

Dr. Darleen Pryds
Franciscan School of Theology
Graduate Theological Union
Spring, 2005
email: dpryds@fst.edu
tel. 848-5232 ext. 21
available by appointment

HS 2323: History of Christianity—Medieval and Reformation c. 1075-1600

Mondays, 2:10-5:00 CDSP 225

This course is designed to give an overview of significant developments in the History of Christianity between 11th c. and the 16th c. Special attention will be given to popular religious devotions and the on-going reform movements that eventually broke open in the Protestant Reformation.

Evaluation will be based on active and relevant participation in class discussion (100 points); one critical book review (100 points); one 15-25 page term paper or ministerial project (200 points); and active participation in class discussion and class analysis of texts (100 points). Regular class attendance is assumed.

The subject and length of the Final Paper depends on the degree program you're in: Special Student , M. Div., MTS 15 pages; MA and Ph.D. 20 pages. n.b. If you're in a ministerial degree program, think in terms of a project that you will be able to use in your future ministry. The Oral presentations should be about 20 minutes in length with and additional 10 minutes for questions and discussion for a total of 30 minutes.

All written assignments are due during class on the due date. Late papers are severely penalized. Any requests for extensions must be made before the due date.

It is assumed that all students have access to the World Wide Web and to email. If this presents a problem, you must contact the professor immediately. **Primary documents, which are part of the required reading, are found on the Web and should be read and printed out for ready consultation in class discussion.**

Some supplementary materials and grading standards will be found on my regular website: <http://courseweb.fst.edu/pryds>

Learning Objectives:

Students should acquire and demonstrate the ability to analyze scholarly argumentation in the discipline of History by being able to identify a thesis; to identify the kinds of sources and understand how they are used; and to critique (both positive and negative) the success of an argument.

Students should acquire and demonstrate an ability to create and argument of their own based on primary and secondary sources.

Students should acquire and demonstrate an ability to articulate in both oral and written forms their own historical arguments.

Students should leave the course with a basic understanding of the arch of Medieval and Reformation Church History.

Students should leave the course knowing how to find answers to questions they have concerning medieval and Reformation Church History.

Required Books:

Bainton, R. and Pelikan, J. *The Reformation of the Sixteenth Century*

Bynum, Caroline Walker. *Resurrection of the Body*

Elliott, Dyan. *Fallen Bodies. Pollution, Sexuality, and Demonology in the Middle Ages*

Lynch, Joseph. *Medieval Church. A Short History*

Nirenberg, David. *Communities of Violence. Persecution of Minorities in the Middle Ages*

Topics to be Covered:

1/30 and 2/7 Christianity becomes a Church:

Overview of Medieval and Early Modern History: The Geographic Limits

The Transition from a Persecuted Religion to the only Legal Religion

Early Attempts at Creating Uniform Christian Doctrine

Primary Texts and Secondary Texts

Genres of Primary Texts

Understanding the Task of a Professional Historian

What Questions Can be asked of a Document?

Assignment for 2/7:

Read: Gelasius: Two Powers: <http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/gelasius1.html>

Edict of Milan: <http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/edict-milan.html>

Theodosius on Religion: <http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/theodcodeXVI.html>

Lynch, ch. 1, 2

Bynum, *Resurrection of the Body*, Introduction and Part 1

(Recommended Reading: Lynch, ch. 3-7)

Write up to 250 words and turn in: What is the purpose of Bynum's book? What is her methodology?

2/14 Monasticism and its Ideals

Desert Ascetics

Benedictine Spirituality

Body vs. Soul: The Primacy of Celibacy

Benedictine Reform
 The Popularity of Monastic Spirituality Today
 Finding a Book's Thesis and Argument

Read:

About the Rule of St. Benedict: <http://www.osb.org/gen/rule.html>

The Rule of St. Benedict: <http://www.kansasmonks.org/RuleOfStBenedict.html>

Lynch, pp. 29-34; ch. 13

Elliott, Introduction, Afterword

Write up to 250 words and turn in:

In one sentence state Elliott's thesis.

What is her methodology, including her sources?

2/21 President's Day—No Class

[Start scouting around for viable term paper topics. What subjects interest you? Are there particular questions you have about medieval/reformation history that you want answered? All research projects begin with a question.

Bring to class on 2/28 a list of 3 research questions you have that may be the core of your research project.]

2/28 Institutional Attempts to Universalize a Faith

*****Meet in GTU Library Computer Lab at 2:10 for Instruction on Research Techniques*****

Gregorian Reforms
 Structures of Authority
 The Rise and Falter of the Papacy
 The Rise of Conciliarism

Read:

On Gregory VII: <http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/06791c.htm>

Dictatus Papae: <http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/g7-dictpap.html>

Fourth Lateran Council: <http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/lat4-select.html>

Lynch, ch. 8-11

Turn in: a written list of 3-5 possible research questions that may be the basis of your research project.

3/7 Apostolic Revival and Religious Practice

Vita Apostolica: anti-clerical or unquenchable thirst for God?

Beguines, Humiliati

Lay Preaching

Mendicant Orders

Read: Lynch, ch. 12, 14, 15, 17, 18

3/14 Finding Common Ground in Theology, Doctrine, Practice

Heretical Groups and the Rise of Inquisitions
 Wandering Scholars and the Rise of Universities
 Varieties in a Single Doctrine: Resurrection of the Body

Book Reviews: How to assess scholarly arguments

Read: Lynch, 16
 Bynum, Parts 2-3

Write: Turn in your final research question that will be the core of your research paper stated in a single sentence. Add up to 250 words on what sources (primary and secondary) exist to answer your question.

3/21 No Class. Spring Break

Read Communities of Violence

Write a Book Review of Nirenberg's Communities of Violence, delineating the book's thesis and argumentation, and offering a critique, both pro and con (5 pages/1, 250 words max.)

3/28 Communities of Violence: The Rise of Religious Persecution

Crusades
 Discussion of Nirenberg's Communities of Violence

4/4, 4/11 Saints and Unholy People

Structures of Canonization and the Recognition of Holiness
 The Demonization of Sexuality

Read: Elliott

Reread: Lynch, ch. 17, 18

Write and turn in: Using up to 250 words, state Elliott's thesis and argument. Be prepared to critique her work in discussion.

4/18 The Late Medieval Church and the Origins of the Protestant Reformation

Overreaching Power: Boniface VIII
 Bad Press: The Avignonese Papacy
 Bad Luck: Famine, Plague, War, Economic Depression
 The Myth of the Renaissance
 Yearnings for Reform

Read: Lynch, ch. 19, 20, Epilogue

4/25 The Protest that begins the Reformation

Luther the Reluctant Revolutionary

Heiko Oberman and the Oberman Thesis of the Reformation
 Structures of Protest: University Debate; Biblical Commentary; Sermon
 Swiss Reformations: Ulrich Zwingli; John Calvin

Read: Bainton, ch. 1-4, 6, 8-9

5/2 England's Reform and Protestant Forms of Persecution

Divorce and the Foundation of the Church of England
 The Protestant-Catholic Flip Flops of the 16th c.
 Elizabeth and the Rise of Anglican Spirituality
 Anabaptists: The Universal Enemy of Catholics and Protestants

Read: Bainton, ch. 10; 5, 7, 11

Film Clip: Elizabeth

5/16 Council of Trent and the Catholic Response to the Reformation

Council 1545-1563
 Clausturation of Religious Women
 Index of Prohibited Books, Holy Roman Inquisition
 Ignatius Loyola and the Society of Jesus

This class will be lecture and film clips. No Readings due for this class.
 All Final Papers are due at class time.