



HIS101 Early and Medieval Church

Syllabus Highlights

“I will build my church.”

Matthew 16:18

Fall 2021

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Course Description

A survey of church history from the close of the apostolic age to the eve of the Reformation.

Learning Outcomes

The primary outcome is to evaluate the early and medieval church for defining the Reformed classical tradition. At the end of this course of study, successful students will be able to:

1. Recognize significant people, writings, places, events, and movements in church history from the close of the New Testament canon to the dawn of the Reformation.
2. Explain and discuss key theological developments and controversies, especially pertaining to the formation of the doctrines of the Trinity and the person of Christ.
3. Analyze primary source material by learning to read texts in contexts (TIC).
4. Assess how church history informs Christian beliefs, practices, and worship today.

Textbooks

1. Augustine, *Confessions*, Oxford World's Classics, trans. Henry Chadwick (Oxford University Press, 2008).
2. Everett Ferguson, *Church History, Volume One: From Christ to the Pre-Reformation: The Rise and Growth of the Church in Its Cultural, Intellectual, and Political Context*, 2nd ed. (Zondervan Academic, 2013).
3. Linda Finlayson, *God's Timeline: The Big Book of Church History* (Christian Focus, 2018).

Course Requirements

1. Attend and participate in class.
2. Complete all reading assignments and submit a reading report.
3. Write a theology of grace in the life of Augustine. This project involves writing 250–300-word summaries of each section of the *Confessions*.
4. Complete midterm and final exams.

*This abbreviated syllabus is subject to revision. A full syllabus will be provided on the first day of class.