



## Introduction to Church History (HIS131) Course Syllabus

### I. Learning outcomes for HIS131

HIS131 will introduce students in the history of the Christian church from the patristic period to the reformation.

### II. Required Reading

Bruce Shelley, *Church History in Plain Language*, 4<sup>th</sup> Ed. (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2012).

### III. Lectures

Everett Ferguson, *Church History*

### IV. Assignments

Written assignments should be turned in together at the close of a course.

1. Read *Church History in Plain Language* in its entirety.
2. Watch/Listen to lectures 1-24.
3. Write a two-page double spaced reflection paper on a topic of interest in the assigned reading.

A reflection paper identifies the subject(s) under consideration and gives a summarization of your reaction to the material with evidence from the material to support your suppositions. Reflection papers answer the questions “Did you agree with the claims of the author?,” “What did you learn?,” “What misconceptions did you have that the author helped you correct?” Footnote all citations. For further help consult [How to Write a Reflection Paper](#).

4. Write a five to eight-page double-spaced research paper on the Christological controversies of the first five Christian centuries. You may choose to write on a specific aspect, whether theological or historical, or upon a specific person who played a noteworthy role within the relevant period.

This paper should include at least five written works aside from the assigned reading. Footnote all citations and provide both a cover page and a works cited page. Consult either the *Chicago Manual of Style* or Turabian for questions of citation and pagination.