



**ERSKINE**  
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

*For Christ and His Church*

## **CH 745CO**

### **The Scottish Reformation**

Dale Walden Johnson, Ph. D.

Spring, 2012

Class Meets: Mondays 1-4 PM, First Presbyterian Church, Columbia

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Office Hours: My office hours will be posted on my office door in Due West. It is best to contact me personally, by phone or by e-mail.

#### **Course Description:**

Students examine the early Protestant martyrs, the life, ministry, and theology of John Knox, Mary Queen of Scots, and Andrew Melville. Particular attention is given to the Reformation Parliament of 1560, the Scots Confession, and the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Book of Discipline. *Elective. Three Hours.*

#### **Course Purpose:**

The purpose of this class is to build on the knowledge and skills introduced in the required introductory courses in Church History. The seminar format involves lectures delivered by the professor, but perhaps more importantly, will focus on student research guided by the professor. We will cover both a narrative of the key events as well as important historiographical issues. The course is not limited to, but is of particular importance to students in the Presbyterian and Reformed tradition. The capstone of the course is a summative paper that addresses an important interpretive issue in the Scottish Reformation, or Scottish Church History.

#### **Course Objectives:**

The mission of Erskine Theological Seminary is to educate persons for ministry in the Christian Church. We thus encourage students to value the theological and historical resources of the Church including creeds, and theological treatises of Church leaders. It is the instructor's goal that by the end of the course each student will be able to demonstrate the following skills:

1. Identification of the causes of the Scottish Reformation
2. Ability to explain the relationships between the Renaissance and Reformation
3. State leadership principles as demonstrated in the life of John Knox
4. Identify and explain the distinctive content of the Scots Confession of Faith
5. Synthetic skills of research in a summative research paper
6. Identification of historiographical issues in the discipline

**Course Methods:**

The purpose and objectives of this class are achieved through lectures and class discussion, Mid-term and Final Exam, a summative paper and student presentations,

1 oral presentation based on a journal article

1 research paper (10-12 pages of text, including footnotes/endnotes and full bibliography; Required minimum length for Th.M. students, 25 pages of text).

On the first day of class the professor will give details and requirements of the information stated above. Progress on the research paper is “required” each week of class. Please read the due dates below as they relate to the research paper. Each of these four grades is worth 25% of your final grade.

**Required Texts:**

Richard G. Kyle and Dale W. Johnson, *John Knox: An Introduction to His Life and Works*. Eugene, OR: Wipf & Stock Publishers, 2009 ISBN 13: 978-1606080900

James McGoldrick, *Luther's Scottish Connection*. Farleigh Dickinson University Press, 1989; reprint ed., Solid Ground Christian Books, 2008.  
ISBN 13: 978-1599251363

Jane Dawson, *Scotland Reformed: 1488-1587*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2007. ISBN 13: 978-0748614554 (Be sure to purchase the paperback ed. - \$40.00)

**Note: Any students taking this class for Th.M. credit must also read the following:**

Margo Todd, *The Culture of Protestantism in Early Modern Scotland*. Yale U P, 2002. ISBN 13: 978-0300092349

Alister McGrath, *Reformation Thought: An Introduction*. Blackwell Publishers, Oxford, and Baker Book House Co., 1988, 1995. Third edition, Wiley-Blackwell, 2001.  
ISBN 13: 978- 0631215219

W. Ian P. Hazlett, *The Reformation In Britain and Ireland: An Introduction*. New York: T & T Clark International, 2003. ISBN 13: 978-0567082800

**Note:** The professor will distribute numerous handouts throughout the course. The student may also expect occasional reading assignments on reserve in the library.

**Required Readings and Resources:**

Students are expected to secure their own copies of all required textbooks. As a convenience, the seminary has a bookstore portal of the website you can access at: <http://www.erskineseminary.org/bookstore.html> There you will find links to familiar vendors (CBD, Amazon, B&N, and Books-A-Million) and can check availability of texts, compare prices, and place orders. The ETS Student Body Association will receive a modest percentage of the profits from students' and professors' purchases through this portal. The Erskine Campus Bookstore will carry a limited number of copies of every required text and orders for books can be placed through the Campus Bookstore.

**Course Requirements:**

Attendance at each class is vital to the success of each student. One absence is allowed if it is of an extraordinary nature. Each student is expected to complete the reading assignments and be prepared to offer informed comments in any class discussion. Students should focus their efforts on producing a high caliber research paper.

**Criteria for Grading Research Papers:**

- Adherence to instructions, use of both primary/secondary sources
- Use of journal articles
- Clear thesis statement/historiographical/interpretive issue
- Strong defense of the thesis
- Convincing solution or resolution of the issues
- Depth, analysis, and use of sources
- Proper use of English language

**Seminary Policies:** -Click this link and read carefully as a part of this syllabus contract:  
[http://seminary.erskine.edu/content\\_policies/SeminaryPoliciesforETSStudents.pdf](http://seminary.erskine.edu/content_policies/SeminaryPoliciesforETSStudents.pdf)

**Grading Scale:**

See the ETS Catalog for details concerning the Grading Scale:

Grading Scale:

|        |    |       |    |
|--------|----|-------|----|
| 100-95 | A  | 83-80 | C  |
| 94-93  | A- | 79-78 | C- |
| 92-91  | B+ | 77-76 | D+ |
| 90-88  | B  | 75-72 | D  |
| 87-88  | B- | 71-70 | D- |
| 85-84  | B+ | 69-0  | F  |

# Course Outline and Reading Schedule:

## MONTH #1

(Note: Class BEGINS, Monday, January 30<sup>th</sup> in Columbia).

**Month of February:** Distribution of the syllabus, introductions, explanations, etc.

Lecture- “The English Reformation and its Relationship to Scotland”  
(with reference to current literature)

Lecture- “An Overview of the Scottish Reformation”  
Part One: Historiography of the Reformation  
(with reference to current literature)

Lecture- Part Two: Contributing Factors to the Scottish Reform.

Discussion of book: *Luther’s Scottish Confession*

### Reading Assignment for February:

By the end of February: finish McGoldrick book  
Jane Dawson, chapters 1-2  
Kyle & Johnson, chapters 1-2  
For Th.M. students: Margo Todd, *Introduction*

**Writing Assignment;** come to class on Feb. 27 with:

- A. Preliminary research topic
- B. Preliminary thesis statement
- C. Preliminary research design
- D. (Very) preliminary bibliography

**Select,** read and prepare a relevant journal article for an Oral presentation

## MONTH #2

**Month of March:**

Lecture- (as needed) “Contributing Factors to the Scot. Reform.”  
Slide show of Scotland: St. Andrews, Edinburgh and Stirling

*Christian Commitment and Excellence in Learning*

Lecture- “The Life and Work of John Knox”

Lecture- “The Prophetic Self-Image of John Knox”  
Handout: “Will the Real John Knox Please Stand Up?”

Lecture- “John Knox, the Marian Exile and the Geneva Bible”

Lecture- “The Calvinist Contribution to the Scottish Reformation”  
(cf. James Kirk, *Patterns*)

Oral Presentations of signif. articles concerning the Scot. Reform.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

**Reading Assignment for the end of March:**

Jane Dawson, chapters 3-6

Kyle & Johnson, chapters 3-5

Th.M. students will also read: Todd, chap. 1-3

**Writing Assignment:**

A. Submit revised research topic

B. Revised thesis statement

C. Revised/updated research design

D. Revised/updated bibliography

Prepare to give a brief oral presentation of your topic

**MID-TERM EXAMINATION- March 19, 7:30-9:00PM**

**MONTH #3**

**Month of April:**

Lecture- “Significant Writings of John Knox”

Handout: -Chronology of Writings

-Bibliography, Primary Sources

-Chronological Development of Knox’s Writings on

-Predestination

Oral presentation of signif. articles concerning the Scot. Reform.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Lecture- “Examination of Reformation Documents”

-*Scots Confession*

-*First & Second Book of Discipline*

Lecture- “Andrew Melville and Scottish Presbyterianism”

**NOTE: SPRING BREAK - HOLY WEEK, March 31 – April 8**

Begin Oral presentations of **RESEARCH PAPERS** April 23<sup>th</sup>:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

April 30<sup>th</sup>:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

**Reading Assignment for the end of semester:**

Jane Dawson, chapters 7-9

Kyle & Johnson, chapters 7-9

**For Th.M. students include** Todd, Chap. 4-6

**MONTH #4**

**Month of May:**

Lecture: “Presbytery and Episcopacy: The Post Reformation Era”  
(time permitting)

Oral Presentations of **RESEARCH PAPERS**: (as needed) May 7

- 1.
- 2.

**NOTE! NOTE! NOTE! Last day to Submit Research Papers by May 7th**

**FINAL EXAMINATION- 7:30-9:00PM**

Course evaluation completed by students

**IMPORTANT DATES/EVENTS FOR SPRING SEMESTER**

Spring Break – Holy Week, March 31-April 8

Senior Day in Due West, Monday, April 30

FINAL EXAMINATIONS: May 7-11

Commencement, 4PM, Due West ARP Church, May 12