

Fall 2019

Course Objectives

1. To present a succinct outline of the history of the Presbyterian Church, with a special emphasis upon North America.
2. To identify the distinctive doctrines that shape Presbyterian belief and practice.
3. To explain and put in proper perspective doctrinal and practical issues that have necessitated various divisions in Presbyterianism.

Course Outcomes

1. The student will be able to summarize the history of the development of Presbyterianism.
2. The student will be able to identify key Presbyterian leaders and summarize their teachings and influence.
3. The student will be able to explain the major controversies that have caused sinful division and necessary separation among Presbyterian bodies.

COURSE OUTLINE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Objective</u>	<u>Assignments</u>
9/4	Foundations of Presbyterianism	---
9/11	Foundations of Presbyterianism	
9/18	Foundations of Presbyterianism	
9/25	Foundations of Presbyterianism	
10/2	American Roots: 1600s	Reading 1 Due
10/9	Finding a Voice: 1700s	
10/16	Finding a Voice: 1700s	
10/23	Growing Pains: 1800s	Oral Report Due
10/30	Growing Pains: 1800s	Mid Term Exam Due
11/6	Growing Pains: 1800s	Reading 2 Due
11/13	Betrayal, Division, and Fortification: 1900s	
11/20	No Class – Professor Away	
11/27	No Class – Professor Away	
12/4	Betrayal, Division, and Fortification: 1900s	Reading 3 Due
12/11	Betrayal, Division, and Fortification: 1900s	All Papers Due
12/18	[No Class]	FINAL EXAM DUE

READINGS:

1) Read only ONE of the following:

EITHER James A. Wylie, *History of Protestantism*: Books 14, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, or 24 (available as eBook at <http://www.doctrine.org/history>)

OR read a different book covering some segment of the Reformed Church in Reformation Europe like *Fair Sunshine* by Jacques Purves or *The French Huguenots* by Janet Gray

2) *Reformed Theology in America* by David Wells, or approved alternate reading

3) One work on the Modernist-Fundamentalist dispute within American Presbyterianism Suggested titles are:

- *The Presbyterian Controversy*. Bradley Longfield
- *The Presbyterian Conflict*. Edwin Ryan

- *With Crossed Fingers*. Gary North
- *Defending the Faith: J. Gresham Machen and the Crisis of Conservative Protestantism in Modern America*. Daryl G. Hart
- *Princeton Seminary: The Majestic Testimony* Vol. 2. David Calhoun
- *History Behind the RPCES*. George Hutchinson, pp. 109-298

ORAL REPORTS & PAPERS

1) Report on one Reformed Confession: 8 minutes of presentation & two page outline on background of times and predecessors, authors, scheme and organization, emphases and tone, etc. Due by end of October.

- Zwingli's 67 Articles, 1523
- 1st (1536) and 2nd (1566) Helvetic Confessions
- Gallican Confession, 1559
- 1st (1560) and 2nd (1581) Scotch Confessions
- Belgic, 1561
- 42 Articles (1552) vs. 39 Articles (1571)
- Heidelberg Catechism, 1563
- Dort, 1619
- Westminster, 1647
- Waldenses Confession, 1655
- Savoy Declaration, 1658
- Philadelphia Confession, 1688
- London Confession, 1690
- Saybrook Platform, 1708

2) Biography on the Presbyterian/Reformed leader of your choice. Should be five typed pages.

As an ALTERNATIVE to reports one and two, you may substitute a longer term paper of eight to ten pages. Suggested topics are:

- How Presbyterianism's representative government dovetails with its emphasis on the sovereignty of God
- Cultural Impact of Presbyterianism on the New World
- Modernist-Fundamentalist dispute within American Presbyterianism
- Short history of the BPC or other Reformed denomination
- Developments behind the "Auburn Avenue" Federalist Vision within Presbyterianism

(Other topics may be chosen; approve with professor.)

GRADING 2 Exams: 60% Reports: 15% Readings: 20% Attendance: 5%

WRS Select Bibliography

- *A Brief History of Presbyterianism* by Lefferts Loetscher
- *A Brief History of the Presbyterians* by James H. Smylie
- *Dictionary of the Presbyterian and Reformed Tradition in America* by D.G. Hart
- *The Emergence of Liberty in the Modern World: the Influence of Calvin on Five Governments from the 16th-18th Centuries* by Douglas Kelly
- *German Calvinism in the Confessional Age* by Lyle Bierma
- *History of Protestantism* by J.A. Wylie
- *A Presbyterian Bibliography* by Harold Prince
- *Reformed Confessions Harmonized* by Beeke & Ferguson

Out of Print Books

- *The Broadening Church* by L. Loetscher
- *Constitutional History of the PCUSA* by Charles Hodge
- *Our Presbyterian Heritage* by Paul Carlson
- *Presbyterians: A Popular Narrative of Their Origins, Progress, Doctrines, and Achievements* by George P. Hays
- *Presbyterians: Their History and Beliefs* by Lingle and Kuykendall
- *The Presbyterians* by Balmer & Fitzmier
- *The Presbyterians* by William Hanzsche
- *The Presbyterian Way of Life* by John A. MacKay
- *Pressing toward the Mark: Essays Commemorating Fifty Years of the OPC* by Dennison & Gamble
- *Reformed Theology in America: A History of Its Modern Development* by David Wells, ed.
- *Studies in Southern Theology* by Morton Smith
- *Theonomy: A Reformed Critique* by Barker & Godfrey

The Presbyterian Controversy in America

- "A Bibliographical Essay" by Chris Schlect, CREDENDA AGENDA 10:1
- *Collected Writings*; - vol. 4 – Ecclesiastical. James Henley Thornwell 1873; reprinted by Banner of Truth
- *Christianity and Liberalism*. J. Gresham Machen 1923; reprinted by Eerdmans, 1990
- *Defending the Faith: J. Gresham Machen and the Crisis of Conservative Protestantism in Modern America*. Daryl G. Hart, Johns Hopkins University Press, 1994
- *J. Gresham Machen: A Biographical Memoir*. Ned B. Stonehouse 1954; reprinted by Banner of Truth
- *The Presbyterian Controversy*. Bradley J. Longfield Oxford University Press, 1991
- *The Presbyterian Conflict*. Edwin H. Rian 1940; reprinted by the Orthodox Presbyterian Church, 1992
- *With Crossed Fingers*. Gary North Institute for Christian Economics, 1996