THE EARLY CHURCH FALL 2022

TS 649

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CLASS SCHEDULE

Section	Location	Time	Instructor(s)
TS 649 001 *[LEC]*	CGR 2201	Tuesdays 9 a.m. - 11:50 a.m.	Alicia Batten abatten@uwaterloo.ca
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INSTRUCTOR / TA INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Alicia Batten

Classroom: CGR 2201

Office: CGR 2124

Email: abatten@uwaterloo.ca (best way of contacting me)

Phone: 519 885-0220 x24246

Office Hours: Mondays, 11:30-12:30 and by appointment

Territorial Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that we are living and working on the traditional territory of the Attawandaron (also known as the Neutral), Anishnaabe and Haudenosaunee peoples. The University of Waterloo is situated on the Haldimand Tract, the land promised to the Six Nations that includes ten kilometres on each side of the Grand River.

For more information about the purpose of traditional acknowledgements, please see the Canadian Association of University Teachers Guide to Acknowledging Traditional Territory (https://www.caut.ca/content/guide-acknowledging-first-peoples-traditional-territory (https://www.caut.ca/content/guide-acknowledging-first-peoples-traditional-territory)).

COURSE DESCRIPTION

> *Calendar Description for TS 649*
>
> This course centres on developments in the Christian tradition from roughly the second to the fifth century. In particular, it examines the diversity of ways of being "Christian" during this period with attention to topics such as ritual, canon, ecclesiology, soteriology, gender, and ethics. Primary texts are at the forefront of the course.

The course is a seminar. However, there will be some lectures (Socratic style) throughout the semester in order to provide historical background to our readings. Students are expected to attend class having completed the reading, prepared notes, and ready to present their questions and comments (emerging especially from the reading reports).

LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of this course students should be able to:

Demonstrate an understanding of the diversity among ancient Christ followers, including those who eventually became marginalized.
Understand the complexity of canon formation and the range of ways of interpreting scripture in the early church.
Demonstrate an understanding of some of the major early Christian debates about theological topics such as Christology, anthropology, soteriology etc ….
Demonstrate knowledge of early Christian approaches to ritual and practice, including monastic and ascetic practice.
Further develop reading, writing, research, oral communication and critical thinking skills.
Interpret ancient Christian texts and traditions in light of present contexts and questions.
This course contributes to the common objectives of the MTS program, which are: 1) Demonstrate skills in effective communication; 2) Demonstrate knowledge of Christianity from a variety of perspectives [in this case, that of church history]; 3) Engage scholarship through research and critical analysis of primary sources and contemporary scholarly debates; 4) Interpret Christian texts and traditions in light of present contexts; 5) … attend to the voices of the marginalized [in the ancient world]; 6) Increase capacity for intercultural competence [ancient Christians were from the Middle East, the African continent, Greece etc..]; 7) Nurture personal formation, especially through a diverse community of learning; 8) Enhance capacity for life-long learning.

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

Date	Class Topics	Reading for Class	Assignment Due
Sept 13	Introductions. Overview of the course. Why study the early church?	**Reading:** C. Chin's article, "Marvelous Things Heard" (distributed by instructor and on LEARN). Come prepared to discuss the article and bring any questions you have about the course.	Review syllabus and LEARN page.

Sept 20	The Spread of the Church, Persecution, Martyrdom, Defense, Jews and Gentiles	**Reading**: ANT, pages 1-10; *Justin's Dialogue with Trypho* (#3)*;* ANT, pages 26-28; *Pliny's Letter to Trajan* (#4)*; Letter of Ignatius to the Romans* (#5)*; Martyrdom of Polycarp* (#6)*; Martyrdom of Perpetua and Felicitas* (#9)*;* ANT, pages 56-58; *Celsus* (#11)*; Justin's First Apology* (#13)*; Origen: Against Celsus* (#17)*;* ANT, pages 111-113; *Epistle of Barnabas* (#18)*; Justin: Dialogue with Trypho* (#19)	**Submit** Reading Report to LEARN Dropbox prior to class and bring the report to class (hard copy or on your computer).
Sept 27	Diversity in the church, Heresiology, Emergence of "proto-orthodox" Christ followers	**Reading**: ANT, pages 148-51; *Gospel of the Ebionites* (#22); *Homilies of Clement* (#24); ANT, pages 162-65; *The Secret Book of John* (#25); ANT, pages 188-89; *Gospel of Philip* (#30); ANT, pages 202-03; *Hymn of the Pearl* (#31); ANT, page 211; *The Wisdom of Jesus Christ* (#34); ANT, pages 224-27; *Irenaeus: Against the Heresies* (#35); *Tertullian: On the Flesh of Christ* (#37); ANT, page 259; *The Coptic Apocalypse of Peter* (#39); ANT, page 529-31; *Origen: On First Principles* (#94); *Dionysius of Rome: Letter to Dionysius of Alexandria* (#96)	**Submit** Reading Report to LEARN Dropbox prior to class and bring the report to class (hard copy or on your computer).
Oct 4	Canonization - Guest lecture by Dr. Tony Burke, York University	**Reading**: ANT, pages 267-69; choose **two** of the following gospels from ANT (but read them all if you have time): *Proto-Gospel of James* (#41); *The Infancy Gospel of Thomas* (#42); *The Gospel of Thomas* (#43); *The Gospel of Judas* (#44); *The Gospel of Peter* (#45); *The Gospel of Mary* (#46); ANT 309; choose **one** of the following apocryphal acts from ANT (but read them all if you have time): *The Acts of Thomas* (#48); *The Acts of Peter* (#49); *The Acts of Paul* (#50); *The Acts of John* (#51); ANT, page 336; *The Correspondence Between Paul and Seneca* (#55); ANT, page 344; *The Apocalypse of Peter* (#56); ANT, pages 365-66; *The Muratorian Canon* (#59); *Irenaeus: Against the Heresies* (#60); *Origen of Alexandria* (#61); *Eusebius: Ecclesiastical History* (#62)	**Submit** Reading Report to LEARN Dropbox prior to class and bring the report to class (hard copy or on your computer).
Oct 11	No class. Reading week.	Work ahead on reading and assignments.	Nothing due.

Oct 18	Early Church Practices: Scriptural interpretation, Ritual, Ethics, Gender	**Reading**: ANT, pages 373-375; *Ptolemy's Letter to Flora* (#63); *Origen: Commentary on John* (#66); ANT, pages 457-59; *The Didache* (#77); *Justin: First Apology* (#78); *Tertullian: On the Crown* (#80); *The Didascalia* (#82); ANT, 505-06; *The Didache* (#90); *Clement of Alexandria: "The Educator"* (#91); *Tertullian: To His Wife* (#92); CLA, pages 475-77, *Acts of Thecla* (#83); *Women Montanist Prophets* (#89)	**Submit** Reading Report to LEARN Dropbox prior to class and bring the report to class (hard copy or on your computer).
Oct 25	How to Live: Christianity and Empire, Becoming a Christian, Asceticism and Monasticism	**Reading**: CLA, "General Introduction," pages 1-7; CLA, pages 78-79; *Augustine: Confessions* (#11); CLA, page 107; *John Chrysostom: Second Baptismal Instruction* (#15); CLA, pages 268-69; *Pachomian Rules* (#38); *Sayings of the Desert Fathers* (#39); *Antony: Letters* (#40); CLA, pages 366-67; choose **one** of the following "lives:" *Athanasius: Life of Antony* (#46) OR *Life of Pelagia* (#49); *History of the Monks of Egypt* (#48)	**Submit** Reading Report to LEARN Dropbox prior to class and bring the report to class (hard copy or on your computer). **Submit** annotated bibliography for research project to the LEARN dropbox by **Friday, October 28th**

Nov 1	Theological Conflicts Students will also briefly share (5 minutes) what they are working on for their research papers	**Reading**: CLA, 155-56; <u>The Trinity</u>, CLA, 157-58; *Arius: Thalia* (#20); *Alexander of Alexandria: Letter to Alexander of Constantinople* (#21); *Arius: Letter to Alexander of Alexandria* (#22); <u>Christology</u>, CLA, 178-79; *Nestorius: Letter to Cyril of Alexandria* (#24); *Cyril of Alexandria: Third Letter to Nestorius* (#25); CLA, 242-43; *Creed and Council of Nicaea* (#33); *Creed and Council of Constantinople* (#34); *Definition and Canons of Chalcedon* (#36)	**Submit** Reading Report to LEARN Dropbox prior to class and bring the report to class (hard copy or on your computer).
Nov 8	Theological Conflicts cont'd	**Reading**: <u>The Nature of Humanity</u>, 189; *Athanasius: On the Incarnation of the Word* (#26); *Jerome: Letter to Ctesiphon (Against Pelagius)* (#27); <u>The Nature of the Church</u>, 211; *Augustine: Sermon on the Dispute with the Donatists* (#29); <u>Judaizing Heresies</u>, page 226; choose either *John Chrysostom: First Speech Against the Judaizers* (#30) **OR** *Epiphanius: Medicine Chest Against Heresies: The Nazoreans* (#31)	**Submit** Reading Report to LEARN Dropbox prior to class and bring the report to class (hard copy or on your computer).
Nov 15	Pilgrims, Relics, Holy Places, and Early Christian Art	**Reading**: CLA, pages 331-32; *Egeria: Travel Journal* (#42); *Victorinus of Rouen: In Praise of the Saints* (#44); CLA, pages 466-67; *Paulinus of Nola: Song on Felix's Church* (#57); CLA, pages 474-480.	**Submit** Reading Report to LEARN Dropbox prior to class and bring the report to class (hard copy or on your computer).
Nov 22	No class (instructor away).	Work on research presentations.	Nothing due.

Nov 29	Five student presentations.	Work on research papers/presentations.	Nothing due.
Dec 6	Final Class. Five student presentations.	Work on research papers/presentations.	**Submit** final research paper to the LEARN Dropbox by **Tuesday, December 13th.**

TEXTS / MATERIALS

Title / Name	Notes / Comments	Required
Ehrman, Bart D., After the New Testament. A Reader in Early Christianity 100-300 CE. 2nd edition. New York and Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2015. ISBN: 9780195398922 (abbreviated in the syllabus as ANT)	You may order this through the UWaterloo bookstore. One copy is on one day reserve in the Milton Library.	Yes
Ehrman, Bart D., and Andrew Jacobs, Christianity in Late Antiquity. 300-450 CE. A Reader. New York and Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2004. ISBN: 0195154614 (abbreviated in the syllabus as CLA)	You may order this through the UWaterloo bookstore. One copy is on one day reserve in the Milton Library.	Yes
Lössl, Josef. The Early Church. History and Memory. London: T & T Clark, 2010. (One copy on reserve in the Grebel library and copies available for purchase in the bookstore). You are not required to read this book but I will use it as a basis for some of the lectures.	You may order this through the UWaterloo bookstore. One copy is on one day reserve in the Milton Library. It is optional.	No

The course reading consists mainly of primary texts from the Ehrman and Ehrman and Jacobs readers as well as their introductory materials. You will need to consult secondary materials for your research paper. The readers do contain some excellent bibliography, so they are a good starting place.

Occasionally I will post optional secondary readings to the LEARN page that you may wish to read during the semester or later on.

There is also a Theological Studies subject guide, produced by the librarian and archivist at CGR, Laureen Harder Gissing. Here is the link. (https://subjectguides.uwaterloo.ca/theostudies)

Various websites are also useful as starting off places in search of sources.

1. *Oxford Bibliographies Online: Classics* - "Christianity, Early" by Eric Rebillard. This bibliographic resource is available through the UWaterloo library here (https://www-oxfordbibliographies-com.proxy.lib.uwaterloo.ca/view/document/obo-9780195389661/obo-9780195389661-0011.xml?rskey=Qk80K9&result=57) .
2. The *North American Patristics Society* (NAPS) has a good web page of resources (https://www.patristics.org/news-item/resources/) .
3. For the full texts of many of the excerpts we read, you can check out Early Christian Writings (https://www.earlychristianwritings.com/) . This site also has some bibliography.
4. There are also searchable databases of early Christian writers in Latin and Greek, the *Patrologia Graeca* and the *Patrologia Latina*. The latter is available online through the UWaterloo library while the former is at the Dana Porter library (161 volumes).

STUDENT ASSESSMENT

Component	Value
Attendance and participation in class are expected unless you are ill or have an emergency. Please let the instructor know if you have to miss class. Missing class for no good reason may result in a reduction of your overall mark for the course.	
Reading Reports - These are due to the LEARN dropbox prior to class. See separate page for further instruction.	5% each x 8 = 40%
Annotated Bibliography for Research Paper - See separate instructions.	15% - due Friday, October 28th to the LEARN Dropbox
30 minute class presentation of research - see separate instuctions.	15% - This will be in-class, either Nov 26th or Dec 6th.
Final Research Paper - See separate instructions.	30% - due Tuesday, December 13th to the LEARN Dropbox

This course uses a LEARN page. Please submit all written assignments to the appropriate Dropbox.

ASSIGNMENT SCREENING

No assignment screening will be used in this course.

ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY

ASSIGNMENT POLICIES

There is a late penalty of a 2% reduction per day late on assignments.

If, for a legitimate reason such as illness or an emergency, you cannot submit your assignment on time, please let me know.

Here is a link (https://ugradcalendar.uwaterloo.ca/page/Acad-Regs-Accommodations) to the Accommodations policy page at the Univeristy of Waterloo.

Please note that *no assignments will be accepted after December 20th, 2022.*

COVID ISSUES

Masks are currently not required in class (but the university could bring back the mask requirement). The university has stated the following regarding masks: "We continue to strongly encourage you to think of the people around you and help limit the spread of COVID by wearing a mask. Wearing a mask is an easy way to protect yourself and the people around you against most airborne diseases. When you are in close contact with others, we strongly encourage you to consider wearing a tight-fitting, multi-layer mask. A medical-style mask is best."

If we need to cancel in-person class due to Covid, we may have to move to using Zoom (and continue at the same time). I cannot unilaterally move the class online, however, without consultation with the dean and university.

If you are experiencing Covid symptoms, please do not attend class. You should declare your illness on Quest. Instructions about how to self-declare illness or the need to self-isolate are the following: In the event of absence due to influenza-like illness or required self-isolation, students shall submit an Illness Self-declaration. Students can find the Illness Self-declaration form in the Personal Information section of Quest (https://uwaterloo.ca/quest/help/students/how-do-i/self-declare-my-illness) . A doctor's note for accommodation is not required. Direct students to contact the COVID-19 Support and Advice line (https://uwaterloo.ca/campus-wellness/covid-19-testing-assessment-centre/covid-19-support-and-advice) to report their illness.

If you have to miss class because you become ill or need to self-isolate, I will work with you individually to accommodate the missed class time. Please speak to me about this.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Students should be aware that this course contains the intellectual property of their instructor, TA, and/or the University of Waterloo.

Intellectual property includes items such as:

- Lecture content, spoken and written (and any audio/video recording thereof);
- Lecture handouts, presentations, and other materials prepared for the course (e.g., PowerPoint slides);
- Questions or solution sets from various types of assessments (e.g., assignments, quizzes, tests, final exams); and

- Work protected by copyright (e.g., any work authored by the instructor or TA or used by the instructor or TA with permission of the copyright owner).

Course materials and the intellectual property contained therein, are used to enhance a student's educational experience. However, sharing this intellectual property without the intellectual property owner's permission is a violation of intellectual property rights. For this reason, it is necessary to ask the instructor, TA and/or the University of Waterloo for permission before uploading and sharing the intellectual property of others online (e.g., to an online repository).

Permission from an instructor, TA or the University is also necessary before sharing the intellectual property of others from completed courses with students taking the same/similar courses in subsequent terms/years. In many cases, instructors might be happy to allow distribution of certain materials. However, doing so without expressed permission is considered a violation of intellectual property rights.

Please alert the instructor if you become aware of intellectual property belonging to others (past or present) circulating, either through the student body or online. The intellectual property rights owner deserves to know (and may have already given their consent).

CHOSEN/PREFERRED FIRST NAME

Do you want professors and interviewers to call you by a different first name? Take a minute now to verify or tell us your chosen/preferred first name by logging into WatIAM (https://idm.uwaterloo.ca/watiam/) .

Why? Starting in winter 2020, your chosen/preferred first name listed in WatIAM will be used broadly across campus (e.g., LEARN, Quest, WaterlooWorks, WatCard, etc). Note: Your legal first name will always be used on certain official documents. For more details, visit Updating Personal Information (https://uwaterloo.ca/the-centre/updating-personal-information) .

Important notes

- If you included a preferred name on your OUAC application, it will be used as your chosen/preferred name unless you make a change now.
- If you don't provide a chosen/preferred name, your legal first name will continue to be used.

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT

All of us need a support system. The faculty and staff in Arts encourage students to seek out mental health support if they are needed.

On Campus

Due to COVID-19 and campus closures, services are available only online or by phone.

- Counselling Services: counselling.services@uwaterloo.ca (mailto:counselling.services@uwaterloo.ca) / 519-888-4567 ext. 32655
- MATES (https://wusa.ca/services/uw-mates) : one-to-one peer support program offered by the Waterloo Undergraduate Student Association (WUSA) and Counselling Services

Off campus, 24/7

- Good2Talk (https://good2talk.ca/) : Free confidential help line for post-secondary students. Phone: 1-866-925-5454
- Grand River Hospital: Emergency care for mental health crisis. Phone: 519-749-4300 ext. 6880
- Here 24/7 (https://here247.ca/) : Mental Health and Crisis Service Team. Phone: 1-844-437-3247

- OK2BME (https://ok2bme.ca/) : set of support services for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or questioning teens in Waterloo. Phone: 519-884-0000 extension 213

Full details can be found online on the Faculty of Arts website (https://uwaterloo.ca/arts/get-mental-health-support-when-you-need-it)

Download UWaterloo and regional mental health resources (PDF) (https://uwaterloo.ca/arts/sites/ca.arts/files/uploads/files/counselling_services_overview_002.pdf)

Download the WatSafe app (https://uwaterloo.ca/watsafe/) to your phone to quickly access mental health support information.

ACADEMIC FREEDOM AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO

Policy 33, Ethical Behaviour (https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-33) states, as one of its general principles (Section 1), "The University supports academic freedom for all members of the University community. Academic freedom carries with it the duty to use that freedom in a manner consistent with the scholarly obligation to base teaching and research on an honest and ethical quest for knowledge. In the context of this policy, 'academic freedom' refers to academic activities, including teaching and scholarship, as is articulated in the principles set out in the Memorandum of Agreement between the FAUW and the University of Waterloo, 1998 (Article 6). The academic environment which fosters free debate may from time to time include the presentation or discussion of unpopular opinions or controversial material. Such material shall be dealt with as openly, respectfully and sensitively as possible." This definition is repeated in Policies 70 and 71, and in the Memorandum of Agreement, Section 6.

UNIVERSITY POLICY

Academic integrity: In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo community are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility. [Check the Office of Academic Integrity (https://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/) for more information.]

Grievance: A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of their university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read Policy 70, Student Petitions and Grievances, Section 4 (https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-70) . When in doubt, please be certain to contact the department's administrative assistant who will provide further assistance.

Discipline: A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity to avoid committing an academic offence, and to take responsibility for their actions. [Check the Office of Academic Integrity (https://uwaterloo.ca/academic-integrity/) for more information.] A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offence, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offences (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about "rules" for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course instructor, academic advisor, or the undergraduate associate dean. For information on categories of offences and types of penalties, students should refer to Policy 71, Student Discipline (https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-71) . For typical penalties, check Guidelines for the Assessment of Penalties (https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/guidelines/guidelines-assessment-penalties) .

Appeals: A decision made or penalty imposed under Policy 70, Student Petitions and Grievances (https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-70) (other than a petition) or Policy 71, Student Discipline (https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-71) may be appealed if

there is a ground. A student who believes they have a ground for an appeal should refer to Policy 72, Student Appeals (https://uwaterloo.ca/secretariat/policies-procedures-guidelines/policy-72) .

Note for students with disabilities: AccessAbility Services (https://uwaterloo.ca/disability-services/) , located in Needles Hall, Room 1401, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with AccessAbility Services at the beginning of each academic term.

Turnitin.com: Text matching software (Turnitin®) may be used to screen assignments in this course. Turnitin® is used to verify that all materials and sources in assignments are documented. Students' submissions are stored on a U.S. server, therefore students must be given an alternative (e.g., scaffolded assignment or annotated bibliography), if they are concerned about their privacy and/or security. Students will be given due notice, in the first week of the term and/or at the time assignment details are provided, about arrangements and alternatives for the use of Turnitin in this course.

It is the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor if they, in the first week of term or at the time assignment details are provided, wish to submit alternate assignment.