



CHTH 102

The History of Christianity

Distance/Campus Course Description

Lecturer: Professor Tim Cooper

Brief Introduction to the Paper

This paper presents a survey of the history of Christianity from 100 AD to the present day: from early formation to recent contexts in Nazi Germany, Soviet Russia and North America. It offers a framework for 2,000 years of global history that is useful for students in all Humanities subjects. By engaging with the story of Christianity in Asia and Africa as well as in Europe and the West, students will gain new perspectives on the nature and history of the Christian faith, and they will develop their skills in critical and reflective thinking.

Assessment

The assessment for this paper comprises four elements:

Assessment Task	Percentage
Online Activities (in three 'windows')	15%
Essay 1 (1500 words)	20%
Essay 2 (2000 words)	25%
Exam (two hours)	40%

Teaching schedule

The **campus class** will be taught through three one-hour classes each week.

The **distance class** will be taught through four video-conferences. Most video-conferences are 1 hr 50 mins but the first is just 50 mins.

Timetable details are available at <https://www.otago.ac.nz/theology/study/> (See the hyperlinks under "Timetables", on the right-hand side)

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this paper students will be:

1. Able to articulate the story of the history of Christianity in a way that is accurate and informed. In particular, this means:
 - Understanding the main outlines of the history of Christianity in the early, medieval and modern periods;
 - Grasping the development of the key institutions of historical Christianity;
 - Appreciating patterns of piety and thinking among the laity;
 - Understanding how broader historical and intellectual developments have had an impact on Christianity, and vice versa; and
 - Doing all of this especially in view of the western Church, but without ignoring the eastern and non-western dimensions of the Church.

2. Equipped to read Church History for yourself and prepared for more in-depth study at higher levels. In particular, this means
 - Being introduced to the main modes of writing Church History, to contemporary trends in Church History, and to the most significant historians; and
 - Developing a critical appraisal of such historical writing.

For more information

Please direct any administrative enquiries to the Theology Administrator:

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