

# CHRISTIANITY

Tues and Thurs 13:05-14:25 (Sept 4-Dec 8)

**Timothy Pettipiece, PhD**

Office Hours: Tues and Thurs 2:30-3:30 or by appointment (Room 2A35 Paterson Hall)

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## **COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

This course will introduce students the history, literature, and teachings of the Christian tradition from its origins through to the modern period. Even though a number of (often challenging) theological themes and debates will be explored, the course is taught from a non-confessional, interdisciplinary perspective. Students are expected to engage with the material in a critical way and to ask some difficult questions about the nature and legacy of the Christian tradition. Emphasis will be placed on reading of selection of primary sources in their historical context.

## **TEXTBOOKS:**

Eusebius, *History of the Church* (Penguin)

Augustine, *Confessions* (OUP)

*Letters of Abelard and Heloise* (Penguin)

C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity* (HarperCollins)

## **EVALUATION:**

Midterm I **Sept 30** (20%)—multiple choice (Early Christianity)

Midterm II **Oct 23** (20%)—multiple choice (Christianity in Late Antiquity)

Midterm III **Nov 20** (20%)—multiple choice (Medieval Christianity)

Exam **TBA** (20%)—multiple choice (Modern Christianity)

Essay **Dec 2** (20%)—see below

## **ESSAY (20%)—1500 words**

For your written assignment, you are invited to write a review of a Christian-themed film (see list below). After viewing the trailers provided you should select a film from the list (no substitutes will be accepted) and seek out a copy to view (multiple times). Your review should address some of the following questions:

Who made the film and when?

What historical context does the film present?

Is it based on a work of fiction or is it an original screenplay?

What Christian ideas/themes are being presented in the film?

Are those ideas/themes being critiqued or endorsed?

How successfully does the film communicate its message?

Do the production values and/or performances enhance or detract from that message?

How was the film received by the public and/or critics?

In what ways does the film connect to the course readings?

NB: Several of these films deal with controversial and sometimes disturbing themes. As adults you are expected to deal with this material in a thoughtful manner.

## LECTURES & READINGS

Sept 4 no class

### Sept 9 EARLY CHRISTIANITY

Sept 11 Eusebius, *History of the Church*, Book 1-2

Sept 16 Eusebius, *History of the Church*, Book 3-4

Sept 18 Eusebius, *History of the Church*, Book 5-6

Sept 23 Eusebius, *History of the Church*, Book 7-8

Sept 25 Eusebius, *History of the Church*, Book 9-10

### Sept 30 midterm I

### Oct 2 CHRISTIANITY IN LATE ANTIQUITY

Oct 7 Augustine, *Confessions*, Book 1-2

Oct 9 Augustine, *Confessions*, Book 3-4

Oct 14 Augustine, *Confessions*, Book 5-6

Oct 16 Augustine, *Confessions*, Book 7-8

Oct 21 Augustine, *Confessions*, Book 9-10

### Oct 23 midterm II

### Nov 4 MEDIEVAL CHRISTIANITY

Nov 6 Peter Abelard, *Story of His Misfortunes*

Nov 11 Personal Letters of Abelard and Heloise

Nov 13 Letters of Direction of Abelard and Heloise

Nov 18 Letters of Peter the Venerable and Heloise

### Nov 20 midterm III

### Nov 25 MODERN CHRISTIANITY

Nov 27 C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*, Book 1

Dec 2 C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*, Book 2

Dec 4 C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*, Book 3-4

## LIST OF FILMS (w/ links to trailers)

The Name of the Rose <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7-yYJgpQ-CE>

The Last Temptation of Christ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qJKxg4p-Alk>

Black Robe <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hVfMsZMiSzY>

Ben-Hur <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LzfqVtmxVA>

The Agony and the Ecstasy <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0j8w1c0HyOE>

Agora <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RbuEhwselE0>

The Messenger <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6gv2p2WZoUE>

Jesus Christ Superstar <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MfTqTsKz5RA>

Godspell <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bJ9X7OHAMs0>

Chariots of Fire <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PWIe59ZHPIM>

The Mission <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dj-AKSwYS-I>

The Life of Brian <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vVHhg67RVd4>

Romero [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8G27jc6I\\_Zk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8G27jc6I_Zk)

Jesus of Montreal <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YXqJyR67Uis>

The Seventh Seal <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NtkFei4wRjE>

The Seventh Sign <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=24VwQYNDMQQ>

Passion of the Christ [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Aif1qEB\\_JU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Aif1qEB_JU)

## EMAIL COMMUNICATION

Carleton's Connect Mail is the official mode of email communication for all matters having to do with the university and with this course. All communications sent by Connect are official, and you are expected to get them. It is not an option to claim you did not get some announcement or request because you have another email address. You can configure your connect account to forward university emails to another address, but you must be reachable through your Connect account. Also, any communication between you and me involving your personal information (like grades) must originate from a Connect account (FIPPA).

## REGULATIONS COMMON TO ALL HUMANITIES COURSES

### COPIES OF WRITTEN WORK SUBMITTED

Always retain for yourself a copy of all essays, term papers, written assignments or take-home tests submitted in your courses.

### PLAGIARISM

The University Senate defines plagiarism as “*presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.*” This can include:

- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else’s published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one’s own without proper citation or reference to the original source;
- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another’s data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s works and/or failing to use quotation marks;
- handing in “*substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs.*”

Plagiarism is a serious offence which cannot be resolved directly with the course’s instructor. The Associate Deans of the Faculty conduct a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They can include a final grade of “F” for the course

### GRADING SYSTEM

Letter grades assigned in this course will have the following percentage equivalents:

A+ = 90-100 (12)	B = 73-76 (8)	C - = 60-62 (4)
A = 85-89 (11)	B- = 70-72 (7)	D+ = 57-59 (3)
A- = 80-84 (10)	C+ = 67-69 (6)	D = 53-56 (2)
B+ = 77-79 (9)	C = 63-66 (5)	D - = 50-52 (1)

F	Failure. Assigned 0.0 grade points
ABS	Absent from final examination, equivalent to F
DEF	Official deferral (see “Petitions to Defer”)
FND	Failure with no deferred exam allowed -- assigned only when the student has failed the course on the basis of inadequate term work as specified in the course outline.

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean.

### WITHDRAWAL WITHOUT ACADEMIC PENALTY

The last date to withdraw from **FALL TERM** courses is **DEC. 8, 2014**. The last day to withdraw from **FALL/WINTER (Full Term)** and **WINTER** term courses is **APRIL 8, 2015**.

### REQUESTS FOR ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term because of disability, pregnancy or religious obligations. Please review the course outline promptly and write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. You can visit the Equity Services website to view the policies and to obtain more detailed information on academic accommodation at: [carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/](http://carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/)

Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course must register with the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) for a formal evaluation of disability-related needs. Documented disabilities could include but not limited to mobility/physical impairments, specific Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/psychological disabilities, sensory disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), and chronic medical conditions. Registered PMC students are required to contact the PMC, 613-520-6608, every term to ensure that your Instructor receives your Letter of Accommodation, no later than two weeks before the first assignment is due or the first in-class test/midterm requiring accommodations. If you only require accommodations for your formally scheduled exam(s) in this course, please submit your request for accommodations to PMC by **Nov. 7, 2014** for the Fall term and **March 6, 2015** for the Winter term. For more details visit the Equity Services website: [carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/](http://carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/)

### PETITIONS TO DEFER

If you miss a final examination and/or fail to submit a **FINAL** assignment by the due date because of circumstances beyond your control, you may apply a deferral of examination/assignment. If you are applying for a deferral due to illness you will be required to see a physician in order to confirm illness and obtain a medical certificate dated no later than one working day after the examination or assignment deadline. This supporting documentation must specify the date of onset of the illness, the degree of incapacitation, and the expected date of recovery.

If you are applying for a deferral for reasons other than personal illness, please [contact](#) the Registrar’s Office directly for information on other forms of documentation that we accept.

Deferrals of assignments must be supported by confirmation of the assignment due date, for example a copy of the course outline specifying the due date and any documented extensions from the course instructor.

Deferral applications for examination or assignments must be submitted within **5 working days** of the original final exam.

### ADDRESSES: (Area Code 613)

College of the Humanities 520-2809	300 Paterson
Greek and Roman Studies Office 520-2809	300 Paterson
Religion Office 520-2100	2A39 Paterson
Registrar's Office 520-3500	300 Tory
Student Academic Success Centre 520-7850	302 Tory
Paul Menton Centre 520-6608/TTY 520-3937	501 Uni-Centre
Writing Tutorial Service 520-2600 Ext. 1125	4 <sup>th</sup> Floor Library
Learning Support Service 520-2600 Ext 1125	4 <sup>th</sup> Floor Library