All precourse assignments should be emailed to the Course of Study office by May 1, 2015.

Course Description and Outcomes
This course focuses on major movements and events beginning with the split between Eastern and Western forms of Christianity and continuing through the Reformation. Using primary sources, students will reflect on individuals, decisive events, and theological developments.

Students will be able to:
1. Understand major theological developments in medieval Christianity leading up to the reformation.
2. Distinguish the theological characteristics of Luther, Zwingli, the Anabaptists, Calvin, the English Reformation, and Puritanism.
3. Understand and articulate reformation era debates around justification, sanctification, the sacraments, and church unity.

Required Textbooks

Course Expectation and Grading
1. Precourse Work [50% of total grade]
2. Class participation and preparation [10%]
3. Reading Reflection [30%]
4. Final “Top Ten” List [10%]

Precourse Assignments
Precourse Work [50% of total grade]
Reading Assignments
First read Part 3 (“Medieval Christianity”) in the first González book (Vol 1: pp.263-445), Parts 1-2 the second Gonzalez book (Vol 2: pp. 1-292), and then all of the McGrath book (Chapters 1-14). Note that you are not asked to read Vol 1, Part 4, or Vol 2, Part 3 of the González books.

Both of the textbooks for this course give you historical and theological information. González tends more to emphasize the Reformation’s history. McGrath’s book, as the title suggests,
focuses more on the thought and the theological contributions of the reformers. You will probably find the González text a little easier to read, the McGrath book nonetheless “assumes that the reader knows nothing about the Christian theology which underlies the Reformation, and explains what [all of the] terms...mean, and why they are of religious and social relevance” (McGrath, xii).

ASSIGNMENT 1 (four typed pages)
Write a short, four page, narrative history of the Protestant Reformation in the 16th Century that incorporates at least eight (8) of the “events” listed in the far right column in the “Chronology” that is printed at the beginning of Part I in your González book, Volume 2 (unnumbered pages 2-5). You will probably find González Vol 2, Part I to be most helpful in this assignment.

Please note that you are not asked to produce an exhaustive record that mentions every single detail about these events. Instead, try to provide a kind of general overview, arranging and describing at least eight of the events in the “Chronology” (and others you want to include). Your overview should briefly describe the nature and significance of the different events, and link them in a coherent historical narrative, e.g., “this event led to two other important events in the early history of Lutheranism ...” The purpose of this assignment is to deepen your understanding of the sequence and relationship of important events during the Protestant Reformation in the 16th Century. It will be a challenge to describe and connect eight or more events in four pages, so be precise and specific in your narrative!

ASSIGNMENT 2 (four typed pages)
A significant amount of your reading focused on Medieval Christianity, and especially the relationship between Medieval Christianity and Reformation Christianity. You have read why the Reformation(s) of the sixteenth century might be understood as a development of Medieval doctrine, politics, and society. You will also have read about the religious and other cultural dissimilarities that begin to develop during the Reformation era, in comparison to the Middle Ages.

In a brief, four page homily, focus on both the continuity and discontinuity between the Middle Ages and the Reformation Era. The function of this brief sermon is to cause your audience to reflect both on the similarities and dissimilarities between these two historical eras (Medieval and Reformation), and also the nature of our own contemporary historical era in the twenty-first century. Note that this does not require you to compare our contemporary eras to the past eras point by point. The specific direction and application of your sermon is for you to decide, but it must clearly reference at least three specific continuities, and three specific discontinuities, between Medieval and Reformation Christianity, citing page numbers in our textbook(s) as evidence of their existence. The comparison(s) and/or application(s) to our contemporary era should be specific and concrete, explicitly referencing your local church or related local circumstances.

ASSIGNMENT 3 (three typed pages)
You will notice that the McGrath textbook presents Martin Luther’s and John Calvin’s theological insights in separate chapters – one devoted to their concept of justification, another to the sacraments, another to their view of the church and so on. Write a three-page essay in which you pull together all these various aspects of Luther’s and Calvin’s reforming
insights. In other words, take what the textbook has separated and combine the most essential features into a single, short essay on these great reformers’ thought.

Notice once again that you are asked to be selective; don’t think that you must reproduce every detail of the textbook. In the same way, don’t go into detail about their biographies; focus on their theological reforms.

You should use McGrath’s book as your primary resource for this essay, but supplement it with material from González as you see fit.

**ASSIGNMENT 4 (two typed pages)**

Write a two (2) page letter addressed to a sympathetic acquaintance, (perhaps a friend or family member), in which you seek to explain your own religious beliefs and/or practices (the specific beliefs and/or practices are yours to choose) through mention and description of at least four (4) persons, groups, or events in Part II of the González book (pp. 167-292). Unlike the assignment above, these do not need to be listed in the introductory “Chronology” (p. 168ff). The goal is for you to better understand and communicate your own theological voice through historical identification and description of the “orthodoxies, rationalism, and pietism” that are reported in Part II of the González book. You can agree or disagree with the persons, groups, or events you mention. You can, of course, mention individuals and events in the section on “John Wesley and Methodism” (264-274), but these should not take up the majority of your letter. Here are two examples:

*Example #1:* …My own belief and practice that alcohol should be consumed in moderation is similar to the beliefs of many 17th century Puritans, who were opposed to drunkenness but did not disallow alcohol in the Christian’s life (González, page #). For me this means specifically…

*Example #2:* …I have come to a belief that the incarnation of Christ is essential to our understanding and practice of baptism and communion. In this I seem to disagree with the beliefs of George Fox and the Quakers in the 17th century, whose spiritualism led them to deemphasize the importance of these sacraments, since they might distract from the truly spiritual (González, page #). I understand the sentiment of Fox and his followers, who were seeking to remove obstacles to the Spirit, but I believe that…

[This concludes the Precourse work section of the syllabus. Please bring your printed syllabus to the first class; the instructor will not provide printed copies. Note in the schedule (7/13) below that a one-page reading reflection is due the first day of class, in addition to the precourse work.]

**Course Assignments**

**Reading Reflection [30%]**

There are six online readings assigned in the class schedule. After each reading, prepare a one-page reflection paper that includes the following four elements: 1) the author and title of the reading, 2) a brief, 1-2 sentence summary of the reading, 3) identification of an especially important assertion, attitude, or action that you see present in the reading, and 4) a specific, concrete application of this assertion, attitude, or action within your local church or civic community. Your paper will be graded on your ability to succinctly summarize the main purpose of the reading, to recognize a historically or theologically significant aspect of the writing, and to apply this insight in a practical way to present-day circumstances and
challenges in your particular locale. The first of these reading reflections is due on the first day of class. (See class schedule below).

**Final “Top Ten” List [10%].**
For the last day of class, prepare a “top-ten” list (no more than two-pages) that addresses the following statement in ranked order (with #1 being the most important): Top ten reasons that the Reformation shapes or challenges my theology.

You will have the opportunity to present this list to the group during our final class. This top-ten list will be graded based on the extent to which it accurately and specifically refers to aspects of the Reformation (e.g., a person, event, idea, teaching, or action), and explicitly describes the effect on your theology. Additional explanation and instructions will be provided during the first day of classes.

*For example:*

“The Decrees of the Council of Trent have led me to believe that justification is not by faith alone, but by faith and love.”

“The relationship between boisterous Luther and irenic Melanchthon has reminded me of the importance of friendship within ministry and has challenged me to seek out more friends – even those quite different than me – in my service to God.”

**Course Schedule**

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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Main Topic</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>July 13</td>
<td>Introduction and Late Middle Ages</td>
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Assignment due on this date: PRIOR TO THE FIRST CLASS, read the following three online readings. Complete a reading reflection on only one of the readings (your choice), bringing the one page printed reflection to our first class.

- Aquinas on *Unnatural Sex* [http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/aquinas-homo.asp](http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/aquinas-homo.asp)

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<th>Tues</th>
<th>July 14</th>
<th>Contexts of “The Reformation,” Waldensians and Humanists</th>
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Assignment due on this date: Read the following two online readings. Complete a reading reflection on only one of the readings (your choice).

- **First two chapters** of Erasmus’ *Enchiridion* (“Manual of a Christian Knight”) [Do not read the whole writing! Only Chapters 1 and 2] [http://oll.libertyfund.org/titles/191#lf0048_label_001](http://oll.libertyfund.org/titles/191#lf0048_label_001)
Assignment due on this date: Read the following two online readings. Complete a reading reflection on only one of the readings (your choice).


Assignment due on this date: Complete the following two readings and one reading reflection on the reading of your choice:

- The Schleitheim Confession (1527) [http://www.anabaptists.org/history/schleith.html](http://www.anabaptists.org/history/schleith.html)
- “The Author’s Preface” from Calvin’s Commentary on the Book of Psalms. [http://www.ccel.org/ccel/calvin/calcom08.vi.html](http://www.ccel.org/ccel/calvin/calcom08.vi.html)

Assignment due on this date: Read all three of these readings and complete a reading reflection on one of the readings.

- Hugh Latimer’s Sermon of the Flowers (1549): [http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/nael/noa/pdf/27636_16u04Latimer_1_7.tp.pdf](http://www.wwnorton.com/college/english/nael/noa/pdf/27636_16u04Latimer_1_7.tp.pdf). The style of Latimer’s English is obviously difficult for us to read, but is important to our appreciation of the content and historical context of this sermon. Hang in there!
- Profession of Tridentine Faith, (1564) [http://www.uoregon.edu/~sshoemak/323/texts/trent.htm](http://www.uoregon.edu/~sshoemak/323/texts/trent.htm)
- Spiritual Exercises of Ignatius Loyola (1541) [http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/loyola-spirex.asp](http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/loyola-spirex.asp)

Assignment due on this date: Read Hume “On Miracles” and Paine “On the Religion of Deism” and complete a reading reflection on one of the readings:


Assignment due on this date: Final “Top Ten” List to present in class and turn in. Read all three of the following, but do not write a reading reflection for any of them.


Guidelines for Written Assignments

- All papers should be typed, double-spaced, on 8 ½” by 11” paper, unless the instructor has asked for a different format specifically within the precourse work. Font should be Times New Roman or something similar and no larger than size 12. Margins are to be 1” on all four sides of each page.
- All papers must include a page number and the last name of the student in either the header or footer of every page.
- You should note the question you are answering at the beginning of each new section of materials.
- All papers should provide citations for all quoted material. You may use MLA, Turabain, APA or Chicago Style.
- Punctuation should be consistent; clarity of meaning is the primary purpose of punctuation. Edit and retype material as needed and check spelling in a standard dictionary.
• All papers should attempt to eliminate discriminatory language—for example: racism, ageism, sexism, classism, and prejudicial usage concerning handicapping conditions.

**Inclusive Language Covenant**

The faculty of Emory Course of Study School has adopted a covenant statement encouraging inclusiveness in the use of language, as follows:

The Inclusive Language Covenant is designed to create a linguistic environment in which all students, staff, and faculty can grow in understanding and appreciating the rich diversity of God’s people. The COS faculty commits itself—through continued discussion, reflection, and exploration—to using language in such a way that we respond to the fullness of God’s presence among us as much by our choice of words as by our care for one another. Recognizing that our experience with inclusive language is an integral part of theological formation, we invite students and others to share as partners with us in this learning process.

We understand “covenant” more in terms of its biblical and theological meaning than in a legal or contractual context. Covenant signifies the common commitment of a community of faith in response to God’s revelation and in partnership with one another. The values implied in the covenant have morally persuaded us to try to generate patterns of speech and behavior that bond the members of the community in mutual respect. We expect all members of the community to address issues of diversity constructively. The entire Inclusive Language Covenant can be found on the COS website, and you are encouraged to read the whole covenant.

**Directions to Email Precourse Assignments**

Please read all the directions below before emailing your assignments to the COS Office, any emails received that do not follow the directions below will not be accepted. You will receive an email confirmation of receipt and if your email is not submitted correctly an email indicating you will need to resend your assignments.

1. Email only michelle.levan@emory.edu your precourse assignments, do not email assignments to the instructors. You are encouraged to email the instructors questions about the assignments.
2. Email must be received no later than 11:59pm on the deadline of May 1st.
   a. Please note that the cut off time is EASTERN STANDARD TIME zone, so email your assignments accordingly.
   b. Any precourse work received after May 1st at 11:59pm will be subject to a late penalty.
      • Precourse work received between May 2 – June 1 is 1 letter grade deduction.
      • Precourse work received between June 2 – June 20 is 2 letter grade deductions.
      • You will be drop from any course for which precourse work has not been received after June 20th. No precourse work will be accepted at check-in.
3. The course number and the phrase “precourse work” should be the subject of your email: Example - Precourse Work 113
   a. You will need to send a separate email for each course you are registered to attend.
4. Precourse work must be sent as an attached document and not in the body of the email.
   a. Any version of Microsoft Word will be accepted; PDF, Word Perfect, and Mac-Pages documents will not be accepted. If you are using another type of word processing program please convert your document to a version of Microsoft Word before sending.
   b. All assignments for each course must be in one document, multiple documents are not acceptable. You should send only one attachment with all course assignments; emails sent with multiple documents will not be accepted.
5. Your FULL name, phone number and email, should all be clearly included at the beginning of your email. See Example
6. Plagiarism Policy and Plagiarism Defined
The plagiarism Policy and Defined paragraphs below must be included in the body of your email (both are below), not within your precourse work. The inclusion of the policy and definition in the body of the email, verifies that you agree to it and your email will represent your signature (which is a requirement). If the email does not include the plagiarism policy and definition it will not be accepted. Your email, with the plagiarism policy and definition will be printed and used as the cover sheet for your precourse assignments, because it has the verification of date and time received, and your agreement to the plagiarism policy and definition.

**Plagiarism Policy** - I have read the plagiarism definition below and verify that this assignment represents my own work, except where credit is given.

**Plagiarism Defined**: “You plagiarize when, intentionally or not, you use someone else’s words or ideas but fail to credit that person, leading your readers to think that those words are yours. In all fields, you plagiarize when you use a source’s words or ideas without citing that source. In most fields, you plagiarize even when you do credit the source but use its exact words without using quotation marks or block indentation” (201-202). Booth, Wayne C. Booth, Gregory G. Colomb, and Joseph M. Williams. *The Craft of Research, Second Edition*. Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press, 2003.

7. If you do not follow the procedure your precourse work WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED! You will receive a confirmation of receipt within 24 hours or notice to resubmit following the process.