



TH 533: WORLD CHRISTIAN HISTORY 3

Last revised: 10/15/18

Missio Seminary exists to produce missional Christian leaders—men and women who incarnate the story of Jesus with humility and authenticity and who communicate the story with fidelity to Scripture, appreciation of the Christian tradition, and sensitivity to the needs and aspirations of postmodern culture.

CLASS DATES AND TIMES

Spring 2019

Tuesdays, 6:30 – 10:00 PM on Feb. 23; March 5, 12, 19, 26

Saturday, 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM on March 23

PROFESSOR

Name: Dr. Derek Cooper

E-mail: dcooper@missio.edu

Telephone: 215-368-5000 x 108

Office hours: By appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Dive into the history of the most printed book of all times, the Bible! Discover how Christians from across the globe have studied, taught, and debated it. Find out why some Christians have fewer books in their Bibles than others, and uncover the captivating yet complex history of how this book—painstakingly copied by the fragile hands of men and women—has been preserved for more than 2,000 years.

SYLLABUS

This syllabus provides an overview of the course and course requirements. Students are responsible to know the content of the syllabus and follow the course schedule. Questions about the syllabus or schedule should be e-mailed to the professor promptly and will generally be answered in an e-mail to the entire class so that everyone is informed.

This syllabus is intended to give the student guidance in what may be covered during the term and will be followed as closely as possible. However, the professor reserves the right to modify, supplement, and make changes as course needs arise.

PROGRAM GOALS AND COURSE OBJECTIVES

Program Goals	Related Course Objectives
Goal 1: Students will cultivate grace-based missional lives increasingly characterized by the fruit of the Spirit, and love for God and others.	Objective 1: Engage the historic Christian tradition from a generously orthodox perspective.

Goal 4: Students will know the key persons, ideas, and movements in the history of theology and the Christian tradition and their significance for today.	Objective 2: Discover how Christians from across the globe have studied, taught, debated, and interpreted the Bible. Objective 3: Articulate the most compelling way for you to understand the Bible.
---	--

COURSE ASSESSMENTS AND HOMEWORK HOURS

Assessment	Related Objectives	PERCENT OF GRADE	ESTIMATED TIME IN HOURS
Reading Grade	1-3	15%	40
Conviction Paper	3	20%	10
Meditation Journal	2	25%	15
Class Participation	1	15%	N/A
Final Exam	2	25%	10
TOTAL Estimated Time on Homework		100%	75

INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITY IN ADDITION TO CLASS DISCUSSIONS

Activity	Related Objectives	GRADING	HOURS
Audio-Visual Learning Objects (e.g., recorded lectures, narrated PowerPoints, online videos)*	1-2	N/A	4.5
Reading Guide	2	N/A	4
Class Field Trip	2	N/A	8
TOTAL Estimated Time on Homework			16.5

*These required assignments involve instruction comparable to what occurs in the classroom (lectures, presentations, and instructor-led activities such as discussions, debates, and collaborative work. They should be completed on the due dates listed in this syllabus.

Note: All assignments must be submitted by the due date listed in the syllabus and no later than the final due date for the course listed in this syllabus by permission of the instructor. After the final due date, faculty cannot grant students permission to submit late work. See “Completion of Course Work” below.

REQUIRED READING AND MATERIALS

NOTE: Hyperlinks to Amazon.com are placed here for your convenience. Please be aware that there may be other websites (by publishers or by other e-book publishers) that may sell the same item for cheaper prices. Feel free to shop around. In addition, some sites offer e-book rental prices for a limited number of weeks. These may also be cost effective. Just be sure to buy the correct edition and recognize some of the smaller sellers may not deliver books in a timely fashion.

REQUIRED MATERIALS

- Clinton Arnold, [How We Got the Bible: A Visual Journey](#). Zondervan, 2008. 96 pages.
- Derek Cooper, [Sinners and Saints: The Real Story of Early Christianity](#). Kregel, 2018. 176 pages.
- Michael Gorman, ed., [Scripture and Its Interpretation: A Global, Ecumenical Introduction to the Bible](#). Baker Academic, 2017. 464 pages.
- Extra Readings Provided by Professor.

RECOMMENDED MATERIALS

- Karen Armstrong, *The Bible: A Biography*. Grove Press, 2008.
- Guigo II, *Ladder of Monks and Twelve Meditation*. Cistercian Publications, 1981.
- Jaroslav Pelikan, *Whose Bible Is It? A Short History of the Scriptures*. Penguin, 2005.

COURSE PROCEDURES AND REQUIREMENTS

Attendance Policy and Grades

It is important to arrive on time and be actively engage in every minute (literally, every minute) of class time. Class time is valuable – to you, to your classmates, and to the professor. Class time is thoughtfully prepared by the professor and crafted with intricacy for maximum learning effectiveness.

Students are also expected to login to the e-campus course site regularly and participate in the course activities in a timely manner. If you know you are going to be absent from the course site for more than three or four days, please notify the instructor and group members (if applicable) in advance. Nevertheless, recognize that your grade may be lowered for tardiness or absences at the discretion of the instructor.

Attendance in this course constitutes both 1) coming to class and 2) logging in to the e-campus course site and participating in the online or out-of-class activities assigned throughout the course. Students are responsible for reading and familiarizing themselves with the material posted on the e-campus course site throughout the course.

Student usage of the course site is tracked by the e-campus software and monitored by the professor of the course. Students who need to be absent from the course site for three or more days during a discussion forum activity or required web conference should email the professor in advance of the absence (see Attendance Policy and Grades in this syllabus). Students may email the instructor at any time if they have questions about the course.

Completion of Course Work

All course work is to be completed by the last day of classes for the term or by the date posted in the course syllabus. Extensions to this time limit will be made only by the academic administration committee. The individual faculty member does not have the authority to grant any extensions of time beyond the last class of the term. Requests for extensions must be made in writing to the committee at least one week prior to the last day of classes. Variance forms for this purpose are available in the academic office or on Missio’s website. All requests should specify the reasons for the extension and the length of the extension desired. Requests are not automatically granted.

Policies and Procedures

All assignments are due before midnight of the date given. Thus, if a paper is due on October 1, it should be submitted by 11:59 PM on that day. Late assignments will receive a reduction of five (5) points per day. Assignments more than a week late will automatically receive a failing grade.

ASSIGNMENT DESCRIPTIONS AND GRADING

All assignments must be submitted in e-campus using Times New Roman font, size 12, with standard margins on each side. Abstracts, title pages, and reference pages are not necessary, but papers should otherwise follow Chicago / Turabian formatting. Failure to do so may result in reduced grading.

1. **Reading Grade.** In the “online text” section of this assignment on e-campus, please write the percentage grade of the readings you completed. This includes a total combination of each of the three required books (Arnold, Cooper, and Gorman) as well as additional required materials distributed by the professor. The rubric below should be used when thinking about your reading grade. Please honestly evaluate yourself in light of the descriptions provided. This assignment should be submitted in e-campus by March 26.

Description	Grade
You read every page, were mentally “present,” made observations, and took great notes.	A (93 – 100)
You read every page and were mentally present for all of the book.	A – (90 – 92.9)
You read every page but were not really following along very closely.	B + (87 – 89.9)
You read most of the book but were not always following along closely.	B (83 – 86.9)
You read most of the book but cannot really remember anything.	B – (80 – 82.9)
You read about half of the book and followed along closely for that half.	C + (77 – 79.9)
You read about half of the book but did not really follow along closely.	C (73 – 76.9)
You read a third of the book and followed along closely for that part.	C – (70 – 72.9)
You read a third of the book but did not follow along closely.	D + (67 – 69.9)

You skimmed the whole book.	D (63 – 66.9)
You skimmed half of the book or less.	D – (60 – 62.9)
You did not read anything.	F (0 – 59)

2. **Conviction Paper.** After reading Michael Gorman’s *Scripture and Its Interpretation*, particularly Part 2, choose out of Chapters 9-19 which chapter makes the most compelling case for how to understand and interpret the Bible. Present your reasons for believing so, including why this perspective is more compelling than others. Do not merely summarize the chapter; explain why it makes sense and even amplify its arguments. Offer examples or first-hand experiences as well as parallels from other areas of theology or life. This paper should be around 1,000 words and it is due in e-campus by March 19.
3. **Meditation Paper.** Students will read and journal on *Sinners and Saints*. The journal should include the following and will be graded accordingly:
- i. *Demonstrating* your engagement with the book by referring to specific passages and themes as necessary.
 - ii. Using professional language—with grammatically correct sentences.
 - iii. Taking a learning posture from the readings rather than being overly critical. An undue negativity toward any portions of the book will be graded with a reduction.
 - iv. Focusing on how the readings challenge or inspire you.
 - v. There are 10 entries in all (one for each chapter). Each journal entry should be about 300–400 words in length. **They should be combined and put in one document and submitted in e-campus as one file.**

The combined due date in e-campus for this journal is in e-campus by March 26.

4. **Class Participation.** There will be ample opportunity for class participation. As such, it is important that students make positive contributions. In consultation with the rubric below, please assess your level of class participation and submit a grade through the “online text” feature in e-campus. Note that the grade you give yourself will be taken into consideration for your official class participation grade. This assignment should be submitted by March 26.

Description	Grade
You showed respect for everyone in the class, always participated positively, stayed on topic, and were fully present.	A (93 – 100)
You showed respect for everyone in the class, participated often and in a positive way, and stayed on topic.	A – (90 – 92.9)
You showed respect for everyone in the class and participated positively, though not being fully present for each class session.	B + (87 – 89.9)
You showed respect for everyone in the class and participated positively, though infrequently.	B (83 – 86.9)
You showed respect for everyone in the class, but participation was rare and not always relevant to the discussion.	B – (80 – 82.9)
You showed respect to everyone in the class, but did not pay attention and never initiated positive interaction.	C (73 – 76.9)
You only engaged in class discussions when called upon, but otherwise were distracted by other things.	D (63 – 66.9)

You never contributed to class discussions and were not engaged at all.	D – (60 – 62.9)
You did not show respect to everyone in the class, never participated, and were not present.	F (0 – 59)

5. **Final Exam.** Students will take an objective, multiple-choice test at the completion of the class that evaluates their understanding of the topics from the course. Questions will come especially from required readings, but also from class lectures and handouts. During this test, NO resources, notes, or other aids are allowed to be used, and the test can only be taken once. The test will be available the last week of the course from March 25 to 29. Students will need to complete it within this time frame.

COURSE SCHEDULE

DATE	IN CLASS	OUTSIDE-OF-CLASS OR ONLINE
Tuesday, 2/26/19	Introduction to the Bible and Issues of Reception and Interpretation; Orthodox Reading: Irenaeus, Justin Martyr, and Vincent of Lerins	TBD
Tuesday, 3/5/19	Gnostic Reading: The Other Christian Bible	TBD
Tuesday, 3/12/19	Spiritual Reading: Origen, Augustine, and Gregory; Medieval Bible: Thomas, Nicholas of Lyra, and the Gloss	TBD
Tuesday, 3/19/19	Women Interpreters in the Middle Ages: Julian of Norwich and Margery Kempe Assignment Due: Conviction Paper	TBD
Saturday, 3/23/19	Historical-Critical Reading: David Strauss and Hermann Gunkel Assignment Due: Meditation Journal	TBD
Tuesday, 3/26/19	Postcolonial Readings: Musa Dube and Fernando Segovia Assignment Due: Reading Percent, and Class Participation, and Final Exam	TBD

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY AND ACADEMIC POLICIES

1. **Academic Policies.** Students are fully responsible to know and follow all seminary rules, regulations, and deadlines published in the Academic Catalog and all requirements concerning their degree programs. See the e-campus home page.
2. **Course Syllabus.** Students are fully responsible to know and fulfill the requirements stated in the course syllabus. Students should email the professor about issues related to course work and deadlines during the course. See above under “completion of course work” for policies on course extensions.
3. **E-campus Course Site.** Students are fully responsible for course content and materials that are posted on the course site. Students are encouraged to check the course site frequently during the course. Students who experience difficulty accessing or using the e-campus should email helpdesk@missio.edu and include their student ID# in their correspondence.

4. **Academic and General Integrity.** As followers of Jesus Christ, we are called to integrity and Christ-likeness in all areas of life. What this means in the academic realm is that the completion of all assignments and assessments are to reflect your own work. Students found guilty of cheating or plagiarism will receive a grade of zero on the assessment and will follow the process outlined in the Academic Catalog. See the Academic Catalog for more information on plagiarism and policies related to cheating and plagiarism.

5. **Student PC Security Statement.** Missio recognizes the need for computer use throughout the entire educational process today. Computers equipped with Internet access and applications that help deliver information and knowledge are vital. Students are encouraged to bring their electronic computing devices to campus to facilitate their course work and supplemental activities. Given the current climate of online dangers such as viruses, malware, phishing scams, and other related risks it is critical to secure all such devices regardless if they're being used on campus or not. Please take the appropriate steps to safeguard the security of your own electronic devices to protect the integrity of the student network on campus and provide a safe computing environment for everyone to use. Contact the Academic Office if you have any questions about this statement.

GRADING SYSTEM

To remain in good academic standing, a student must maintain the grade point average designated for his or her program.

MISSIO SEMINARY GRADING SYSTEM			
A	4.00	93.0 – 100	Superior
A-	3.67	90.0 – 92.9	
B+	3.33	87.0 – 89.9	
B	3.00	83.0 – 86.9	Good
B-	2.67	80.0 – 82.9	
C+	2.33	77.0 – 79.9	
C	2.00	73.0 – 76.9	Fair
C-	1.70	70.0 – 72.9	
D+	1.30	67.0 – 69.9	Poor
D	1.00	63.0 – 66.9	
D-	.70	60.0 – 62.9	
F	0.00	0 – 59.9	Failing