

LIDLAW COLLEGE

Te Wananga Amorangi

**301.515 History of Christianity: Early Church to Reformation
Course Assessment and Delivery Outline**

Campus/Delivery Mode: Distance Learning

Semester 1, 2015
NQF Level 5, 15 Credits

Course Writer: Angelene Goodman in conjunction with Dr Stuart Lange

CONTENT OVERVIEW

1. Introduction to Church History: Reasons & Methods

Section A: The Early Church

2. Major Development: The Early Expansion of Christianity
Character Focus: Justin Martyr
3. Major Development: Challenges to the Faith 1—Persecutions
Character Focus: Ignatius
4. Major Development: Challenges to the Faith 2—Heresies
Character Focus: Athanasius
5. Major Development: Christianity in the later Roman Empire & the Rise of Monasticism
Character Focus: Augustine

Section B: The Medieval Church

6. Major Development: The Conversion of Europe
Character Focus: Boniface
7. Major Development: The Church in the East & the Crusades
Character Focus: John Chrysostom
8. Major Development: Early Christian Expansion in Asia & Africa
Character Focus: Frumentius (Ethiopia); Alopen (China)
9. Major Development: Medieval Christendom—The Papacy, Monasticism and Scholasticism
Character Focus: Anselm
10. Major Development: Christendom Challenged
Character Focus: Jan Hus

Section C: The Church Reformed

11. Major Development: Reformation in Germany
Character Focus: Martin Luther
12. Major Development: Reformation in Geneva
Character Focus: John Calvin

ASSESSMENT TASKS AND DUE DATES

Participation in Online Discussions

<i>Learning Outcomes:</i>	2, 3, 4
<i>Due Dates:</i>	Sunday 11.59pm end of semester weeks 1,3,5,7,9,11
<i>Percentage Weighting:</i>	25%
<i>Word Count:</i>	As specified below

In six lessons you will find Compulsory Online Discussion exercises which require you to post a response of not more than 200 words on the Online Discussion Forum to a question or some aspect of that lesson. In addition to your initial posting, you will be required to make at least one further posting of at least 50 words which interacts with what other students have said. The second posting for each assessment must be within 7 calendar days of the initial posting.

Essay

<i>Learning Outcomes:</i>	1, 5, 6
<i>Due Dates:</i>	Sunday 11.59pm end of semester week 8
<i>Percentage Weighting:</i>	35%
<i>Word Count:</i>	1500 words

Choose one of the following topics:

- Explain two heresies discussed in this course and *evaluate* how the church dealt with them.
- Discuss the following statement: The overall benefits Constantine brought to the Church far outweigh any possible liabilities both to the church in his day and throughout the history of Christianity that has followed.
- Compare and contrast the church of the west and the east. Was the split in 1054 inevitable?
- Evaluate the wider contributions *either* early or Medieval monasticism made to the church and wider society.

Exam

<i>Learning Outcomes:</i>	1, 2
<i>Due Dates:</i>	Exam Week
<i>Percentage Weighting:</i>	40%
<i>Time:</i>	2 ½ hours

The exam will include a mixture of short answer and essay questions. Further detail on the structure of the exam will be provided by your tutor at a later date.

CRITERIA FOR ASSESSMENT

Participation in Online Discussions

Before beginning your first online discussion, please see the grading grid (rubric) on the “Online Discussions grading guide and indicative mid-semester feedback” on Moodle for further details on how these criteria will be applied.

- Engagement with material
- Constructive engagement with others
- Structure and presentation
- Timeliness

Essay

- Breadth of research and utilisation of appropriate resources
- Clarity of understanding and depth of critical analysis
- Awareness of the historical setting and the interaction of various factors that shaped the church
- Coherence, development and presentation of argument
- Communication and Presentation: Clarity, format, spelling, grammar, footnotes and bibliography.

Exam

- Answers directed to the question
- Coverage of main points
- Depth of treatment
- Critical judgment
- Coherence and presentation

LEARNING HOURS

301.515 is a 15 credit course consisting of 150 learning hours. The assignment tasks and learning hours are as follows:

Course Material Study & Reading	55 hours
Participation in Online Discussion Forum	20 hours
Essay	35 hours
Exam study	40 hours
Total	150 hours

Although this guideline regarding learning hours is not intended to be applied rigidly, it should help ensure a balanced workload.

TEXTBOOKS

Gonzalez, Justo L. *The Story of Christianity Volume 1 – The Early Church to the Dawn of the Reformation*. New York: Harper Collins, 2010.

Noll, Mark A. *Turning Points. Decisive Moments in the History of Christianity*, 3rd ed. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2012. **E-BOOK AVAILABLE FROM THE LIBRARY**

RECOMMENDED

Galli, Mark, and Ted Olsen. *131 Christians Everyone Should Know*. Nashville, Tenn: Broadman & Holman, 2000.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Further resources on particular topics may also be listed in the Learning Guide.

Reference

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Walton, R.C. *Chronological and Background Charts of Church History*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2005.

General

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- Ferguson, Everett. *From Christ to Pre-Reformation: The Rise and Growth of the Church in Its Cultural, Intellectual, and Political Context*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2005.
- Hastings, Adrian (ed). *A World History of Christianity*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1999.
- Herring, George. *Introduction to the History of Christianity*. New York: New York University, 2006.
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- Jenkins, Philip. *The Lost History of Christianity. The Thousand-Year Golden Age of the Church in the Middle East, Africa, and Asia – and How It Died*. New York: Harper-Collins, 2008.
- Mullin, Robert. *A Short History of World Christianity*. Louisville: Westminster, John Knox, 2008.
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- Early Church**
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- Chadwick, H. *The Early Church: The Pelican History of the Church, Vol. 1*. Harmondsworth, Middlesex: Penguin Books, 1967.
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- Davidson, Ivor J. *A Public Faith: From Constantine to the Medieval World AD 312-600. Vol. 2*, Baker History of the Church. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 2005.
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Guy, Laurence David. *Introducing early Christianity: a topical survey of its life, beliefs, and practices*. Downer's Grove: InterVarsity, 2004.

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Reformation

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