

**Birmingham Theological Seminary**  
**HT4721 Reformation & Modern Church History**  
**Dr. Bob Crandall**

**HT4721 Reformation & Modern Church History**

Instructor: Dr. Bob Crandall

Class Hours: 2

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

The purpose of this course is to provide a general historical framework for people who will spend the years of their lives participating in and extending that historical record.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

1. The student will be able to articulate a general historical framework from the Reformation forward within which to understand the traditions and issues of the church in history.
2. The student will be acquainted with the issues facing the church, to include social, political, and economic challenges and issues internal to the church.
3. The student will be able to provide evidence for the monumental role the church has played in the development of human culture.

**COURSE TEXTS**

- *A Religious History of the American People*, by Sydney Ahlstrom
- *A History of Christianity in the United States and Canada*, by Mark A. Noll
- *A History of Christianity, Vol 2*, by Kenneth Scott Latourette

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

- Listen to all audio lectures
- Read all of *A Religious History of the American People* (Ahlstrom) in conjunction with the lectures
- Use Noll and Latourette as supplemental reading
- Take Final Exam
- Write research paper meeting the following requirements:
  - A minimum of 12 pages and a maximum of 15 pages in length
  - A minimum of 10 sources
  - Cited and formatted according to Turabian standards
  - The paper should cover a topic of the student's choice, within the material covered in the class (i.e. the history of the church in

America). The paper should be research-based, but should aim to be practical (what is the impact of the event, movement, people, that you chose to cover) rather than simply a historical report. Be sure to interact with and write meaningful thoughts about the events covered, rather than simply stating what happened, showing that you not only know *WHAT* happened but understand the significance of its impact.

The following course outline provides a chronological order of the course content.

Introduction and Historical Overview

Early Church Summary, Reformation Roots( Zwingli, Calvin, Luther)

Reformation Roots 2

Coming to America

The Great Awakening

War and the Birth of a Nation

Western Movement and Revivals

Revivals: The East

The Civil War and Reconstruction

The Gilded Age and the Church Adjusting

Between the Wars: The Modernist- Fundamentalist Conflict

After the Deluge: 1950-1970

The Global Community: The Future

**Birmingham Theological Seminary**

**2200 Briarwood Way**

**Birmingham, AL 35243**

**(205) 776-5650**

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