

**Department of History
University of Manitoba
Winter 2014
Hist. 2990 W (A01)**

The History of Catholicism since 1540

Instructor: Dr. Paul Jenkins

Time: M/W/F, 10:30-11:20 am

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Location: 258 St. Paul's College

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Office Hours: Tuesday 10-11:00 am, or by appointment.

Course description: The Roman Catholic Church is the world's largest Christian church. Its history, wealth, power, and more than one billion members world-wide give it an extraordinary influence that extends well beyond the ranks of its faithful, often impacting society for even non-Catholics. This course offers a balanced exploration of the rich and fascinating, yet often complex and controversial, history of the modern Catholic Church, one that examines and interrelates its virtuous accomplishments with some of its more contentious, chauvinistic decisions and practices. At the center of this course is a deceptively simple question: what is Catholicism? To answer it we will trace the evolution and many of the critical developments in the history of the Roman Catholic Church since the pivotal reforms initiated by the Council of Trent in the mid sixteenth century. This is a dynamic story that will lead us to consider the European voyages of exploration and the religious "other"; religious identities and the rise of Empire; slavery; the Inquisition and persecution; war and terrorism; radical revolution; Catholic humanism; saints and mystical healing; as well as Catholicism's "surprising" relationship with science and reason, to name just a few. It is an important story that helps us better understand how religion and faith have shaped modern history at both the institutional and individual levels.

Readings: The assigned readings are an essential part of this course. They are intended to complement the lectures and written assignments, as well as help you develop critical reading skills. It should be noted, however, that they serve as an additional source of information and will often provide different interpretations of our subject than those provided in the lectures. You skip readings (and lectures) at your peril. On examinations you are responsible for all the material covered in the readings and lectures. The required books are available in the University Book Store.

Required Texts:

Ronnie Po-Chia Hsia, *The World of Catholic Renewal, 1540-1770*, second ed., (2005).

Frank J. Coppa, *Politics and the Papacy in the Modern World* (2003).

In addition to the above books, a selection of shorter readings may be periodically assigned throughout the term.

Evaluation and Assignments:

Short “think-piece” essay 1 (15%) (1200-1500 words) – **Feb. 14th**

Short “think-piece” essay 2 (15%) (1200-1500 words) – **March 14th**

Research essay (25%) (1500 words) – **April 9th**

Participation & class assignments (15%)

Final exam (30%) – TBA – during the April exam period

The Voluntary Withdrawal Date for this course is March 19th, evaluative feedback will be given before this date.

Since this is a course that meets the University Senate's W requirement, students must pass the requirement for written English in order to pass the course.

Grade Scale:

A+ 90-100%, Outstanding

A 80-89%, Excellent

B+ 75-79%, Very Good

B 70-74%, Good

C+ 65-69%, Satisfactory

C 60-64%, Adequate

D 50-59%, Marginal

F 49% or below, Failing

If you wish to appeal a grade given for term work you must do so within 10 working days after the term work has been made available to them. Uncollected term work will become the property of the Faculty of Arts and will be subject to confidential destruction.

A note on plagiarism: The common penalty in Arts for plagiarism on a written assignment is a grade of F on the paper and a final grade of F (DISC) (for Disciplinary Action) for the course. For the most serious acts of plagiarism, such as purchase of an essay and repeat violations, this penalty can also include suspension for a period of up to five (5) years from registration in courses taught in a particular department/program in Arts or from all courses taught in this Faculty. The Faculty also reserves the right to submit student work that is suspected of being plagiarized to Internet sites designed to detect plagiarism or to other experts for authentication.

The common penalty in Arts for academic dishonesty on a test or examination is F for the paper, F (DISC) for the course, and a one-year suspension from courses acceptable for credit in the Faculty. For more serious acts of academic dishonesty on a test or examination, such as repeat violations, this penalty can also include suspension for a period of up to five years from registration in courses taught in a particular department or program in Arts or from all courses taught in or accepted for credit by this Faculty.

A note on late assignments: Students are responsible for completing assignments on time. Extensions will only be granted 48 hours prior to the due date, except in exceptional circumstances. Late papers will be penalized 2% per day, including weekends. No allowance will be given for technical difficulties. Back up your work often.

A note on Participation and Class Assignments: This portion of your grade is a cumulative one derived from your participation in informal class discussions, as well as a number of short and similarly informal assignments designed to help you master course material, while also developing valuable analytical and writing skills. They will be periodically assigned throughout the semester.

A note on technology: Technology can be a powerful tool, but it can also be distracting. I welcome the use of computers to take notes during class. However, this is not license to surf the Internet or chat with your friends on Facebook or similar social media. Also, cell phones, iPods, and other such personal devices must be turned off or silenced for the duration of the class.

Select Themes and Topics:

Background: Religion and Reform, *c.*1250-*c.*1500

The Protestant Challenge and the Early Modern wars of Religion

The Catholic response: Trent and the Counter-Reformation

Early Modern Catholicism, Science, & the Enlightenment

Early Modern Catholicism and the World: Catholic Missions and the Religious “other”

Persecution and Toleration: The Long History of the Inquisition, *c.*1180-1834.

Anti-Catholicism and the Rise of Anglo-American Empire

Saints, Martyrs, and Pilgrims in the Modern Age

Radical Catholic Mysticism

Renewal within Tradition: Vatican II

Marxist and Evangelical Alternatives: Catholicism in Latin America and Africa

Sectarian Conflict and Terrorism: Northern Ireland and “the Troubles”

The Cult of Pope John Paul II

The “Pope Emeritus” and Twenty-first century Catholicism: What Can the Past Tell Us?