

Dr. Darleen Pryds
Franciscan School of Theology
Graduate Theological Union
Spring, 2002
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readily available by appointment

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

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 participation in class discussion (75 points); one take-home midterm exam (100 points); 3 reflection papers (25 points each); term paper (200 points); 10-15 minute oral presentation on Radical Reformation document (100 points). Regular class attendance and participation is assumed.

All written assignments are due during class on the due date. Late papers are severely penalized. Absolutely no late reflection papers accepted since their purpose is to prepare for in-class discussion. Any requests for extensions must be made before the due date. All written assignments should be written in correct, standard English. Any papers with more than 5 grammatical/spelling errors may be returned ungraded and counted as late until it is edited and resubmitted.

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. Supplementary materials and course announcements will be made via “Blackboard” Website. The class password is: Medieval
Some supplementary materials and grading standards will be found on my regular website:
<http://courseweb.fst.edu/pryds>

Important Dates

- Reflection Paper #1 Due Feb. 22
- Reflection Paper #2 Due Mar 1
- Reflection Paper #3 Due April 5

- Midterm Exam Distributed March 15
- Midterm Exam Due by March 21 at 5:00 p.m.
- Term Paper Due April 26
(for optional evaluation of draft, draft is due between April 12)

Required Books:

- Baylor, Michael G. The Radical Reformation (Cambridge, 1991)
- Nirenberg, David. Communities of Violence. Persecution of Minorities in the Middle Ages (Princeton,

1996)

● Ozment, Steven. The Age of Reform, 1250-1550 (New Haven, 1980)

● Swanson, R. N. Religion and Devotion in Europe, c. 1215-c. 1515 (Cambridge, 1995)

● Optional, but highly recommended: Grundmann, Herbert. Religious Movements in the Middle Ages (Notre Dame, 1995) [On Reserve]

Topics to be Covered:

I. Early Medieval Christianity: Models of Church

The Roman Model of Church

The Byzantine Model of Church

The Celtic Model of Church

II. Monasticism and its Ideals

Benedictine Spirituality

The Cistercian Reform

Body vs. Soul: The Primacy of Celibacy

READ: Ozment, Age of Reform, pp. 82-98

III. Institutional Attempts to Universalize a Faith

Gregorian Reforms

Structures of Authority

The Rise and Falter of the Papacy

The Rise of Conciliarism

READ Ozment, Age of Reform, chapter 4

IV. The Rise of the Laity

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

Beguines

Humiliati

Lay Preaching

Confraternities

READ: Grundmann, Religious Movements, Chapters 1, 3, 6; Swanson, Religion and Devotion, pp. 102-135.

V. Heresies

Waldensians

- Cathars
- Lollards
- Hussites
- Institutional response: inquisitions

READ: Grundmann, Religious Movements, Chapter 3

VI. The Mendicant Transformation of the Monastic Ideal

- Creation of Mendicant Orders
- Popularity of Mendicants and their Threat to Clerics
- Women in Mendicant Traditions
- Lay Preaching

READ: Grundmann, Religious Movements, Chapters 4, 5, and pp.219-225; Ozment Age of Reform, pp. 98-115

VII. Communities of Violence: The Rise of Religious Persecution

- Crusades
- Inquisitions
- Popular Persecution

READ: Nirenberg, Communities of Violence; Suggested, Grundmann, Religious Movements, Chapters 7,

VIII. Holy People and Saints

- Structures of Canonization
- Unofficial Holy People
- Local Cults and their Fate: St. Guinefort, Rose of Viterbo

READ: Swanson, Religion and Devotion, pp.145-161

IX. Mystics and Their Authority

- Hildegard of Bingen
- Angela of Folingo
- Catherine of Siena
- Meister Eckhart

READ: Swanson, Religion and Devotion, pp. 182, 203; 177-78; 127, 150, 178, 180; 72, 174, 178-80, 271-2; Ozment, Age of Reform, pp.115-134.

X. Ecclesiastical Education

- Cathedral Schools and the Emergence of Universities
- Universities and the Legacy of their Culture
- Preaching and Biblical Studies
- Doctrinal Debates:
- Mary: Immaculate Conception.

God: Beatific Vision

Christ: Transubstantiation

Women: Preachers

READ: Ozment, Age of Reform, chapters 1, 2, 3; Swanson, Religion and Devotion, pp.42-91; 142-45.

XI. Clerical/Lay Nexus: sacraments and preaching

--popular preaching: ex. Bernardino of Siena, Savonarola

--penitentials: annual confession

--indulgences

READ: Swanson, Religion and Devotion, chapter 7

XII. Popular Devotions and Faith Experience

Rosary, Books of Hours, Stations of the Cross, Pilgrimage, Indulgences and Purgatory, Corpus Christi and other Processions, Flagellants, Bianchi

READ: Swanson, Religion and Devotion, Chapter 5, 6

XIII. The Structural Context of Faith

Architectural changes and their Legacy

XIV. Humanism and the interest in linguistics/original languages

Historiographical Issues: Neo-Paganism or Christian Classicism?

Preparation for Protestant Scholarly Concerns

READ: Ozment, Age of Reform, chapter 8

XV. Origins of the Protestant Reformation

Martin Luther

Philip Melanchthon

READ: Ozment, Age of Reform, chapters 6

XVI. Theology and Social Protest

Peasants' Revolt

Radical Reformation

Thomas Muenzter

READ: Ozment, Age of Reform, chapters 7, 10, 14; M. Baylor, The Radical Reformation: each student will give a 10-15 minute presentation on a document of their choice from the volume [sign up will be in class]. Further information about expectations on webpage.

XVII. Swiss Reformations

Ulrich Zwingli

John Calvin

READ: Ozment, Age of Reform, chapters 9,11

XVIII. England and the Politics of Faith

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

READ: Ozment, Age of Reform, chapter 14

XIX. Council of Trent and the Catholic Response to the Reformation

Council 1545-1563

Claustration of Religious Women

Index of Prohibited Books, Holy Roman Inquisition

Ignatius Loyola and the Society of Jesus

READ: Ozment, Age of Reform, chapter 13

XIX. Global Efforts to Proselytize the Faith

Missions to the “New World”

XX. The Religious Reaction to the “New Science”

Copernicus and Luther

Galileo and the Inquisition

Baylor, Michael G. *The Radical Reformation* (Cambridge, 1991)

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