Course Prefix and Number: HIST 382

Course Title: Christianity in the Modern World

Number of Credit Hours: 3
Lecture Hours: 3
Laboratory Hours: 0

Catalog Description: Development of Christian thought from the late Middle ages to the present. Emphasis is on the confrontation of Christian theology with modernity. Specific subjects are: the Reformation, Counter-Reformation, the scientific revolution, the Enlightenment, Liberal Theology, the Theology of Crisis, etc. Cross-listed as RELI 382.

Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s): HIST 102

Text(s): Most current editions of the following:


Course Objectives:

- To study in detail the evolution of Christian doctrine and organization from the late Middle Ages to Modernity.
- To explore the various historical interpretations of Christian development and the clash of climate of opinion.
- To examine confrontation, integration, and possible changes of Christian ideas in the context of modernity.

Measurable Learning Outcomes:

- Describe the Medieval synthesis of Plato and Aristotle with the Christian mythos.
- Analyze and compare challenges to doctrine rising from mysticism, the Spiritual Franciscans, and the Renaissance.
- Describe the causes, events, and outcomes of the Protestant Reformation.
- Explain how the growth of the rational science influenced and was influenced by Christianity.
- Describe and analyze the challenge of modernity to Christianity.
- Illustrate and analyze how various modern theologies met or failed to meet the challenge of secular ideologies.
Topical Outline (major areas of coverage):

• The Medieval Church
• Mysticism
• Martin Luther
• John Calvin
• The Catholic Reformation
• The Jesuits
• Christianity and the Scientific Revolution
• The Enlightenment
• Romanticism: Schleiermacher and Hegel
• Liberal Theology
• Marxism and Christianity
• The quest of the Historical Jesus
• Darwinism
• Catholicism and Modernity
• Bultmann, Barth, Tillich
• Existentialism
• Pierre Teilhard de Chardin
• Process Theology
• The Death of God

Material from this course may be tested on the Major Field Test (MFT) administered during the Culminating Experience course for the degree.

Recommended maximum class size for this course: 35

Library Resources: Online databases are available at http://www.ccis.edu/offices/library/resources.asp. You may access them from off-campus using your eServices login and password when prompted.

Prepared by: Anthony Alioto

Date: April 6, 2006

NOTE: The intention of the master syllabus is to provide an outline of the contents of this course, as specified by the faculty of Columbia College, regardless of who teaches the course, when it is taught or where it is taught. Faculty members teaching this course for Columbia College are expected to facilitate learning pursuant to the course objectives and cover the subjects listed in the topical outline. However, instructors are also encouraged to cover additional topics of interest so long as those topics are relevant to the course’s subject. The master syllabus is, therefore, prescriptive in nature but also allows for a diversity of individual approaches to course material.

Office of Academic Affairs
12/04