



Live Classes

Church History

Mr. Powell

Syllabus

2025-2026



Personal Note from Instructor:

Welcome to *Church History*! It is my privilege to guide you through this exploration of the Church's incredible journey—from its earliest beginnings to its impact on the modern world. Together, we will examine the triumphs, struggles, and pivotal moments that shaped Christianity, all through a biblical worldview. My hope is that this course will deepen your understanding of God's hand in history and inspire you to see how faith has influenced societies, governments, and cultures across time.

Recommended Grade Level:

9th – 12th grade

Prerequisites:

None

Live Lecture Date & Time:

Wednesday 2 – 3 pm **Eastern**
Wednesday 1 – 2 pm **Central**

Wednesday 12 – 1 pm **Mountain**
Wednesday 11 am – 12 pm **Pacific**

NOTE: The instructor does not require attendance of the live lectures but highly recommends students attend as many of the live lectures as possible to take advantage of live Q&A. Lectures are recorded and posted on the course Canvas page under the associated week and module. If you miss a lecture, please watch the recording.

Description:

Step into the rich and fascinating history of the Church, tracing its roots from Pentecost to the present day. This course examines the growth of Christianity, its influence on world history, and the key figures and movements that shaped its development. Through a biblical worldview, we will study the early Church, persecution and expansion, the rise of Christendom, the Reformation, and modern-day challenges to Christianity.

This course is designed to help students:

- Understand how God has preserved and guided His Church throughout history.
- Identify key events, movements, and figures in Church history.
- Analyze theological debates and doctrinal developments over time.
- Recognize the relationship between the Church and government, culture, and world events.
- Evaluate how Church history impacts faith today and informs our future.

Church history isn't just about the past—it's about understanding God's work through time and how we, as believers, continue that mission today.

Course Topics:

The historical periods and themes we will explore from a biblical worldview include, but are not limited to:

- **The Birth of the Church:** Pentecost, early persecution, and the Apostolic Fathers.
- **The Church Under Rome:** Martyrdom, heresies, and the formation of Christian doctrine.
- **The Formation of Christian Theology:** Church councils, creeds, and key theological debates.
- **The Rise of Christendom:** Constantine, Church councils, and the early Middle Ages.
- **Monasticism and Missions:** The spread of Christianity throughout Europe.

- **The Great Schism:** The division of the Eastern Orthodox and Roman Catholic Churches.
- **The Reformation and Counter-Reformation:** Luther, Calvin, and the Catholic response.
- **The Church in the Age of Enlightenment:** Theological shifts and challenges to faith.
- **Revival Movements and the Great Awakenings:** Evangelism and missionary expansion.
- **The Modern Church and Persecution:** 20th and 21st-century Christianity, global missions, and modern challenges to faith.
- **Church and State:** The evolving relationship between Christianity and government.

This course will help students see the Church's impact on world history and recognize how faith continues to shape society today.

Required Class Materials:

[Church History, Volume 1: From Christ to Pre-Reformation](#) – Everett Ferguson

[Church History, Volume Two: From Pre-Reformation to the Present Day: The Rise and Growth of the Church in Its Cultural, Intellectual, and Political Context](#) – John D. Woodbridge and Frank A. James

Assignment Structure:

- **Weekly Readings & Discussion Posts:** Students will read assigned chapters and engage in discussions on key themes.
- **Quizzes:** Weekly multiple-choice and short-answer quizzes will assess comprehension.
- **Research Project:** Students will write a short paper on a key historical figure, movement, or theological debate.

- **Mid-Term and Final Exam:** Open-book assessments covering major themes and historical events. All quizzes/exams will be open-book.

Grading:

Class Attendance/ Participation	20%
Chapter Quizzes	20%
Final Project	25%
Mid-Term and Final Exams	35%
Extra Credit	*

*Extra credit is provided at the discretion of the instructor.

Due Dates and Late Policy:

Pay attention to due dates. Assignments not completed by the due date will be marked late. All assignments have a built-in two weeks for completion therefore extensions will not be offered.

Student Conduct:

Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty is any type of cheating that occurs on any exercise related to this course. It can include plagiarism, fabrication, deception, cheating, bribery, sabotage, professional misconduct, and impersonation. **Any type of cheating will not be tolerated!**

Cheating includes but is not limited to copying homework, falsifying reasons for missing class, copying other students' exams/homework/answers, impersonating a parent, having someone else login to a Canvas/Zoom account to complete material on a student's behalf, or plagiarizing material someone else has written and claiming it as your own.

Any plagiarism will receive 0 points and the parents will be notified.

Class Behavior

Zoom is our online classroom. You will use the link provided in the Canvas portal to log on every week. You will enter your **First Name and the Initial of your last name**. Do not use nicknames, if the teacher is unable to recognize the student, said student will be removed from class. The class is being recorded.

Instructor Availability for Questions:

Instructor is available by email Monday – Friday: mrpowell@apologia.com
Office hours are on Fridays 9a-12p

Additional details on instructor availability are provided during the open house for this course.