1. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is divided into two sections corresponding to two semesters. In the first semester, students will study church history from the background of church history to the 15th century. In the second semester, students will study church history from the Renaissance to modern times. Students will be required to critically engage with the posted lectures. Students will also be quizzed on a regular basis and take both a midterm and a final exam. The content of these tests will be drawn from both the lectures and from the text book. While studying church history, students are to keep in mind the mission statement of Holy Apostles College & Seminary, “to cultivate lay, consecrated and ordained Catholic leaders for the purpose of evangelization”.

2. ENVISIONED LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Students will demonstrate an understanding of the major movements of decline/reform/renewal and their causes within church history, for example, the way the Church moves from being a transforming phenomenon at its inception.
- In their presentations and short papers, students will demonstrate their ability to research, especially with primary source documents.
- In their class participation students will demonstrate their ability to think critically whether in response to the textbook, lecture, other students, or other related people and material.
- Students will also demonstrate an ability to explain important historical nuances by writing and, when possible, using new technologies in preparation for future evangelization.
- Finally, students will demonstrate the ability to convey the historical circumstances of the Church’s Faith while clearly delineating a tradition of ideas, mission, liturgy, art and culture in light of a reflection upon the needs of contemporary culture

3. COURSE SCHEDULE

Week 1: Monday, August 24th – Sunday, August 30th

1. During this week think about a saint to write a research paper on. By the end of this week you need to choose a saint to write on. The saint you chose to research on must have lived prior to 1400. Inform me once you have chosen a saint.

2. Read Fr. Kucer's Chapter 1.

4. Respond to the discussion prompts of "Week 1 Discussion"

5. Take Online Quiz 1

Week 2: Monday, August 31st – Sunday, September 6th

**Reminder - The final date that your research paper may be handed in is July 21st.**

1. Read Fr. Kucer’s Chapter 2.

2. Read Selection from John Vidmar’s book *The Catholic Church through the Ages*. (The Early Church, Jewish Sources of Christianity, Roman Sources of Christianity, Influence of Jewish and Roman Sources on Christianity pages 1-9.)

3. Respond to the discussion prompts of “Week 2 Discussion”.

4. Take Online Quiz 2.

Week 3: Monday, September 7th – Sunday, September 13th

1. Read Fr Kucer’s Chapter 3


3. Take Online Quiz 3

4. Respond to the discussion prompts of “Week 3 Discussion”.

Week 4: Monday, September 14th – Sunday, September 20th

1. Read Fr. Kucer’s Chapter 4

2. Read Selection from John Vidmar’s book *The Catholic Church through the Ages* (“Life of the Early Church” pages 36-42)

3. Take Online Quiz 4

4. Respond to the discussion prompts of “Week 4 Discussion”.

Week 5: Monday, September 21st – Sunday, September 27th

1. Read Fr. Kucer’s Chapter 5

2. Read Selection from John Vidmar’s book *The Catholic Church through the Ages* (“Attacks on Christianity” pages 25-30)

3. Take Online Quiz 5

4. Respond to the discussion prompts of “Week 5 Discussion”.

Week 6: Monday, September 28th – Sunday, October 4th

1. Read Fr. Kucer’s Chapter 6


3. Take Online Quiz 6.

4. Respond to the discussion prompts of “Week 6 Discussion”.

Week 7: Monday, October 5th – Sunday, October 11
1. Take online midterm

Week 8: Monday, October 12th – Sunday, October 18th
1. Read Fr. Kucer’s Chapter 7
3. Take Online Quiz 7.
4. Respond to the discussion prompts of “Week 8 Discussion”.

Week 9: Monday, October 19 – Sunday, October 25th
1. Read Fr. Kucer’s Chapter 8
3. Take Online Quiz 8.
4. Respond to the discussion prompts of “Week 9 Discussion”.

Week 10: Monday, October 26th – Sunday, November 1st
1. Read Fr. Kucer’s Chapter 9.
2. Read Selection from John Vidmar’s book *The Catholic Church through the Ages*. (“The Barbarians” pages 104-107.)
3. Take Online Quiz 9.
4. Respond to the discussion prompts of “Week 10 Discussion”.

Week 11: Monday, November 2nd – Sunday, November 8th
1. Read Fr. Kucer’s Chapter 10.
2. Read Selection from John Vidmar’s book *The Catholic Church through the Ages*. (“The Byzantine Church and the Eastern Schism” pages 96-104.)
3. Take Online Quiz 10.
4. Respond to the discussion prompts of “Week 11 Discussion”.

Week 12: Monday, November 9th – Sunday, November 15th
**Reminder this is the last week that papers may be handed in.**
1. Read Fr. Kucer’s Chapter 11.
2. Take Online Quiz 11.
4. Respond to the discussion prompts of “Week 12 Discussion”.

Week 13: Monday, November 16th – Sunday, November 22nd
**Reminder this is the last day that papers may be handed in. Papers will be posted online as they are sent to the professor.**
1. Read Fr. Kucer’s Chapter 12.
2. Take Online Quiz 12.
3. Read Selection from John Vidmar’s book *The Catholic Church through the Ages*. (Pages to be determined.)
4. Respond to the discussion prompts of “Week 13 Discussion”.

**Week 14: Monday, November 23rd – Sunday, November 29th**
1. Read Fr. Kucer’s Chapter 13.
2. Take Online Quiz 13.
3. Read Selection from John Vidmar’s book *The Catholic Church through the Ages*. (Pages to be determined.)
4. Respond to the discussion prompts of “Week 14 Discussion”.

**Week 15: Monday, November 30th – Friday, December 4th**
1. Read a paper from one student and respond to it in the discussion section “Week 15 Discussion.”
2. Take the Final Exam.

**When the syllabus is completed email it to the students!!!!!**

4. **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

1. Quizzes: 15%
2. Class Participation: 15%
3. Paper: 30%
4. Midterm: 20%
5. Final Exam: 20%

Further explanation:

1. There will be weekly quizzes on the Fr. Peter Kucer’s lectures.
2. The grade on class participation will be determined by the student’s responses to the weekly discussion prompts.
3. The topics of the paper are to be narrow and specific, and need prior approval from the instructor. Ordinarily, the topic is to be on a saint from the era the class is currently studying. The paper is to be at minimum 1200 words and is to be properly sourced.
4 and 5. The material for the midterm and final exam will only come from the weekly quizzes.

5. **REQUIRED READINGS and RESOURCES:**


6. **SUGGESTED READINGS and RESOURCES:**


7. EVALUATION

(Basis of evaluation with explanation regarding the nature of the assignment and the percentage of the grade assigned to each item below). Students who have difficulty with research and composition are encouraged to pursue assistance with the Online Writing Lab (available at http://www.holyapostles.edu/owl).

GRADING SCALE:

A 94-100; A- 90-93; B+ 87-89; B 84-86; B- 80-83; C+ 77-79; C 74-76; C- 70-73 D 60-69; F 59 and below

Grading Rubric for Papers

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<tr>
<th>CONTENT</th>
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<tr>
<td>Absence of Understanding</td>
<td>Analysis shows no awareness of the discipline or its methodologies as they relate to the topic.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lack of Understanding</td>
<td>Analysis seems to misunderstand some basic concepts of the discipline or lacks ability to articulate them.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inadequate understanding</td>
<td>Analysis is sometimes unclear in understanding or articulating concepts of the discipline.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adequate understanding</td>
<td>Analysis demonstrates an understanding of basic concepts of the discipline but could express them with greater clarity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solid Understanding</td>
<td>Analysis demonstrates a clear understanding and articulation of concepts with some sense of their wider implications.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Insightful understanding</td>
<td>Analysis clearly demonstrates an understanding and articulation of concepts of the discipline; highlights connections to other concepts; integrates concepts into wider contexts.</td>
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<tr>
<th>RESEARCH</th>
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<tr>
<td>Missing Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inadequate research and/or documentation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Weak research and/or documentation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adequate research and documentation but needs improvement</td>
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<tr>
<td>Solid research and documentation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Excellent critical research and documentation</td>
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<td>Pattern of citation errors.</td>
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## WRITING & EXPRESSION

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<tr>
<th>Incomplete writing</th>
<th>Writing difficult to understand, serious improvement needed</th>
<th>Episodic writing, a mix of strengths and weaknesses.</th>
<th>Acceptable writing, but could use some sharpening of skill</th>
<th>Solid writing, with something interesting to say.</th>
<th>Command-level writing, making a clear impression</th>
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<tr>
<td>Analysis is only partially written or completely misses the topic.</td>
<td>Analysis fails to address the topic; confusing organization or development; little elaboration of position; insufficient control of sentence structure and vocabulary; unacceptable number of errors in grammar, mechanics, and usage.</td>
<td>Analysis noticeably neglects or misinterprets the topic; simplistic or repetitive treatment, only partially-internalized; weak organization and development, some meandering; simple sentences, below-level diction; distracting errors in grammar, mechanics, and usage.</td>
<td>Analysis is an uneven response to parts of the topic; somewhat conventional treatment; satisfactory organization, but more development needed; adequate syntax and diction, but could use more vigor; overall control of grammar, mechanics, and usage, but some errors.</td>
<td>Analysis is an adequate response to the topic; some depth and complexity in treatment; persuasive organization and development, with suitable reasons and examples; level-appropriate syntax and diction; mastery of grammar, mechanics, and usage, with hardly any error.</td>
<td>Analysis is a thorough response to the topic; thoughtful and insightful examination of issues; compelling organization and development; superior syntax and diction; error-free grammar, mechanics, and usage.</td>
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## 8. DISABILITIES ACCOMMODATIONS POLICY

Students in this course seeking accommodations to disabilities must first consult with the Disabilities Resource Center in the Registrar’s Office and follow the instructions of that office for obtaining accommodations.

## 9. ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY

Students at Holy Apostles College & Seminary are expected to practice academic honesty.

**Avoiding Plagiarism**

In its broadest sense, plagiarism is using someone else's work or ideas, presented or claimed as your own. At this stage in your academic career, you should be fully conscious of what it means to plagiarize. This is an inherently unethical activity because it entails the uncredited use of someone else's expression of ideas for another's personal advancement; that is, it entails the use of a person merely as a means to another person’s ends.

**Students, where applicable:**

- Should identify the title, author, page number/webpage address, and publication date of works when directly quoting small portions of texts, articles, interviews, or websites.
- Students should not copy more than two paragraphs from any source as a major component of papers or projects.
• Should appropriately identify the source of information when paraphrasing (restating) ideas from texts, interviews, articles, or websites.

• Should follow the Holy Apostles College & Seminary Stylesheet (available on the Online Writing Lab’s website at http://www.holyapostles.edu/owl/resources).

**Consequences of Academic Dishonesty:**

Because of the nature of this class, academic dishonesty is taken very seriously. Students participating in academic dishonesty may be removed from the course and from the program.

**10. ATTENDANCE POLICY**

Students are expected to attend all classes unless they have been excused.

**11. INCOMPLETE POLICY**

An Incomplete is a temporary grade assigned at the discretion of the faculty member. It is typically allowed in situations in which the student has satisfactorily completed major components of the course and has the ability to finish the remaining work without re-enrolling, but has encountered extenuating circumstances, such as illness, that prevent his or her doing so prior to the last day of class.

To request an incomplete, students must first download a copy of the Incomplete Request Form. This document is located within the Shared folder of the Files tab in Populi. Secondly, students must fill in any necessary information directly within the PDF document. Lastly, students must send their form to their professor via email for approval. “Approval” should be understood as the professor responding to the student’s email in favor of granting the “Incomplete” status of the student.

Students receiving an Incomplete must submit the missing course work by the end of the sixth week following the semester in which they were enrolled. An incomplete grade (I) automatically turns into the grade of “F” if the course work is not completed.

Students who have completed little or no work are ineligible for an incomplete. Students who feel they are in danger of failing the course due to an inability to complete course assignments should withdraw from the course.

A “W” (Withdrawal) will appear on the student’s permanent record for any course dropped after the end of the first week of a semester to the end of the third week. A “WF” (Withdrawal/Fail) will appear on the student’s permanent record for any course dropped after the end of the third week of a semester and on or before the Friday before the last week of the semester.

**12. ABOUT YOUR PROFESSOR**

Your instructor, Fr. Peter, is most eager to open your minds to Church History. I hope my enthusiasm will lift your spirits up and, with the grace of God, we will mutually grow in wisdom and knowledge of sacred history.