

EAST TEXAS BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

SYLLABUS FOR MINISTRY (MINS) 1131

Introduction to Christian History

I. **COURSE DESCRIPTION:** an introductory study of the significant people and events in Christian history.

II. **COURSE TEXTBOOKS:**

- Baker, Robert A. **A Summary of Christian History**. Revised by John M. Landers. Nashville: Broadman and Holman Publishers, 2002.

III. **COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

The student successfully completing the course will be able to do the following:

- understand the rise of Christianity, its roots in the Hebrew and Old Testament tradition.
- describe the development, changes, spread and diversity of the Christian faith.
- identify significant people, events, beliefs and trends in various periods of Christian history.
- communicate the historical background of various groups, institutions and movements that continue to exist in the Christian world.
- identify the bibliography and historical resources available for the study of Christian history.
- understand the variety of expressions, experiences and beliefs within the Christian faith in an historical framework.
- identify the primary documents, major movements and key leaders in the historical development of Christianity.
- develop a deeper interest in, understanding of, and involvement in historical and theological research.
- Better understand his personal Christian experience and background.

IV. COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

- Assignments will be given in preparation for each class. Class time will be devoted to discussion, instructor presentations and further explanation of the assigned topic or topics.
- Three quizzes will be given covering the course material to the time of the quiz.
- A final, comprehensive written examination covering the entire course will be given in the last class session.

V. COURSE GRADING:

- The three quizzes will count as 100 points each.
- The comprehensive final examination will be worth 100 points.

Grading Categories:

A = 90-100

B = 80-89

C = 70-79

D = 60-69

F = 59 and below

VI. GENERAL BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Reference Works:

Bettenson, Henry. Documents of the Christian Church.

Bowden, Henry Warner. Dictionary of American Religious Biography.

Brauer, Jerald C. The Westminster Dictionary of Church History.

Cross, F. L., ed. The Oxford Dictionary of the Christian Church.

Eusebius' Ecclesiastical History.

Hastings, James, ed., Encyclopedia of Religion and Ideas.

Selected Books:

Ahlstrom, Sydney E. A Religious History of the American People.

Bainton, Roland H. Early and Medieval Christianity.

_____. Erasmus of Christendom.

_____. The Reformation of the Sixteenth Century.

_____. Here I stand: A Life of Martin Luther.

Benz, Ernst. The Eastern Orthodox Church—Its Thought and Life.

Bouwsma, William J. John Calvin: A Sixteenth-Century Portrait.

Calvin, John. Institutes of the Christian Religion.

Chadwick, Owen. The Reformation.

Dillenberger, John, and Welch, Claude. Protestant Christianity Interpreted Through Its Development.

Dillenberger, John. Martin Luther.

Estep, William. The Anabaptist Story.

_____. Renaissance and Reformation.

Foxe's Book of Martyrs

Gaustad, Edwin S., ed. A Documentary History of Religion in American to the Civil War.

Grant, Robert M. Augustus to Constantine: The Thrust of the Christian Movement into the Roman World.

Hinson, E. Glenn. The Early Church.

Hudson, Winthrop S. Religion in America: An Historical Account of the Development of American Religious Life.

Huizinga, J. The Waning of the Middle Ages.

Latourette, Kenneth S. A History of Christianity.

_____. Christianity Through the Ages.

McBeth, H. Leon. The Baptist Heritage.

_____. A Sourcebook for Baptist Heritage.

Smith, Handy and Loetscher, American Christianity (2 Volumes of Readings)

Spinka, Matthew. Advocates of Reform, Vol. XIV.

Sweet, William W. The Baptists: A Collection of Source Materials.

_____. The Story of Religion in America.

Torbet, Robert G. A History of Baptists.

Workman, Herbert B. Persecution in the Early Church.