11/1	<b>Discussion:</b> Four perspectives on the First Crusade (Latin Christian, Jewish, Muslim, & Byzantine)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Latin:</b> Guibert of Nogent, <i>The Deeds of God through the Franks</i>. RWCH, 324-334</li> <li><b>Muslim:</b> Ibn al-Athir on the Fall of Jerusalem, 1099, RWCH, 334-335</li> <li><b>Byzantine:</b> Anna Comnena, <a href="#">The Alexiad</a> [excerpts from Books 10 &amp; 11 on the Crusades]</li> <li><b>Jewish:</b> <a href="#">The account of Solomon Bar Simson</a></li> <li><a href="#">Nicetas Choniates on the Sack of Constantinople, 1204</a>; or RWCH, 335-336</li> <li><b>Papers Due: Cycle B</b></li> </ul>

**Week 12** - Learning & Culture; the Papacy

**Textbook Reading:** HWCM. 32-33, pp.406-439

M, 11/4	<u>Learning, Culture &amp; Spiritual Ideals in the 12th Century</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bernard of Clairvaux, <i>On Loving God</i>, RWCH, 347-354 [brief discussion]</li> </ul>
W, 11/6	<u>Papal Power &amp; Popular Piety: The Pontificate of Innocent III</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Start reading for next week (11/13 &amp; 11/15)</li> </ul>
F, 11/8	<b>Homecoming:</b> No class	

**Week 13** - Piety, Spirituality & Heresy in the High Middle Ages

**Textbook Reading:** HWCM, Chs. 32-33, pp.406-439

M, 11/11	<b>Holiday</b> (Veteran's Day): No class	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue reading for 11/13 &amp; 11/15</li> </ul>
W, 11/13	<u>Mendicants &amp; Heretics: Renewal &amp; Dissent</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thomas of Celano, <i>First Life of St. Francis of Assisi</i>, RWCH, 354-359</li> </ul>
F, 11/15	<b>Discussion:</b> Christian Theology: A New Milieu & New Approaches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Peter Abelard, <i>Historia Calamitatum</i></a> [Story of My Misfortunes], I-XII &amp; XV</li> <li>• <a href="#">Heloise, Letter to Abelard</a></li> <li>• <b>Papers Due, Cycle C</b></li> </ul>

**Week 14** – Scholasticism & Women

**Textbook Reading:** HWCM, Chs. 32-33, pp.406-439

M, 11/18	<u>Medieval Women &amp; the Church</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hadewijch of Brabant, Letters 6 &amp; 29 and Vision 7, RWCH, 362-371</li> <li>• Excerpts from <a href="#">The Book of Margery Kempe</a> (Read first 4 paragraphs of the "Introduction" under Complete &amp; 4 excerpts under "Excerpts at Luminarium")</li> </ul>
W, 11/20	<u>Scholasticism: Theology &amp; Architecture in the High Middle Ages</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thomas Aquinas on the Existence of God, RWCH, 359-362</li> </ul>
F, 11/22	<b>Discussion:</b> Women, Men & Medieval Spirituality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Readings from 11/13 &amp; 11/18 (Hadewijch, Margery, Thomas of Celano)</li> <li>• <b>No cycle papers; 1-page response due</b></li> </ul>

**Week 15** – Jews and Christendom

**Textbook Reading:** Catch up on HWCM reading

M, 11/25	<u>Jews &amp; the Medieval Church: Between Tolerance &amp; Persecution</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">The Expulsion of the Jews from France, 1182</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Gregory X, Letter on Jews (1271-76): Against the Blood Libel</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Thomas of Monmouth: The Life and Miracles of St. William of Norwich, 1173</a></li> </ul>
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W-F 11/27-29	THANKSGIVING BREAK: No class!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be sure to get started on the reading for next week!</li> </ul>
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**Week 16 - Meanwhile Around the Globe...**

**Textbook Reading:** HWCM, Chs. 35-37 & beginning of Ch. 38 pp.450--495; be sure to read 459-463 and 492 to 495 carefully for background to the primary source reading for Monday!

**Recommended:** finish last chapter, pp.492-504 (after you finish all other reading for this week)

M, 12/2	<p>Wrap-up week 15</p> <p>The Trials of the Church in Asia</p> <p><b>Brief Discussion:</b> An Asian Christian Looks at Christian Europe</p> <p>Time in class to fill out course evaluations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The Lives of Mar Yahbh-Allaha and Rabban Sawma</i>, RWCH, 373-384. (Full text: <a href="#">History of the Life and Travels of Rabban Sawma, Envoy and Plenipotentiary of the Mongol Khans to the Kings of Europe and Markos who as Yahbh-Allaha III Became Patriarch of the Nestorian Church in Asia</a>)</li> <li>• <b>1-page Response or Optional Paper due</b> (1-page response required if you do not do optional paper); <a href="#">Questions</a> on text have been posted; key terms for Week 16 have also been posted.</li> <li>• Bring computers or smartphones to fill out course evaluations</li> </ul>
W, 12/4	<p><u>Things Fall Apart:</u> <u>Christianity in the West &amp; the World After 1300</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Kebra Nagast</i>, RWCH 388-395</li> <li>• Pope Boniface VIII, <i>Unam Sanctam</i> (1302), RWCH, 397-398</li> </ul>

Tuesday 12/10 5:30-7:30 pm	<b>FINAL EXAM in regular class room</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Details TBA</li> </ul>
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