

2. Be challenged to consider the specific implications of declaring Christ to be Lord of all aspects of life.

3. Be encouraged to pursue lives of obedience to Christ and to motivate other Christians to similar devotion.

4. Develop the habit of learning from great Christian leaders of the past, especially people of color (Africans, Asians, Latins, and African Americans) whose stories often go untold in standard Church history books.

COURSE METHOD:

The purpose and objectives of this course will be achieved through three learning components. The first is the **Content Component**, the student's own mastery of historical and cultural material that is necessary for an understanding of each of the personalities considered in this course. This component addresses objective 1 above and will be accomplished through class lecture and reading of textbooks.

The second component is **Classroom Participation**. The central learning activity of the course will be discussion of the lives of great men and women of the Church. Students will be expected to be prepared for discussion and to take an active part. This component addresses objectives 2, 3, and 4 above.

The third is the **Research Component**. Each student will complete significant research projects on two of the great personalities of the course and will lead a class discussion on one of those people. This component addresses all four of the objectives above, and the details are given below.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS:

The following three books are out of print but are superior to any works currently in print for purposes of this course. The on-line bookstore (www.ecampus.com/erskine) may be able to locate them for you, but if not, they are readily available through Internet booksellers such as www.amazon.com or www.abebooks.com. I ask that students buy two of these three, preferably the first and second.

Woodbridge, John D., ed. *Great Leaders of the Christian Church*. Chicago: Moody, 1988. (ISBN 080249076x)

Woodbridge, John D., ed. *More Than Conquerors: Portraits of Believers from all Walks of Life*. Chicago: Moody, 1992. (ISBN 0802490549)

Woodbridge, John D., ed. *Ambassadors for Christ: Distinguished Representatives of the Message Throughout the World*. Chicago: Moody, 1994. (ISBN 0802409393)

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Requirement One (25 points): Each student will read two of the three required textbooks in their entirety. At the end of the course, each student will sign a statement indicating that he/she has completed this reading.

Requirement Two (50 points): Each student will choose two of the people listed in the course outline below, research the lives of these people thoroughly (using primary sources when

possible and appropriate), and submit a research paper reporting his/her findings. Notice carefully the stipulations which apply to the selection of people to study:

1. The student **must not** choose a person on whom he/she has written a research paper for another course at Erskine Seminary.
2. The student **must** choose people from **separate categories** in the outline below.
3. The student **may** substitute a person not listed in the outline, provided that the person chosen will fit reasonably well into one of the categories listed. Please talk to the professor if you would like to do this.

Each of these papers is to be approximately 5-7 pages (double or 1-1/2 spaced, with type size and margins similar to those used in this syllabus). Each paper should include a brief summary of the historical situation in which the person lived, a summary of the important events of his/her life, and an extended reflection on the significance of that person for Christian life and ministry. The primary purpose of the paper is to analyze and reflect, not simply to summarize information. The first of these papers is due on **April 4**, and the second on **May 2**.

Seminary Policies Pertaining to Research Papers

Form of Written Work: The research papers must be typed/processed (twelve point type, double-spaced, with one-inch margins) and fully documented, following the guidelines found in Turabian, *Manual for Writers* (7th edition). These guidelines are summarized in the Erskine Seminary document "Style and Form Standards" (available by clicking [here](#)). Footnotes and a bibliography are required in the research papers. The paper's cover page and bibliography are not counted toward the page requirement.

Language about God and Humanity: Although God transcends the distinction between male and female, the Bible and the Church's historic creeds and confessions use masculine language in reference to God. Thus, the Seminary encourages all students to retain this masculine usage when speaking and writing about God. Furthermore, the Seminary recognizes that all human beings, male and female, are created equally in the image of God (Gen. 1:26-27), and believers of both sexes are fellow heirs of the grace of life (1 Pet. 3:7). Accordingly, whenever students are speaking and writing about males and females, they should use language that clearly includes both men and women (for example, by saying/writing "humanity" rather than "man" or "people" rather than "men").

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is the use in writing of wording or ideas produced by others without crediting the author and/or source from which the material was taken. Plagiarism is a serious offense that undermines both the witness and integrity of the Christian community. Any student who commits plagiarism is in violation of Seminary policy and is liable for dismissal. See the academic section of the *Catalog* for complete information.

Criteria for Grading the Research Papers

- Writing that is grammatically correct and stylistically clear
- A form that adheres to the guidelines in Turabian, *Manual for Writers* (7th edition)
- Adherence to the parameters of the assignment (length, scope)
- Clear organization of material
- Appropriate use of relevant primary and secondary sources

Evidence that the student grasps historical information about the person being studied
 Evidence that the student understands spiritual concepts important to the person
 Attention to the lessons one can learn from the person's life
 Depth and creativity in handling the assignment

Requirement Three (25 points): Each student will lead a discussion in class on one of the people whom he/she has researched. All students will choose the person on whom they will report in class on February 7. At that time, a schedule of discussions will be drawn up, and students must be ready on the day that person is discussed. On the day when each person is due to be discussed, the student will briefly introduce the other students to that person and will lead the class in reflecting on that person's life. This may be done by presenting some brief selections from the person's writings for the class to consider, by formulating questions raised by that person's life and presenting those questions to the class, etc. The student should plan to use approximately 45 minutes of class time for this purpose.

Note carefully that the assignment is not merely to report on the person, but to lead a discussion on the significance of that person. This assignment will be graded according to the criteria on the grade sheet at the end of this syllabus.

OVERALL GRADING SCALE:

| | | | | | |
|--------|----|-------|----|-------|----|
| 100-95 | A | 85-84 | C+ | 71-70 | D- |
| 94-93 | A- | 83-80 | C | | |
| 92-91 | B+ | 79-78 | C- | 69-0 | F |
| 90-88 | B | 77-76 | D+ | | |
| 87-86 | B- | 75-72 | D | | |

COURSE EXPECTATIONS and SEMINARY POLICIES:

Drop/Add/Withdrawal: Once a student has completed, signed, and submitted his/her registration to the Registrar for this class, it is a binding contract, and billing will be based on this registration. If the student decides not to take this class, he/she must complete a "drop/add" form and secure the appropriate signatures prior to the drop/add deadline during the second week of the semester. If one wishes to withdraw from the course after the drop/add deadline, one must complete a withdrawal form, and tuition will be refunded on a pro rated basis. Failure to withdraw from the class properly will result in the student's receiving a grade of "F" for the course, and full tuition charges will apply. No exceptions will be made to this policy.

Attendance: If a student misses more than one-half day (4 hours), or significant time from classes totaling more than 4 class hours during the semester, he/she will be required to do make-up work. It is the student's responsibility to consult with the professor to have the extra work assigned. All make-up work must be handed in by noon on Monday, May 18. Except in extraordinary circumstances, a student cannot complete this course if he/she misses more than one class day (or 8 hours total). If this happens, the student must consult with the professor as soon as possible to see whether the reasons for the absences warrant special arrangements to complete the material for the course.

Conduct in Theological Discussions: Erskine Seminary is committed to the one, holy,

catholic, and apostolic Church, and it expects its students to show respect for all who identify with that one Church. In all written work, oral presentations, and discussions both inside and outside the classroom, the Seminary expects students to conduct discussions of controversial issues in a context of respect for those with whom one disagrees. Please see the Community Life Statement in the *Catalog* for more information.

Late Work: Any work not submitted by the due date will be assessed a late penalty. The final deadline for submitting all late work and make-up work is noon on Monday, May 18. Any work not received by this deadline will be given a grade of “0,” unless the student has made **prior** arrangements to take an incomplete for the course. (See the policy on incompletes just below.)

Incompletes: The grade of “I” or incomplete is given at the discretion of the professor. A grade of “I” is normally given when a student has substantially completed the requirements for a course but has been prevented by extraordinary circumstances from completing the remainder of the course requirements. A student who wishes to request an incomplete should normally fill out an incomplete form prior to the end of the semester and ask the professor to grant the request. (Under unusual circumstances, the student may communicate with the professor by phone or email rather than in person, and the professor may then agree to fill out the form at the student's request. Under exceptional circumstances, the professor may initiate the process by filling out the form on the student's behalf.) If the professor grants the request, he will sign the incomplete form and turn it in with his final grade report. An “I” in this course must be removed by August 1, 2009. Only the Dean may grant the extension of an incomplete beyond the established completion date. Otherwise, the grade automatically becomes an “F.”

PEOPLE TO BE CONSIDERED:

We will not cover all of the people listed below. There may be some substitutions (depending on the preferences of students), and a few of the ones whom the instructor is planning to cover will probably need to be dropped because of lack of time. An exact schedule of discussions will be drawn up in class on February 7.

Remember that you are to choose TWO people from DIFFERENT categories. One of these will be for your class presentation AND a paper, and the other will be for a paper alone. The people marked with “DF” are the ones the professor is planning to discuss himself, so students should choose other people besides these for their class discussions. You are free to duplicate one of the people the professor covers for your other written paper, if you would like to. You are encouraged to choose at least one person of color, marked with an asterisk.

February 17:

— Great Sufferers for the Faith

[DF] Ignatius of Antioch (ca. 35 – ca. 107)

[DF] Hugh Latimer (ca. 1485 – 1555) and Nicholas Ridley (ca. 1500 – 1555)

[DF] Dietrich Bonhoeffer (1906 – 1945)

— Great Spiritual Masters

[DF] Macrina (ca. 327 – 380)

[DF] John Cassian (ca. 360 – ca. 435)

[DF] Gregory Palamas (ca. 1296 – 1359)

[DF] Thomas à Kempis (ca. 1380 – 1471)

[DF] Philipp Spener (1635 – 1705)

March 7, April 4, May 2

(The order of these categories may be changed based on how many people students choose from each category. On Feb. 7, we will work out a final schedule.)

— **Great Visionaries**

[DF] Jerome (331 – 420)

[DF] John Wycliffe (ca. 1330 – 1384)

Thomas Cranmer (1489 – 1556)

William Tyndale (ca. 1490 – 1536)

[DF] Ignatius of Loyola (ca. 1491 – 1556)

[DF] Francis Schaeffer (1912 – 1984)

— **Great Missionary Pioneers**

[DF] Aedesius and Frumentius (4th century)

Patrick (ca. 389 – 461)

Columba (521 – 597)

[DF] Boniface (ca. 672 – 754)

[DF] Cyril (826 – 869) and Methodius (815 – 885)

[DF] Francis Xavier (1506 – 1552)

William Carey (1761 – 1834)

David Livingstone (1813 – 1873)

Hudson Taylor (1832 – 1905)

Lottie Moon (1840 – 1912)

Amy Carmichael (1867 – 1951)

Samuel Zwemer (1867 – 1952)

Jim Elliott (1927 – 1956)

— **Great Preachers and Evangelists**

[DF] John Chrysostom (ca. 350 – 407)

John Wesley (1703 – 91) and Charles Wesley (1707 – 88)

Charles Finney (1792 - 1875)

Charles Spurgeon (1834 – 1892)

D.L. Moody (1837 – 1899)

*John Jasper (1812 – 1901)

*Amanda Smith (1837 – 1915)

*Wandaro of Ethiopia (1910 – 1991)

*E.V. Hill (1933 – 2003)

Billy Graham (1918 –)

*Tokumbo Adeyemo (1944 –)

— **Great Christian Influencers of Society**

[DF] Constantine (d. 337)

Basil the Great (ca. 330 – 379)

Alcuin (ca. 735 – 804) and Charlemagne (ca. 742 – 814)

Catherine of Siena (ca. 1347 – 1380)
 [DF] William Wilberforce (1759 – 1833)
 *Richard Allen (1760 – 1831)
 Elizabeth Fry (1780 – 1845)
 Florence Nightingale (1820 – 1910)
 *George Washington Carver (ca. 1861-1943)
 Martin Luther King, Jr. (1929 – 1968)
 *[DF] Byang Kato (1936-1975)
 *John Perkins (1930 –)
 Chuck Colson (1931 –)

— **Great Christian Writers**

Justin Martyr (ca. 100 – ca. 165)
 Augustine (354 – 430)
 [DF] Bede (ca. 672 – 735)
 Blaise Pascal (1623 – 1662)
 [DF] John Bunyan (1628 – 1688)
 Isaac Watts (1674 – 1748)
 Harriet Beecher Stowe (1811 – 1896)
 Fannie Crosby (1823 – 1915)
 C.S. Lewis (1898 – 1963)

— **Great Shapers of the “Saintly” Ideal**

[DF] Tertullian (ca. 150 – ca. 212)
 Helena (ca. 255 – ca. 330)
 Antony the Great (ca. 251 – 356)
 Monica (ca. 331 – 387)
 Francis of Assisi (1181 – 1228)
 Joan of Arc (1412 – 1431)
 Menno Simons (1496 – 1561)
 George Müller (1805 – 1898)
 Eric Liddell (1902 – 1945)
 Mother Teresa (1910 – 1997)

Class discussion led by _____ **Date:** _____

Person discussed: _____

Presentation of information:

Accuracy:

Appropriateness:

Helpfulness:

Creativity:

Choice of questions for discussion:

Ability to respond to other students:

Management of time:

Other:

Overall grade: