**CLA 191: *Christianity, Culture, and Society***

Summer Semester II 2013, Online

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Preferred Method of Contact for Mr. Karantabias: Generally the fastest way to contact me is through e-mail. I check e-mail regularly during the day (M-F). E-mails received before 5pm on a weekday will be responded to on that day. E-mails received after 5pm will be responded to by 9am the following morning. E-mails received after 5pm on Friday will be responded to within 24 hours. For face-to-face interaction via Skype, telephone or e-mail us to set up a meeting time.

**COURSE SUMMARY**: CLA 191 is an introduction to the history of Christianity from its origins through the Protestant Reformation. We will study the development of Christian beliefs, spirituality, and organization, and the continuities and changes involved in these developments. The course is arranged into sixteen distinct modules. Each module includes readings in primary and secondary sources, video links, PowerPoint lecture slides with voice-over lectures, and written assignments. In addition to the writing assignments on the readings and videos, there will be a formal essay assignment, interactive exercises, and two exams (midterm and final).

The course is divided into two halves of roughly equal lengths chronologically:

1. Part One covers the origins of Christianity and continues to approximately 800 CE. We begin with the rise of Christianity within the matrix of Second Temple Judaism and then examine its spread into the Greco-Roman world. In this period, approximately the first four hundred years of its history, Christianity moved from being a persecuted minority sect to become the dominant religious force in the Roman Empire by the end of the fourth century. The latter part of this period, however (400-800), witnessed the disintegration of the Roman Empire in the West, the emergence of new Germanic kingdoms in the West, and the formation of the Byzantine Empire in the East.
2. The second phase of our study, covering the years from approximately 800-1600 CE. It includes the emergence of the Christian Church (especially the papacy) as a powerful force in the West, its troubled history in the fourteenth century, and the development of the various forms of Protestant Christianity in the sixteenth century.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**:

The objectives of the course include the following:

1. To acquaint students with the major forms of Christianity that have emerged in the first 1500 years of its history;
2. To provide the students with a basic understanding of Christian beliefs, practices, and structures of organization;
3. To explore the impact of the Christian religion on the formation of Western culture;
4. To acquaint students with some of the key men and women who have exerted a significant impact of the development of Christian thought or practice.

**COURSE OUTCOMES**:

At the completion of the course the student should be able to

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the major periods of Christian history;
2. Demonstrate an understanding of the influence of Christianity on Western history;
3. Demonstrate familiarity with some of the significant figures in Christian history;
4. Demonstrate an ability to work with some of the primary sources from different periods of Christian history

**COURSE TEXTS (Required)**:

1. Bradley P. Nystrom and David P. Nystrom, *The History of Christianity: An Introduction*. Boston: McGraw Hill, 2004. ISBN: 0767414365
2. Henry Bettenson and Chris Maunder, *Documents of the Christian Church*. Third Edition. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1999. ISBN: 9780192880710
3. Karen Louise Jolly, *Tradition and Diversity: Christianity in a World Context*. Armonk, NY: M.E. Sharpe, 1997. ISBN: 1563244683
4. In addition to these required textbooks, additional readings from primary sources will be made available to students on BlackBoard.

Books may be purchased from the following stores:

* Kennedy Bookstore, 405 S. Limestone, (606) 252-0331 or 1-800-892-5165, or go to the website: <http://www.kennedys.com>
* Wildcat Text Books, 563 S. Limestone, (606) 225-7771, or go to the website: <http://www.wildcattext.com>
* UK Bookstore 106 Student Center Annex, phone (606) 257-6304 or 1-800-327-6141
* or go to the website: <http://www.ukbookstore.com>

**COURSE ACCESS:** To access our course visit [http://elearning.uky.edu](http://elearning.uky.edu/) and login to Blackboard with your LINK BLUE username and password. You can also log into [http://myuk.uky.edu](http://myuk.uky.edu/) and click on the Blackboard link at the top. Although much of your study time will be involved with the text itself, you should plan on one or two hours daily working with the material on Blackboard.

**MINIMUM TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS:**

* Go to this site to check the minimum hardware, software and browser requirements: http://wiki.uky.edu/blackboard/Wiki%20Pages/Bb9%20Hardware%20and%20Software%20Requirements.aspx
* Internet Explorer is NOT recommended for use with Blackboard. **Firefox is the recommended Internet browser for the course.** Go to <https://download.uky.edu/> to download a free version of Firefox. Log in with your **LINK BLUE** id and password and search for **Firefox.**
* You must have the latest version of Java to complete tests and quizzes. Go to [http://java.com](http://java.com/) and click on the **Free Java Download** button. Run the installer to get the latest version.
* You will also need **Flash, Adobe Acrobat Reader and QuickTime** movie player. Go to <http://wiki.uky.edu/blackboard/Wiki%20Pages/Browser%20Check.aspx> then click **BbGO!**  If you do not have these, you can download them from this site.
* To download **Windows Media Playe**r, click this link: <http://windows.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/windows-media-player>
* You will need to install a number of plug-ins on your computer. The links to the specific plug-ins required for this course can be also found in your course. If using a UK computer, these plug-ins should be already installed.
* Students and faculty can download **Microsoft Office Suite** (including Word and PowerPoint) from this site: <https://download.uky.edu/>.  
  As a student, you have access to free software on this site. There is software for both Macs and PCs.

\*\*If you experience technical difficulties contact:

* the Customer Service Center at 859-218-HELP (4357)
* or by e-mail at [helpdesk@uky.edu](mailto:helpdesk@uky.edu).

Please also inform the course instructor when you are having technical difficulties.

**Bb 101 for First-Time Online Students**  
This is a brief introduction for students using Blackboard for the first time.

* Go to [http://elearning.uky.edu](http://elearning.uky.edu/) and log in with your [**Link Blue ID**](http://www.uky.edu/webuk/subpages/linkblue.html).
* Click on the Courses link near the top left of the page (to the right of My Bb and under the Library tab).
* In the Course Search line, type Bb9-101 (exactly as you see it there, including the hyphen).
* Find the Course ID (first column) Bb9-101-OnLine-Stu, and click the down arrow next to the Course ID. Click **Enroll** then **Submit.**

**OVERVIEW OF COURSE MODULES:**

**PART I: FIRST 800 YEARS**

1. Judaism in the Greco-Roman World
2. 1st Century: Jesus and Paul
   1. **Modules 1 & 2** are due by Friday June 14, 11:59 p.m. est.
3. 2nd-3rd Centuries: Foundations of the Church
4. 3rd-4th Century: The Constantinian Revolution
   1. **Modules 3 & 4** are due by Friday June 21, 11:59 p.m. est.
5. 4th-5th Centuries: Development of Doctrine
6. 5th-6th Centuries: Fall of Rome; Monastic Life
   1. **Modules 5 & 6** are due by Friday June 28, 11:59 p.m. est.
7. 7th Century: Byzantium and Islam; Iconoclasm
8. 8th-9th Centuries: Charlemagne and the Carolingian Empire
   1. **Modules 7 & 8** are due by Friday July 5, 11:59 p.m. est.
   2. **Midterm exam** is due by Monday July 8, 11:59 p.m. est.

**PART II: SECOND 800 YEARS**

1. 9th-10th Centuries: Ottonian Empire; Clunaic Reform
2. 11th Century: The Great Schism; Gregorian Reform
   1. **Modules 9 & 10** are due by Friday July 12, 11:59 p.m. est.
3. 11th-12th Centuries: The Crusades
4. 12th-13th Centuries: Papacy, Heresy, Inquisition
   1. **Essay** is due by Monday July 15, 11:59 p.m. est.
   2. **Modules 11 & 12** are due by Thursday July 18, 11:59 p.m. est.
   3. **Essay Response** is due Monday July 22, 11:59 p.m. est.
5. 14th Century: Plague and Division
6. 15th Century: Renaissance
   1. **Modules 13 & 14** are due by Thursday July 25, 11:59 p.m. est.
7. 16th Century: Protestant Reformation
8. 16th Century: Catholic Reformation
   1. **Modules 15 & 16** are due by Monday July 29, 11:59 p.m. est.
   2. **Essay Discussion Window** closes by Wednesday July 31, 11:59 p.m. est.
   3. **Final Exam** is due by Thursday August 1, 11:59 p.m. est.

**DISTANCE LEARNING LIBRARY SERVICES:** As a Distance Learning student you have access to the Distance Learning Library services at <http://www.uky.edu/Libraries/DLLS>.

This service can provide you access to UK’s circulating collections and can deliver to you manuscripts or books from UKs library or other libraries. The DL Librarian, Carla Cantagallo, may be reached at 859-257-0500, ext 2171, or 1-800-828-0439 (option #6) or by email at dlservice@email.uky.edu. For an interlibrary loan visit: <http://www.uky.edu/Libraries/linpage.php?lweb_id=253&llib_id=16>.

**DISABILITIES/MEDICAL CONDITIONS:** If you have a documented disability that requires academic accommodations, please see me as soon as possible. In order to receive accommodations in this course, you must provide me with a Letter of Accommodation from the Disability Resource Center (Room 2, Alumni Gym, 257-2754, email address jkarnes@email.uky.edu) for coordination of campus disability services available to students with disabilities.

**BLACKBOARD:** You should check that the e-mail address listed for you is your current e-mail address (it does not have to be a UK address just the e-mail that you regularly use). If it is not your regular e-mail address, then change it to your current address (except for HOTMAIL accounts which sometimes aren’t compatible with Bb) and click submit. This is the address that I will use to communicate with you. (Go to TOOLS to change your e-mail address.)

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:** The requirements for the course include two exams, a **midterm** (20%) and a **final** (25%). The exams will consist of short terms for identification and short essays.

The second component of your grade will be based on one brief **essay** (3-5 pages) and will be worth 20% of your final grade. Students will then be assigned to small groups. Each student must then formulate a **response** to another student's paper (1/2 to 1 page) by expressing disagreement(s) and/or agreement(s). This will be accomplished with the aid of the course’s assigned material. Each paper and response will be posted as a pair for the group to see. Thereafter each group member will use the materials assigned to contribute/to critique each paper and/or response. The interactive period will be spread over a couple of weeks. The initial paper response and responses to the subsequent **discussion** (based on individual performance) is worth 10% of the final grade. Each student will be evaluated based on the initial response, activity in the subsequent discussion (quantity and quality will be gauged). The interactive component will be entirely conducted in the Blackboard forum. The window of the discussion forum is open for a set period, but the discussion must be active during the window and not during the last hours.

The third component of your grade will involve the various activities associated with the videos and class readings. These will generally include a set of study questions on each of the video episodes, as well as questions on the assigned readings. These questions must be answered at regular intervals throughout the course, i.e. during the period the relevant module is scheduled. The total of these **assignments** will contribute 25% to your final grade. These assignments are first and foremost intended to verify that every student is maintaining cadence with the homework. We are not looking for long and detailed answers. On the contrary, we desire clear, simple and concise answers, which demonstrate that the homework was completed.

All examination scores will be posted in the Blackboard grade book: You can review your scores by going to MY GRADES in Blackboard.

**ONLINE EXAMINATIONS:** Each examination will be available on the test day for a total of three hours. It is your responsibility to make sure that you can access the material during that time period. You can access the examination for a 3-hour window, but you may only access it once. Once you access it, you will have 3 hours in which to complete your examination and submit it. It is your responsibility to ensure the examination is submitted within the required timeframe.

**STANDARDS OF GRADING:** Scores will be assigned based on the following standards:

A 90-100% D 60-69%

B 80-89% E below 60%

C 70-79%

A midterm evaluation will be submitted for all undergraduates.

Missed Exams: Make-up exams (for missed examinations) will only be given for documented excused absences as defined by the University (Senate Rule V.2.4.2) and are scheduled as needed. A missed exam will result in a score of zero for that exam, unless an acceptable written excuse is presented within 48 hours of the missed examination.

**STUDENT CONDUCT:** Students are expected to maintain decorum that includes respect for other students and the professor, to log in regularly to the course, and to display an attitude that seeks to take full advantage of the educational opportunity. All students are expected to be prepared to work and participate actively in class activities.

**UNRESOLVED ACADEMIC ISSUES:** Consult the University of Kentucky *Student Rights and Responsibilities* regarding the steps for addressing unresolved academic issues.

**HONOR REMINDER:** All work completed by students for this class should be the product of the personal efforts of the individual registered for the course. Misrepresenting others’ work as one’s own in the form of cheating or plagiarism is unethical and will lead to those penalties outlined in the *University Senate Rules* (6.3.1 & 6.3.2). Students are also referred to the UK *Student Rights & Responsibilities* handbook. Students found in violation of this university policy risk receiving a zero for a specific requirement or a grade of E for the course, if the infraction warrants. Online examinations are CLOSED BOOK examinations. You cannot use your textbook, dictionary, or notes.

**ACADEMIC RESOURCES**: Students should become aware of available academic resources. A convenient list is provided through the UK Central Advising Service and Transfer Center at this site: <http://www.uky.edu/UGS/centadv/academic_resources.html>