



Central Area – Fall 2017

Syllabus

Core Course: Church History

Instructor: Rev. Stephen T. Heneise

(207) 924-4184

stephen.heneise@gmail.com

Location: Morse's Corner Baptist Church, 2 White Rd., Corinna, ME

Time: Thursday evenings, 6-9 pm

Dates: Sept. 7, 14, 21, 28, Oct. 5, 12, 19, 26 (This schedule may be adjusted once classes have begun for student convenience).

Required Text:

González, Justo L., The Story of Christianity, Prince Press, 2010.

Course Overview: This class is an effort to trace our Christian roots from the earliest believers to the present day including the shaping of orthodoxy in the first five centuries, the church of the Middle Ages, the Reformation, and the various streams of church development in modern times.

Course Objectives:

1. Students will become familiar with the scope of Church History and be able to identify the roots of their particular tradition.
2. Students will have a working knowledge of resources for continuing study of the history of the Church.
3. Students will be able to plan a presentation or prepare an Adult Class on some aspect of Church History.

4. Students will have a working knowledge of the major biblical and theological controversies of Church History.

Class Themes:

(Reading assignments must be completed **prior** to the class for which they are assigned. Additional activities will be assigned during each class.)

Class 1: Read González Part I. This class will cover the ancient Church, the cultural context of the first century, persecution of the Church, the Apologists, and the Apostolic Fathers

Class 2: Read González Part II. This class will examine the Christian Empire, from Constantine to Augustine.

Class 3: Read González Part III. We will look at Medieval Christianity, the Papacy, the Monastic Movement, the pre-Reformation renewal movements, the Renaissance, and Humanism.

Class 4: Read González Part IV. This class will be an overview of the beginnings of Colonial Christian

Class 5: Read González Part V. Here we will analyze the Reformation in its distinct expressions, its roots and impact on the Church.

Class 6: Read González Part VI. This will be an overview Orthodoxy, Rationalism and Pietism, as consequences of the Reformation.

Class 7: Read González Part VII. In this class we will see the developments in the Church during the 19th Century.

Class 8: Read González Part VIII. The 20th Century and beyond. Class presentations are due this day.

Evaluation: Students are expected to complete the following: 1. Reading assignments in the text, 50 %. 2. A creative project presented to the class on a key individual, theological controversy, or major turning point in Church History, 30%. 3. Weekly reports to the professor on the additional assigned activities, 20%.

