

Modern Church History
Western Reformed Seminary (www.wrs.edu)
Christopher K. Lensch, S.T.M.
Fall 2006

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

COURSE GOAL: This Modern Church History class will span the period from the end of the Reformation era (ca. the Thirty Years War, 1618-1648) to the present day. The impact of significant trends upon theology and the church will be studied; trends and movements that have shaped our day, such as the Enlightenment and Age of Reason, the Great Awakening, the modern missionary movement, Darwinism, higher criticism, and the ecumenical movement. Key personalities and events will be examined to give flesh to the study's structure.

ATTENDANCE: Up to two hours of unexcused absence will be allowed without penalty. Additional unexcused absences will lower the final grade.

EXAMINATIONS

Mid-term — October 23

Final — December 11

READINGS

BY THE MID-TERM

—Cairns, *Christianity Through the Centuries*, chpts. 29-33

—Bettenson, *Documents of the Christian Church*, pp. 244-257; 268f.; 282-299

—Keep a log of 4 hours reading in works **BY** one or more of the following:

F. Turretin	R. Baxter	J. Bunyon	George Whitefield
J. Owen	J. Locke	J. Milton	John Wesley
D. Brainerd	J. Edwards	C. Mather	

—Keep a log of 4 hours **ABOUT** one or more of the following:

Jansenism	Huguenots	Synod of Dordt
Cromwell	Puritans/Pilgrims	Quakers
English Bible Translations	Westminster Assembly	Covenanters/Killing Times
Glorious Revolution	Moravians/Pietism	Great Awakening

BY THE FINAL EXAM

—Cairns, chpts. 34-39f.

—Bettenson: pp. 271-74f.; 280-81; 300-335

—Keep a log of 4 hours reading in works **BY** one or more of the following:

C. Finney	T. Chalmers	R. Ingersoll	
J. Wellhausen	T. Boston	C. Darwin	S. Kierkegaard
A. Bonar	J.C. Ryle	C.H. Spurgeon	K. Barth

—Keep a log of 4 hours **ABOUT** one or more of the following:

Quakers	Pietism	Darwinism	
Wm. Carey	J.H. Newman	Chs. Finney	C.H. Spurgeon
Social Gospel	Student Missionary Movement		Billy Graham
WCC/ICCC	Vatican II	Modernism/Fundamentalism	

PAPERS

1. November 6 — A five page Book Review on the non-biographical, modern church era book of your choice; clear the title with the instructor. This book may not be counted as fulfilling the requirements for outside reading due at exam time.

2. December 4 — A five page Biography on the character of your choice. A 10 minute oral report will be offered to the class by December on this person.

GRADING

Exams: 50%

Reading: 25%

2 Papers: 20%

Attendance: 5%