



EARLY CHURCH HISTORY

SYLLABUS

Dr. Karen Smith

Class Duration:

- six weeks

Course Textbooks:

- *The Bible*
- *The 100 Most Important Events in Christian History* by A. Kenneth Curtis, J. Stephen Lang, and Randy Petersen

Course Description:

This course covers the history and development of the Church from its inception to the Protestant Reformation of the sixteenth century. Students will survey major movements, doctrines, individuals, and institutions that arose within the Church and affected its development during this time. Major emphasis will be given the development of doctrinal understanding in the Church and to a careful study of selected key individuals whose lives should inspire us to remain to the Church of Jesus Christ today.

Course Goals and Objectives:

Students will

- acquire a general understanding of the conception of the Church as presented in *The Book of Acts*
- gain an understanding of the various major theological developments in the history of the Church from the end of the first century through the early sixteenth century
- have a deepened understanding of major ecclesiastical traditions that exist today as they become acquainted with the history of their doctrines and practices
- be spiritually enriched through realizing the work of great Christians of the past

- recognize the importance of protecting the Body of Christ from doctrinal deviations
- recognize the importance of learning from the past – from the right choices as well as from the mistakes of leaders of the past
- develop an appreciation for the dedication and diligence of the early Church fathers

Class Structure:

- video lectures
- reading quizzes
- written assignment

Assessments:

- **Reading Quiz Schedule:**

Week One	<i>The 100 Most Important Events in Christian History-</i> pp. 13-38
Week Two	<i>The 100 Most Important Events in Christian History-</i> pp. 39-70
Week Three	<i>The 100 Most Important Events in Christian History-</i> pp. 71-99
Week Four	<i>The 100 Most Important Events in Christian History-</i> pp. 100-134
Week Five	<i>The 100 Most Important Events in Christian History-</i> pp. 135-164
Week Six	<i>The 100 Most Important Events in Christian History-</i> pp. 165-201
	Students must read <i>The Book of Acts</i> in the New Testament
	There are three quizzes in the portal for the Book of Acts. Students must complete these three quizzes by the end of Week Six of this course.

- **Writing Assignment and Rubric:**

Details can be found within the course ‘Assignment’ tab on the student portal.

**** A final grade of 70 or above must be achieved to pass this class.**