

Second Year
PRE-CLASS WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT
PERKINS COURSE OF STUDY SCHOOL - 2014

(212) THEOLOGICAL HERITAGE: EARLY & MEDIEVAL

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Textbook:

Reading Requirement --

Justo L. González – *The Story of Christianity*, Vol. I (Harper San Francisco, 1984; ISBN 0060633158)

Suggested Supplement – *The Dictionary of the Christian Church*.
ISBN# 978-159-856-2507.

This textbook contains both primary and secondary sources. Primary sources are documents written by the people at the time in history. These are in *italics* in the boxes in this book. Secondary sources are documents written at a later time by other people about the incidents in history. The continuous text of this book is a secondary source. Primary sources speak with utmost authority. Secondary sources are often more understandable. It is important that you read both types of sources in your book.

There are two parts to this assignment. Because these assignments are to be completed before you come to the Course of Study School, it would be wise to begin reading no later than January. The identification questions could be completed in February, the first essay question in March, and the second essay question in April. This would leave May open as a time to safely complete the assignment if you run into difficulties.

Please read and think with awareness for material useful in your ministry. How can your Sunday school lessons, confirmation lessons, devotionals, and sermons be improved by using these characters, stories, and decisions?

I. Identification questions

Identify in one page or less ten of these people, meetings and movements. Include the time they occurred, the issues which made them important in Church History, and their consequences for later Christians. Type double spaced on a maximum of twelve pages.

Tertullian	Cathari
Blandina	Gregory VII
Origen	Cluny
Constantine	Bernard of Clairvaux
Arius	Francis of Assisi
Council of Chalcedon	Catherine of Siena
Augustine of Hippo	Avignon
Charlemagne	Council of Constance
Crusades	John Hus

II. Essay Questions

Write an essay answer for two of the following questions. Your answer should be no less than four and no more than six pages typed double space. Feel free to supplement González' text with a dictionary of Church History such as The Oxford Dictionary of the Christian Church.

1. Trace the history of the monastic movement and its more prominent representatives. Describe the origins of monasticism with the desert hermits such as Antony and Jerome. Discuss the type of monasticism founded by St. Benedict and prescribed by his *Rule*. Tell how this differs from the practice of the desert hermits. Identify the new vision of monastic life inaugurated by St. Francis of Assisi and the Franciscan Order.
 2. Discuss the establishment of orthodox doctrine in the early Church. Discuss the central events and key individuals involved in the Gnostic controversy of the second century, the Trinitarian controversy of the fourth century, and the Christological controversy of the early fifth century. Include in your answer some discussion of the role of the four ecumenical councils of Nicaea (325), Constantinople (381), Ephesus (431), and Chalcedon (451), as well as any creeds these councils produced in settling the controversies.
 3. Discuss the development of an “eastern” and a “western” Christianity. Include in your answer the distinctive differences between these two forms of Christianity including their patterns of liturgy, theology, ministry and authority. Also discuss what lead to their final division and their attempts at reconciliation.
- III Please write a one page biography with particular attention given to your spiritual journey and call to ministry.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The completed pre-class work for courses 211-514 must be sent to the Course of Study School office **postmarked on or before May 15, 2014** OR submitted electronically through the Locker system (see information below) **no later than May 15, 2014 at 11:59.59 p.m.** Pre-class work submitted after May 15 will have grading penalties assessed as follows: (grades are expressed alphabetically from A to F, with F being the lowest grade)

- Submissions dated May 16 - May 31 will receive a one letter grade reduction
- Submissions dated June 1 - June 14 will receive a two letter grade reduction.
- Submissions dated June 16 or later, the student will be dropped from that course registration with no refund (of registration, fees or housing)

A request for an extension requires the following:

- It must be submitted in writing to the director of the Course of Study School. Via e-mail, send to Jeannie Trevino-Teddlie at COSSExt@smu.edu. Via regular mail, send to COSS Extension, P.O. Box 750133, Dallas, TX 75275-0133. By fax, send to 214-768-1042). **Make sure that you notify the COSS office of any transmission.**
- It must be received by May 1
- It must state valid reason(s) for needing an extension
- It must state the course name(s) and number(s) for which the extension(s) is/are requested
- It must state the amount of time being requested (not beyond June 14)

In order for an extension request to be considered, the student must be fully registered (i.e., fees paid, signatures acquired, Release of Liability and Course Registration and Housing forms filled out and submitted). Before a decision can be made regarding an extension, the Director will consult with the student’s district superintendent, local pastor registrar and instructor.

Optional Electronic Submission for Pre Class Assignments

Course of Study School Lockers

We are offering an alternate method for the submission of pre-class assignments. The Course of Study School is using a “Locker System”, Locker.SMU. This system allows COSS students to submit their pre-class assignments electronically. Please remember that we will continue to accept mailed in paper pre-class assignments. Electronic submissions and the use of Locker.SMU is optional.

A Locker will be assigned to each student for each class they are taking. For example, if you are taking Hebrew Bible I (211) and Formation Discipleship (213) you will be assigned two different Lockers. The instructor for each course will then be able to log in to the Locker System and retrieve your submitted assignments for each particular class.

When your registration is received, the Course of Study School staff will be creating your private Locker(s) and informing you via e-mail when your Locker(s) has been successfully created. In this email, you will receive specific instructions on how to access your Locker(s) and how to upload your assignments.

If you have not registered by May 15th, you will not be guaranteed a locker and you will need to submit your pre-class assignments via postal service.

The Locker System will automatically date and time stamp your submitted assignments to inform the instructor and the Course of Study School staff when the assignment was submitted.

The pre-class assignments should be submitted to the Locker System **ONLY in .doc format.**

When you are ready to submit your pre-class assignments online, but have not received an e-mail with information on how to access your private Locker(s), please contact the Course of Study School staff at COSS@smu.edu with the subject line: Locker Access. The Course of Study School staff will then reply with specific instructions on how to access your Locker(s) and how to upload your assignments.

The completed pre-class work for courses 211-514 must be submitted to the Locker System **no later than May 15th at 11:59:59 p.m.** Pre-class work submitted to the Locker System after May 15 will incur grading penalties as mentioned above on the grading guidelines. The same deadline restrictions apply whether you are submitting pre-class assignments electronically or via postal service.

Students should keep a printed copy of each assignment and bring a copy of each assignment to class regardless of how the assignment was submitted.

In addition, students should include a one-page autobiography for each instructor.

Each assignment should be typed, double-spaced, or legibly handwritten, with pagination numbers, and be accompanied by a completed cover sheet. A copy of the cover sheet can be found in the Course of Study School Catalogue and can be photocopied, it will also appear as a preloaded file when you access your locker.

Guidelines for writing pre-class assignments and information on academic dishonesty are provided in the Course of Study School catalog, available on the website. Students are expected to understand what constitutes plagiarism. Students who are found to plagiarize are subject to grading penalties, which may include dismissal from the school.