



## **RELI 300 – Christian Literature and Thought**

### **Gen Ed Tier Two Humanities**

**Education 349, TuTh 2:00-3:15pm**

#### **Description of Course**

Development of Christian literature and thought from the time of the New Testament through the Reformation period and into modernity.

#### **Instructor and Contact Information**

Dr. Grant Adamson, Learning Services Building 307, 520 621-0170, [gwa1@email.arizona.edu](mailto:gwa1@email.arizona.edu)

Office Hours MoWe 3:00-4:00pm or by appointment

D2L site: <https://d2l.arizona.edu/d2l/home/572534>

#### **Course Objectives and Expected Learning Outcomes**

Students will:

Think critically about Christian literature and thought and about the influences these had and still have on human civilization.

Effectively communicate their ideas and arguments in writing and discussion.

Reflect on their writing process and respond to feedback.

Understand and value informed opinions about Christianity and religion that are different from their own.

Use information ethically and responsibly.

#### **Absence and Class Participation Policy**

The UA's policy concerning Class Attendance, Participation, and Administrative Drops is available at: <http://catalog.arizona.edu/policy/class-attendance-participation-and-administrative-drop>

The UA policy regarding absences for any sincerely held religious belief, observance or practice will be accommodated where reasonable, <http://policy.arizona.edu/human-resources/religious-accommodation-policy>.

Absences pre-approved by the UA Dean of Students (or Dean Designee) will be honored. See: <https://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/absences>.

Participating in the course and attending class are vital to the learning process. If you are absent, not only do you miss out but so do the rest of us. Come to benefit and contribute. Furthermore, much of class time will be devoted to (pre-)writing activities, and the peer reviews in particular are essential. That said, attendance is not part of the course grade, strictly

speaking; see Grading Scale and Policies.

**Late work:** You can turn in one and only one assignment late up to 24hrs, with no explanation needed. After that, late work may only be accepted under the following conditions.

Condition 1: you missed the deadline because of an unpredictable event (such as illness, injury, emergency, car accident/trouble, computer failure/loss/theft).

Condition 2: you provide documentation (such as from a health-care provider).

## **Makeup Policy for Students Who Register Late**

Students can register late, but they will be responsible for making up all missed assignments. The deadline for doing so will be one week from the date of late registration.

## **Required Texts or Readings**

Alister E. McGrath

*Historical Theology: An Introduction to the History of Christian Thought*

Second Edition, Wiley-Blackwell, 2012/1998

ISBN: 9780470672860

Library has e-book

Saint Augustine, trans. R.P.H. Green

*On Christian Teaching* (Oxford World's Classics)

Oxford, 2008/1997

ISBN: 9780199540631

Library has e-book

Erasmus, trans. Betty Radice

*Praise of Folly* (Penguin Classics)

Penguin, 1993/1971

Luther, trans. Erik H. Herrmann

*The Babylonian Captivity of the Church* (Annotated Luther Study Edition)

Fortress, 2016

ISBN: 9781506413471

Schleiermacher, trans. Richard Crouter

*On Religion* (Cambridge Texts in the History of Philosophy)

Cambridge, 1996

ISBN: 9780521479752

Other required readings will be posted/linked on D2L.

## **Required or Special Materials**

Bring a pad of paper and a pen or pencil to class. They're arguably better than a laptop for note taking. See [http://www.psychologicalscience.org/news/releases/take-notes-by-hand-for-better-long-term-comprehension.html#.WHbEI\\_krKUK](http://www.psychologicalscience.org/news/releases/take-notes-by-hand-for-better-long-term-comprehension.html#.WHbEI_krKUK)

## **Assignments and Examinations: Schedule/Due Dates**

Diagnostic	upload to D2L by midnight on 1/14
Practice Arguments	upload to D2L before class 1/24
Prelim Thesis 1	upload to D2L before class 2/2
Complete Draft 1	upload to D2L before class 2/7 and bring hard copy to class
Revised Draft 1	upload to D2L by midnight on 2/11
Prelim Thesis 2	upload to D2L before class 3/9
Complete Draft 2	upload to D2L before class 3/21 and bring hard copy to class
Revised Draft 2	upload to D2L by midnight on 3/25
Relevance Essay	upload to D2L before class 3/30

Prelim Thesis 3	upload to D2L before class 4/20
Complete Draft 3	upload to D2L before class 4/25 and bring hard copy to class
Revised Draft 3	upload to D2L by midnight on 4/29
Reflection	upload to D2L before class 5/1
Final Project (Best Paper)	upload to D2L by 5:30pm on 5/8

Detailed descriptions and instructions will be posted on D2L.

## Writing Requirement

All Tier one and Tier Two General Education Courses are writing intensive (<http://gened.arizona.edu/content/writing-component>). Students will write approximately 17 pages throughout the semester, and the 17 pages will be broken up into different types of writing. This includes the three main papers (4 pages each) that will be revised based on peer review and graded for completion and thoroughness of revision.

## Final Examination or Project

For the Final Project, students will select one of their three main papers, revise it further if they wish to do so, and resubmit it as their Best Paper. Unlike the three main papers that students write throughout the semester, it will then be graded holistically. The deadline is Mo 5/8, 5:30pm, according to the Final Exam Schedule.

Final Exam Regulations:

<https://www.registrar.arizona.edu/courses/final-examination-regulations-and-information>

Final Exam Schedule:

<http://www.registrar.arizona.edu/schedules/finals.htm>

## Grading Scale and Policies

Scale:

A 90-100% excellent

B 80-89% good

C 70-79% satisfactory

D 60-69% poor

E 0-59% failure

The final grade will be rounded up to the nearest percentage point (e.g. 89.5% to 90%).

University policy regarding grades and grading systems is available at

<http://catalog.arizona.edu/policy/grades-and-grading-system>

Calculation of the final grade:

Writing 100%

Diagnostic (5%)

Practice Arguments (15%)

Prelim Theses (3x7% = 21%)

Complete Drafts (3x7% = 21%)

Revised Drafts (3x7% = 21%)

Relevance Essay (2.5%)

Reflection (2.5%)

Final Project (12%)

There is no extra credit other than for completing the Teaching Course Evaluation at the end of the semester.

Along with assignment sheets, grading rubrics will be posted on D2L.

General Education courses must follow the "40% rule" which means that students must complete and be graded on at least 40% of the course grade by the end of the 8<sup>th</sup> week of classes (or equivalent for uniquely dated courses). By then, students in this course will have completed the Diagnostic (5%), the Practice Arguments (15%), and the first main paper (21%), for a total of 41%.

**Requests for incomplete (I) or withdrawal (W)** must be made in accordance with University policies, which are available at <http://catalog.arizona.edu/policy/grades-and-grading-system#incomplete> and <http://catalog.arizona.edu/policy/grades-and-grading-system#Withdrawal> respectively.

**Dispute of Grade Policy:** any disputation of a grade on a paper, project, or exam must be done within one week of the release of the grade.

## Honors Credit

Students wishing to contract this course for Honors Credit should email me to set up an appointment to discuss the terms of the standard contract. Information on Honors Contracts can be found at <http://www.honors.arizona.edu/faculty-and-advisors/contracts>.

## Schedule

### COURSE INTRO

#### 1st Week

Th 1/12 First day of class

in class ...

assignment introduced: Diagnostic

#### Sat 1/14:

finish and upload Diagnostic to D2L by midnight

#### 2nd week

##### Tu 1/17

before class ...

read Booth pp.139-145 (D2L); Booth et al. pp.188-199 (D2L); Graff & Birkenstein pp.55-67 (D2L); Tannen (D2L)

in class ...

lecture, discussion

assignment wrapped up: Diagnostic

### UNIT ONE: EARLY CHRISTIANITY

#### Th 1/19

before class ...

read McGrath pp.xii-xiv, 1-35

in class ...

lecture, discussion

assignment introduced: Practice Arguments

#### 3rd week

##### Tu 1/24

before class ...

read Barton pp.xxxix-xliii (D2L); 1 Corinthians (D2L)

finish and upload Practice Arguments to D2L

in class ...

discussion of reading

assignment wrapped up: Practice Arguments

assignments introduced: Prelim Theses, Complete Drafts, Revised Drafts

Th 1/26

before class ...

read Augustine = Green pp.3-29

in class ...

discussion of reading and paper ideas

4th week

Tu 1/31

before class ...

read Augustine = Green pp.30-146

in class ...

discussion of reading and paper ideas

Th 2/2

before class ...

finish and upload Prelim Thesis 1 to D2L

in class ...

paired interview

5th week

Tu 2/7

before class ...

finish and upload Complete Draft 1 to D2L

print out hard copy of Complete Draft 1 and bring it with you

in class ...

peer review

revision write-in

Th 2/9 No class

read Trimble pp.64-81 (D2L)

keep working on Revised Draft 1

optional: consult with me about your writing

Sat 2/11:

finish and upload Revised Draft 1 to D2L by midnight

## **UNIT TWO: MIDDLE AGES, RENAISSANCE, REFORMATION**

6th week

Tu 2/14

before class ...

read McGrath pp.77-98

in class ...

lecture, discussion

Th 2/16

before class ...

read Erasmus = Radice pp.3-49

in class ...

discussion of reading and paper ideas

7th week

Tu 2/21

before class ...

read Erasmus = Radice pp.50-134

in class ...

discussion of reading and paper ideas

Th 2/23

before class ...

read Erasmus = Radice pp.137-172

in class ...

discussion of reading and paper ideas

8th week

Tu 2/28

before class ...

read McGrath pp.124-146

in class ...

lecture, discussion

Th 3/2

before class ...

read Luther = Herrmann pp.13-59

in class ...

discussion of reading and paper ideas

9th week

Tu 3/7

before class ...

read Luther = Herrmann pp.59-129

in class ...

discussion of reading and paper ideas

Th 3/9

before class ...

finish and upload Prelim Thesis 2 to D2L

in class ...

paired interview

Sat-Sun 3/11-19 Spring Recess

10th week

Tu 3/21

before class ...

finish and upload Complete Draft 2 to D2L

print out hard copy of Complete Draft 2 and bring it with you

in class ...

peer review

revision write-in

Th 3/23 No class

keep working on Revised Draft 2

optional: consult with me about your writing

Sat 3/25:

finish and upload Revised Draft 2 to D2L by midnight

### **UNIT THREE: MODERNITY**

11th week

Tu 3/28

before class ...

read McGrath pp.182-210

in class ...

lecture, discussion  
assignment introduced: Relevance Essay

Th 3/30

before class ...  
finish and upload Relevance Essay  
read Kant (D2L); Forster §10 (D2L)  
in class ...  
assignment wrapped up: Relevance Essay

12th week

Tu 4/4

before class ...  
read Schleiermacher = Crouter pp.3-54  
in class ...  
discussion of reading and paper ideas

Th 4/6

before class ...  
read Schleiermacher = Crouter pp.55-71  
in class ...  
discussion of reading and paper ideas

13th week

Tu 4/11

before class ...  
read Schleiermacher = Crouter pp.72-124  
in class ...

Th 4/13

before class ...  
read King pp.137-145 (D2L); Daly pp.179-191 (D2L)  
in class ...  
discussion of reading and paper ideas

14th week

Tu 4/18

before class ...  
read Hick pp.29-59 (D2L)  
in class ...  
discussion of reading and paper ideas

Th 4/20

before class ...  
finish and upload Prelim Thesis 3 to D2L  
in class ...  
paired interview

15th week

Tu 4/25

before class ...  
finish and upload Complete Draft 3 to D2L  
print out hard copy of Complete Draft 3 and bring it with you  
in class ...  
assignment introduced: Reflection  
peer review

revision write-in

Th 4/27 No class

keep working on Revised Draft 3  
optional: consult with me about your writing

Sat 4/29:

finish and upload Revised Draft 3 to D2L by midnight

## **COURSE WRAP-UP**

16th week

Tu 5/2 Last day of class

before class ...

finish and upload Reflection to D2L  
read McGrath pp.269-270

in class ...

Teacher Course Evaluation  
additional feedback  
assignment wrapped up: Reflection  
Final Project (Best Paper) introduced

Mo 5/8 Final Project (Best Paper) due by 5:30pm

## **Classroom Behavior Policy**

To foster a positive learning environment, students and instructors have a shared responsibility. We want a safe, welcoming, and inclusive environment where all of us feel comfortable with each other, where we can challenge ourselves to succeed, and where there are no distractions.

## **Threatening Behavior Policy**

The UA Threatening Behavior by Students Policy prohibits threats of physical harm to any member of the University community, including to oneself. See <http://policy.arizona.edu/education-and-student-affairs/threatening-behavior-students>.

## **Accessibility and Accommodations**

Our goal in this classroom is that learning experiences be as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience physical or academic barriers based on disability, please let me know immediately so that we can discuss options. You are also welcome to contact the Disability Resource Center (520-621-3268) to establish reasonable accommodations. For additional information on the Disability Resource Center and reasonable accommodations, please visit <http://drc.arizona.edu>.

If you have reasonable accommodations, please plan to meet with me by appointment or during office hours to discuss accommodations and how my course requirements and activities may impact your ability to fully participate.

Please be aware that the accessible table and chairs in this room should remain available for students who find that standard classroom seating is not usable.

## **Code of Academic Integrity**

Students are encouraged to share intellectual views and discuss freely the principles and applications of course materials. However, graded work/exercises must be the product of independent effort unless otherwise instructed. Students are expected to adhere to the UA Code of Academic Integrity as described in the UA General Catalog. See: <http://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/academic-integrity/students/academic-integrity>.

The University Libraries have some excellent tips for avoiding plagiarism, available at

<http://www.library.arizona.edu/help/tutorials/plagiarism/index.html>.

## **UA Nondiscrimination and Anti-harassment Policy**

The University is committed to creating and maintaining an environment free of discrimination; see <http://policy.arizona.edu/human-resources/nondiscrimination-and-anti-harassment-policy>

Our classroom is a place where everyone is encouraged to express well-formed opinions and their reasons for those opinions. We also want to create a tolerant and open environment where such opinions can be expressed without resorting to bullying or discrimination of others.

## **Elective Name and Pronoun Usage**

This course supports elective gender pronoun use and self-identification. As the course includes in-class discussion, it is vitally important for us to create an educational environment of inclusion and mutual respect.

## **Additional Resources for Students**

### **Complete List of UA Academic Policies and Procedures:**

Website: <http://catalog.arizona.edu/policies>

### **Dean of Students Office**

Student assistance and advocacy.

Website: <http://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/student-assistance/students/student-assistance>

### **The Think Tank**

Drop-in or by appointment tutoring and writing help.

Website: <http://thinktank.arizona.edu/>

### **The Writing Skills Improvement Program**

Website: <http://wsip.web.arizona.edu/>

### **Center for English as a Second Language**

Website: <http://www.cesl.arizona.edu>

### **Veteran Services**

The University of Arizona has a Veterans Education and Transition Services program. For more information, see: <http://www.vets.arizona.edu/>

## **Confidentiality of Student Records**

<http://www.registrar.arizona.edu/personal-information/family-educational-rights-and-privacy-act-1974-ferpa?topic=ferpa>

## **Subject to Change Statement**

Information contained in the course syllabus, other than the grade and absence policy, may be subject to change with advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

## **The Religious Studies Major and Minor**

The University of Arizona's interdisciplinary Department of Religious Studies and Classics offers a major (B.A.) and a minor in Religious Studies. For more information on the Religious Studies major and minor, see <http://religion.arizona.edu>.

**If you are interested in declaring a Religious Studies major or minor**, you are encouraged to contact the Religious Studies Undergraduate Faculty Advisor, **Dr. Alison Jameson**, at [religion-advising@email.arizona.edu](mailto:religion-advising@email.arizona.edu). You also can contact the College of Humanities Advising Office, at <http://advising.humanities.arizona.edu>.