

THE CONTENT OF THIS DESCRIPTION IS NOT A LEARNING CONTRACT AND THE INSTRUCTOR IS NOT BOUND TO IT. IT IS OFFERED IN GOOD FAITH AND INTENDED AS A HELPFUL GUIDE TO THE STUDENT. THE OFFICIAL COURSE SYLLABUS WILL BE PROVIDED AT THE FIRST CLASS.

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**TITLE:** Early Church History

**TERM:** F **YEAR:** 20119 [September to December 2011]

**PROFESSOR:** Dr. Peter Meehan

**REGISTRATION:** UNLIMITED

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course offers an opportunity to explore the history of the Christian Church from its origins in Judaism through to its monastic expansion beyond the boundaries of the Western Roman Empire in the sixth and seventh centuries. It will examine the conflicts, individuals, social movements and theologies that shaped Christianity during this formative period.

**COURSE OUTCOMES OR OBJECTIVES:**

To synthesize an historical perspective on the primary themes, figures and events in Early Christianity; to teach an understanding of how to read, interpret and analyze primary and secondary sources relating to Early Christianity; to learn to write a historical, analytical and argumentative paper relating to themes and topics in Early Christianity.

**PREREQUISITES:** None

**REQUIRED TEXTS:**

Chadwick, Henry The Penguin History of the Church 1: The Early Church (Revised). Penguin Books. 1993. Students will be required to purchase a collection of documents and readings to supplement the core text for this course.

**POSSIBLE ASSIGNMENTS/PRESENTATIONS/TESTS:**

- Two Document Analyses (30%)
- Seminar Presentation (15%)
- Seminar Paper (25%)
- Final Examination (30%)

**SUGGESTED READING**

- , Early Christian Lives. Penguin Classics
- Eusebius, Church History. Penguin Classics
- Lane Fox, Robin. Pagans and Christians. Harper: 1986.
- St. Augustine, Confessions and The City of God