

History of the English Church
BTS-5500J
CANADIAN MENNONITE UNIVERSITY
Offered in collaboration with ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE

Course Syllabus

Instructors: Rev. Dr. David Widdicombe & Rev. Bonnie Dowling

Email: David via office@saintmargarets.ca; bonniedowling@saintmargarets.ca

Office: St. Margaret's Anglican Church, 160 Ethelbert St.

Lecture times: Tuesdays, 6:30-9:20pm

Office hours: by appointment

Exam: *December 14th, 2021, 6:30-8:30pm*

Last date for voluntary withdrawal without academic penalty: 16 November 2021.

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is a survey of the history of the Church in England. By the end of the course students should be able to exhibit a sympathetic but critical understanding of the major movements and ideas in Anglican history, a general sense of the sequence of events in Anglican history and an increased familiarity with some of the classical primary literature in the tradition.

II. COURSE GOALS

By the end of the course students should be able to exhibit:

- a) a sympathetic but critical understanding of the major movements and ideas in Anglican history
- b) a general sense of the sequence of events in Anglican history
- c) an increased familiarity with some of the classical primary literature in the tradition
- d) improved skills in critical reading

III. TOPICS

The following assumes we will meet for 12 weeks with an exam on the 13th week. Adjustments may need to be made to the topic schedule as we move through the course.

The following assumes we will meet for 12 weeks with an (oral) exam on the 13th week. It is a rough guide only; adjustments may need to be made as we move through the course.

- Sept. 14 **Week One - Introduction:** 1. Lecture on Rowan Williams' *Why Study the Past?* 2. Course introduction.
- Sept. 21 **Week 2 - Historical background:** 1. Early Celtic & Roman Christianity in Britain. 2. Arrival of Augustine as first Archbishop of Canterbury. 3. Group discussion on reading from The Venerable Bede, *Ecclesiastical History of the English People* (excerpts, see handout).
- Sept. 28 **Week Three - Medieval Period 600-1200:** 1. Thomas à Becket. 2. John of Salisbury. 3. Archbishop Stephen Langton & The Magna Carta. 4. Group discussion on T.S. Eliot *Murder in the Cathedral*.
- Oct. 5 **Week Four - Medieval Period 1200-1500.** Guest Lecture: Kirsten Pinto Gfroerer on Julian of Norwich.
- Oct. 12 **Week Five - The Reformation under Henry VIII and Mary (1509-1558):** 1. Background - Luther. 2. Politics - Henry, Wolsey, More 3. Theology - Cramner, Latimer and others.
- Oct. 19 **Week Six - Catholic experience of the English Reformation:** 1. Culture wars - contemporary experience 2. Culture wars - Reformation realities.
- Oct. 26 **Week Seven - The Elizabethan Settlement (1558-1603):** 1. Elizabeth I. 2. The 39 Articles 3. John Jewel 4. Richard Hooker. 5. Group discussions of Richard Hooker, *Of the Lawes of the Ecclesiastical Politie* (excerpts; see handout) and The Thirty-Nine Articles.
- Nov. 2 **Week Eight - The English Church in the Seventeenth Century:** 1. The Early Stuarts 2. William Laud and High Church Anglicanism 3. The Caroline Divines - Lancelot Andrewes, George Herbert, Jeremy Taylor. 4. Group discussions on readings from George Herbert, *A Country Parson* and *The Temple* (excerpts, see handout) and Jeremy Taylor, *The Rule and Exercised of Holy Living* (excerpts, see handout).

November 8-12 : Reading Week - No Classes

- Nov. 16 **Week Nine** - The English Church in the Seventeenth Century: 1. Commonwealth 2. Restoration 3. Revolution.
- Nov. 23 **Week Ten - The Evangelical Revival from 1738-1833.**
1. The Wesleys 2. The Anglicans. 3. Group discussion on sermon from Charles Simeon (see handout).
- Nov. 30 **Week Eleven - Anglicanism in the Nineteenth Century:** 1. Latitudinarians 2. The Oxford Movement. 3. Group discussion on readings from J.H. Newman (excerpts, see handout) and John Keble “National Apostasy” sermon (see handout).
- Dec. 7 **Week Twelve - Anglican Theology into the 20th century:** 1. Rediscovery of Anglican political theology in the 20th century: Rowan Williams, Oliver O’Donovan, John Milbank. 3. Preparation for the exam.

IV. REQUIRED TEXTS

Eliot, T.S. *Murder in the Cathedral*. London: Faber & Faber Plays, 2020.

Moorman, J.R.H.. *A History of the Church in England, 3rd edition*. Harrisburg: Morehouse Publishing, 1986.

Williams, Rowan. *Why Study the Past?* Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2018.

Reading handouts as indicated in the topic outline.

V. SUPPLEMENTARY TEXTS:

Chadwick, Henry, et al. *Not Angels but Anglicans: A history of Christianity in the British Isles*. London: Canterbury Press, 2016.

Duffy, Eamon. *A People’s Tragedy: Studies in Reformation*. Bloomsbury Continuum, 2020.

———. *Saints, Sacrilege and Sediton: Religion and Conflict in the Tudor Reformations*. Bloomsbury, 2012.

———. *The Stripping of the Altars: Traditional Religion in England 1400-1580*. Yale

University Press, 2005.

Eire, Carlos. *Reformations*. Yale University Press, 2016.

Jacobs, Alan. *The Book of Common Prayer: A Biography*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2019.

MacCulloch, Diarmaid. *A History of Christianity: The First Three-Thousand Years*. London: Penguin Books, 2010.

———. *The Reformation: A History*. New York: Penguin Books, 2005.

———. *Thomas Cranmer: A Life*. Yale University Press, 1996.

———. *Thomas Cromwell: A Revolutionary Life*. New York: Viking, 2018.

Neill, Stephen. *Anglicanism*. Oxford University Press, 1978.

O'Donovan, *On the Thirty-Nine Articles: Conversations with Tudor Christianity*

Rowell, Geoffrey et al. *Love's Redeeming Work*. Oxford University Press, 2003.

Williams, Rowan. *Anglican Identities*. London: Darton, Longman & Todd, 2014.

VI. ASSIGNMENTS AND DUE DATES

Reading Assignments: 6 x 10% each

Participation: 5%

Final Exam (Undergraduates) Final Paper (Graduates): 35%

Reading summaries: 6 x 400 words

The reading summaries are due at the class time of the date for which the reading is assigned. They are assignments in the critical reading of short selections from primary sources. In point form, students are required to submit brief evaluations of what they have read. Students should be looking for the main ideas in the reading, the theological perspective and bias of the writer, assumptions about the nature of the Church and its relation to society and state, and historical context. Students are expected to formulate their response to the

readings based on their own experience and theological commitments. Students are also expected to participate in in-class group discussions of the readings.

Final Exam (Undergraduates): December 14th, 6:30pm

The final examination will be in three sections:

- a. Students will be asked to provide information on 3 out of 5 historical movements within Anglicanism. The possibilities are: the English Reformers, the *via media*, the Caroline Divines, evangelical Anglicanism, the Oxford Movement, and liberal Anglicanism. This section will be worth 75% of the exam.
- b. Students will be asked to identify the authors and approximate dates of 5 out of 10 quotation. These quotations will be taken from a list of quotations provided at various times in the course. This will be worth 12.5% of the exam.
- c. Students will be asked a mix and match question relating various models of the Church to key thinkers and texts in the history of Anglicanism. This will be worth 12.5% of the exam.

Final Paper (Graduates): 2500 words. Due December 14th, midnight. Choose a figure or movement from the history of the English Church and explain the significance of that figure or movement for today. (In other words, use a figure from the history of the English Church to demonstrate why one should “study the past.”)

*Undergraduates may write the final paper instead of the final exam if you have asked for permission to do so (via email) by December 7th.

Written assignments should use a consistent format for bibliography and footnotes or endnotes, preferably Chicago or some other widely recognized format.

GRADE SCALE

Letter Grade	Percentage	Grade Points	Descriptor
A+	90-100	4.5	Exceptional
A	80-89	4	Excellent
B+	75-79	3.5	Very Good
B	70-74	3	Good
C+	65-69	2.5	Satisfactory
C	60-64	2	Adequate
D	50-59	1	Marginal
F	0-49	0	Failure

NOTE: Grades are not final until vetted and approved by the Dean's Office.

VII. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

ON-CAMPUS HEALTH GUIDELINES

i. *Being on campus*

As a general assumption, students, staff, and faculty are encouraged to be on campus according to their regular schedule when they are well and while symptom free, and to not be on campus when they are not well. This means not attending when a person:

- a) Is sick with a cold or flu, or having other COVID-19 like symptoms
- b) Is immuno-compromised or otherwise at health risk
- c) Lives with a child or a family member who is at health risk
- d) Is facing discomfort related to pandemic risks
- e) Learns online given inability to come from another country
- f) Has COVID-19 impacted childcare responsibilities

Students who meet one or more of the criteria listed above and seek exemption from attending classes in person all semester must complete the online studies form available at www.cmu.ca/onlinestudiesform.

ii. *Notification Protocol*

iii. For purposes of potential contact tracing, students, staff, and faculty are required to submit the online notification form available on the CMU website

when they will not be present on campus for class, work, or any other regularly scheduled activity. The form may be found at www.cmu.ca/notificationform.

iv.

v. *Self-Screening*

vi. To reduce the potential risk of COVID-19 to the community, students, staff, and faculty must complete the Manitoba Health COVID-19 online screening tool daily before they come onto campus or leave their residence room.

Recommendations from the shared health screening tool must be followed. The Manitoba Health COVID-19 online screening found at <https://sharedhealthmb.ca/covid19/screening-tool>.

vii.

viii. *Related Links*

Government of Manitoba's "About COVID-19," including notable symptoms: <https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/updates/about.html>

Government of Manitoba Screening Tool, including contact info for Health Links: <https://sharedhealthmb.ca/covid19/screening-tool/>

[CMU Education and Operations 2020-21 Framework](#)

CMU's COVID-19 Updates and Resources: <https://www.cmu.ca/covid-19/>

Student FAQ regarding COVID-19: <https://www.cmu.ca/covid-19/faq-students.php>

CONTINUITY PLANS DURING COVID-19

We will do our best to accommodate learning when individuals need to remain absent from campus for reasons listed above, under "On-Campus Health Guidelines." In order to facilitate this, **all individuals should plan to follow the *Continuity Plans for Individuals as defined below.***

In addition to this, **individuals that anticipate needing to stay off campus for the duration of the semester** should note your situation to Academic Office as soon as possible. The VPA's office will work with the Academic Office, Information Technology and the Coordinator of Accessibility programs and the relevant faculty members to accommodate remote learning.

Continuity plans for individual students: what to do if you can't come to class: If you are unable to attend class in person, please email the morning of the class date.

Continuity plans for the course if the instructor cannot come to class. If one of the instructors cannot attend the class in person we will move remote learning. An email will be sent to all students and participants at least one hour before the class start time.

OTHER REQUIRMENTS

Academic Integrity—All material referred to in any assignment MUST be appropriately referenced. Plagiarism is a serious matter. Students should be aware of CMU Academic Policies, particularly those regarding academic misconduct (plagiarism and cheating), which apply to all University courses. These are detailed on CMU's website (<http://www.cmu.ca/students.php?s=registrar&p=policies>) and in the CMU Calendar. If you still have questions about appropriate referencing and what plagiarism is, a useful tutorial can be found here: <http://www.indiana.edu/~istd/>.

For more information on CMU policies regarding grades, academic misconduct, appeals, and other matters, please see CMU's *Academic Calendar*.

ACCESSIBILITY

CMU strives to provide a fair and supportive learning environment for academically qualified students with disabilities. If you are eligible for these services or have questions about becoming eligible, please contact Sandra Loepky, Coordinator of Accessibility Programs at sloepky@cmu.ca or 204.487.3300 x.340.

In recognition of individuals with asthma, allergies and severe environmental/chemical sensitivities, CMU is striving to become a scent-free campus. Students, staff and guests are asked to refrain from wearing fragrances and scented personal care products at CMU. This includes perfumes, colognes, aftershave and scented hair products. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated by those affected.

SUPPORT SERVICES

Academic

Student studying, tutoring, and the Peer Assisted Learning (PAL) program are offered to CMU students free of charge in the Marpeck Mezzanine.

Counselling

University students face many challenges and at times may benefit from having a trained professional to talk to. There are qualified counsellors at CMU who volunteer their services free of charge to students on the CMU campus. Students wishing to book an appointment with a counsellor are asked to contact the North Side Receptionist at 204.487.3300 or info@cmu.ca. Confidentiality is maintained at all times.

Counselling office: C365 (north side)

Cost: Free for CMU students