

CARLETON UNIVERSITY
College of the Humanities - Religion Program

CHRISTIANTY 300-1500

RELI 2225A – (Fall 2015)

Professor Johannes C. Wolfart

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1) COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course is a survey of Christianity from (roughly) the time of the first Christian communities to (roughly) the beginning of the modern era. The aim is to introduce students to key concepts, doctrines and practices of the Christian traditions, all within an historical framework. Due to the nature of the survey course and the complexity and diversity of Christian history, we will actually only be studying very small samples from the Christian traditions. At the very least, students in this course should come to a greater appreciation of the diversity of the Christian traditions. It is a further aim of this course, however, to provide students with some more general frameworks for understanding Christianity historically (i.e. for locating the tiny bits of Christian history we manage to study in this course). Please note, finally, that while some of the worldviews studied in this course are explicitly theological, the academic procedures and critical methods employed in the academic study of religion are not. **This course presupposes your acceptance of the principles of the modern research university.** Your understanding of these, especially as they pertain to the study of religion, will undoubtedly develop further during this course.

2) EVALUATION – GENERAL INFORMATION

There are 5 evaluated components to this course (see below). You must complete 4 of them. The choice is yours. There will be no make-ups or extensions for missed assignments, tests or examinations; in some cases I expect that life circumstances will help you make your choice. Each component is worth 25% of your final grade.

THERE WILL BE NO MAKE-UP TESTS

YOUR WRITTEN WORK IS DUE AT THE BEGINNING OF CLASS ON THE DATE SPECIFIED. I will not accept late assignments. Exceptions will be made only in extreme cases (snow storm, documented medical emergency, etc.) or if an extension has been granted by me in writing (and for very good reasons of course) at least one week in advance of the due date.

3) EVALUATION - PARTICULAR COMPONENTS

- 1) First in-class test 24 September (Week IV)
- 2) First written assignment (primary source response), due 8 October (Week VI)
- 3) Second in-class test 12 November (Week X)
- 4) Second written assignment (secondary source response), due 26 November (Week XII)
- 5) Final examination (to be scheduled by examination services)

Further details will be communicated in assignment briefs and review guides posted to CULearn.

4) ACADEMIC REGULATIONS

Certainly, it is my aim as a teacher to get to know each one of you, to recognize your particular strengths and weaknesses, and to foster your individual intellectual development. At the same time, however, I am obliged also to treat every individual equally in certain key respects. As a

marker, therefore, I cannot take into consideration anything other than your actual performance on the items above. Furthermore, I am obliged to apply all policies of Carleton University and the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences equally. That means that academic integrity and plagiarism policies will be strictly observed (<http://www2.carleton.ca/studentaffairs/academic-integrity>)

PLEASE TAKE SPECIAL NOTE (these are taken straight from the policy manual)...

PLAGIARISM

The University Senate defines plagiarism as “*presenting, whether intentionally 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 that cannot be resolved directly by the course’s instructor. The Associate Dean of the Faculty conducts 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.

REQUESTS FOR ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows:

Pregnancy obligation: write to instructor 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. For more details see the Student Guide.

Religious obligation: write to instructor 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. For more details see the Student Guide.

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with instructor to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (if applicable).

5) LECTURES

This is a lecture course, which means that my oral presentation is the primary mode of communication. Nevertheless, we shall also devote a certain amount of time to discussion and question periods. Readings are a prerequisite and not a substitute for lecture material. You can expect the test and exam to be based primarily on material presented in class. Thus attendance is not optional but obligatory in this course. Lectures will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:35-9:55 in Room 282 of the University Centre.

Late arrivals are very distracting to both your fellow students and to me, so please be punctual. Finally, please be advised that I do not permit audio or A/V recording in my classes. It goes without saying, but PLEASE do switch off all electronic communication devices during class.

Finally, for obvious reasons we cannot and will not repeat lecture material in emails, so if you miss a class it is your responsibility to get lecture notes from a classmate (if you don't know anybody in the class, we may be able to facilitate an introduction).

6) READINGS

The assigned textbook for this course is Ralph Keen, *The Christian Tradition* (2004). This textbook is available from Octopus Books on Third Avenue (just off Bank – www.octopusbooks.ca). This book comes from a major publisher so you should be able to find a used copy online, if you wish. Ralph Keen is a serious and respected scholar and the textbook has many things to commend it. I especially like Keen's ability to combine high level of scholarly precision with relative simplicity and ease of use. Like all textbooks, however, this one also has some deficiencies (for example, it is unabashedly biased towards so-called western Christianity and is clearly pitched for the American market).

The weekly readings from the textbook will be augmented with primary source materials, generally available online.

Please note, finally, that readings are a prerequisite rather than a substitute for class attendance. Your ability to follow lectures and to participate effectively in question and discussion periods will depend on you keeping up with the reading. In my experience, student success in this course is directly correlated to class attendance.

7) OFFICE HOURS

Office hours will be held Tuesdays from 11-1pm.

8) E-MAIL COMMUNICATION

Carleton communications policy states that faculty must conduct email communications with students only through their Carleton accounts. Please be advised, further, that students can normally expect up to a 24hour turn-around time on e-mail communication, especially during high volume times (i.e. before examinations, at essay time, etc.).

9) CLASS SCHEDULE AND TOPICS

Week I (3 September) – General Introduction to the Course
Readings: None.

Themes: why things happen the way they do; why elephants don't do biology (and why it is relevant to our course); chaos theory and 'neo-humanist historiography'; the importance of questions.

Week II (8/10 September) – Basic Christian concepts and basic concepts in the academic study of Christianity.

Textbook Reading: Keen, 14-19.

Source Reading: John 1: 1-18; 1 John 1: 1-10.

(<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+1&version=NRSV>)

(<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1John+1&version=NRSV>)

Themes: God; Messiah; Witness (apostle); Fellowship; Prophecy; Revelation; Providential History; The challenges of talking about people who believed things we don't believe.

Week III (15/17 September) – Christianity and the Roman Empire: The conversion of Constantine, its context and its legacy.

Textbook Reading: Keen, 53-61.

Source Reading: Foundation of Constantinople; Canons of Nicea

(<http://legacy.fordham.edu/halsall/ancient/sozomen-constantinople1.asp>)

(<http://legacy.fordham.edu/halsall/source/nicea1-sel.asp>)

Themes: The Roman Empire; political authority and religious establishments; 'imperial Christianity'; what Constantine didn't do...

Week IV (22/24 September) – Christological controversy.

Textbook Reading: Keen, 61-66; 67-75 (recommended)

Source Reading: Nicene Creed; Dialogue with a Nestorian

(<http://legacy.fordham.edu/halsall/source/nicene Creed.asp>)

(<http://www.voskrese.info/spl/nisibtext.html>)

Themes: A uniquely Christian practice; an ongoing concern; Athanasius and Arius; monophysitism/miaphysitism/duophysitism; Syrian Christianity; the Armenian Church...

REMINDER: the first test takes place in-class on 24 September!

Week V (29 Sept/1 Oct) – Christian institutional hierarchy, for example "Papacy".

Textbook Reading : Keen, 77-87; 154-163.

Source Reading: Pope Gelasius's 'Two Swords'; The Bull 'clericis laicos'

(<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/gelasius1.asp>)

(<http://www.fordham.edu/Halsall/source/b8-clericos.asp>)

Week VI (6/8 October) – Christian monasticism (asceticism)

Textbook Reading: Keen, 67-75; 91-116; 165-177

Source Reading: Gregory's Pastoral Rule; Rule of St. Columba; Benedict's Rule

(<http://www.fordham.edu/Halsall/source/590greg1-pastoralrule2.asp>;

<http://legacy.fordham.edu/Halsall/source/columba-rule.asp>

<http://www.osb.org/rb/text/rbejms1.html> (see esp. ch.1, on the types of monks)

Themes: 'regular' v. 'secular' clergy; varieties of monastics (desert fathers, western cenobites; Celtic missionaries; the mendicant orders of the high middle ages; female monastics; 'lay orders'); a 'division of labours'

REMINDER: your first assignment is due at the beginning of class on 8 October!

- Week VII** (13/15 October) – Christianity and the Holy Roman Empire: The coronation of Charlemagne, its circumstances and legacy
 Textbook Reading: Keen, 87-90; 133-141.
 Source Reading: The coronation from various viewpoints; the institution of the ‘missi’ http://pirate.shu.edu/~wisterro/cdi/0800a_coronation_of_charlemagne.htm
<http://legacy.fordham.edu/Halsall/source/carol-missi1.asp>
 Themes: Germanic (‘barbarian’) culture versus Mediterranean culture; protection/patronage; the ‘Carolingian Renaissance’; a Christian Empire; Charles as ‘Pater Europae’
- Week VIII** (20/22 October) – Eastern (Orthodox) Christianity
 Textbook Reading: Keen, 125-126; 163-164.
 Sources: images to be posted on CULearn
 Themes: the bi-cultural Mediterranean; the bi-focal empire; the Schism of Photios; the iconoclastic controversy; the Great Schism of 1054; the Greek missions to the Slavs; the Fall of Constantinople 1453; the ‘autocephalic’ model.
- Week IX** (3/5 November) – The Crusades, for example the First Crusade
 Textbook Reading: Keen, 126-128
 Source Reading: Pope Urban’s speech to the Council of Clermont; Fulcher’s account of the siege of Jerusalem; Salomon Bar Samson on the massacre at Mainz; the Autobiography of Usamah Ibn Munqidh
<http://legacy.fordham.edu/Halsall/source/urban2-5vers.asp>
<http://legacy.fordham.edu/Halsall/source/fulcher-cde.asp#capture>
<http://legacy.fordham.edu/Halsall/source/1096jews-mainz.asp>
<http://legacy.fordham.edu/Halsall/source/Usamah2.asp>
 Themes: Just war theology; ideology of Christendom; militant Christianity; feudal society
- Week X** (10/12 November) – Mystical traditions of medieval Christianity in the West.
 Textbook Reading: Keen, 187-199.
 Source Reading: Saint Birgitta of Sweden (prologue and Ch. 30); Margery Kempe
https://en.wikisource.org/wiki/The_Revelations_of_Saint_Birgitta#The_Revelations_of_Saint_Birgitta
<http://www.luminarium.org/medlit/kempe1.htm>
 Themes: scholastic theology and mystical knowledge; personal religious experience and the Church; modes of mystical expression; mysticism and Christian women
REMINDER: the second test takes place in-class on 12 November!
- Week XI** (17/19 November) – Lay Piety and Devotional Practice in the West
 Textbook Reading: Keen, 165-186.
 Sources: images via CULearn
 Themes: relic cults; pilgrimage; Corpus Christi processions; the Black Death and disciplinati.
- Week XII** (24/26 November) – Heresies and heresiology.
 Textbook Reading: None.
 Source Reading: Canon 63 of Lateran IV; Bernardo Gui’s ‘manual’; Jan Hus’s last words
<http://legacy.fordham.edu/Halsall/source/lat4-c3.asp>
<http://legacy.fordham.edu/Halsall/source/bernardgui-inq.asp>
<http://legacy.fordham.edu/halsall/mod/1415janhus.asp>

Themes: origins of persecution in antiquity; the ‘science’ of heresy; medieval inquisition; the Crusade against the Cathars; the example of Jan Hus (d. 1415).

REMINDER: your second assignment is due at the beginning of class on 24 November

Week XIII (1/3 December) – The structures of Gothic Christianity (including actual architectural structures)

Textbook Reading: None

Source Reading: Thomas Aquinas’s *Summa Theologiae* (excerpt); Marsilius of Padua’s *Defensor Pacis* (excerpt); University of Paris Statutes; Foundation of Heidelberg University; images via CULearn.

<http://legacy.fordham.edu/Halsall/source/aquinas1.asp>

<http://legacy.fordham.edu/Halsall/source/marsiglio4.asp>

<http://legacy.fordham.edu/Halsall/source/courcon1.asp>

<http://legacy.fordham.edu/Halsall/source/1386heidelberg.asp>

Themes: cathedral schools and universities (eg Cambridge University); Aquinas and Aristotle; urban art and architecture; Papal schism and conciliarism

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

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- 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. 7, 2015**. The last day to withdraw from **FALL/WINTER (Full Term)** and **WINTER** term courses is **APRIL 8, 2016**.

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/

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. 6, 2015** for the Fall term and **March 6, 2016** for the Winter term. For more details visit the Equity Services website: 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 a final assignment or take home, in courses without a final examination, 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 th Floor Library
Learning Support Service 520-2600 Ext 1125	4 th Floor Library