



**School of Arts, Languages & Cultures, Faculty of Humanities
Course Unit Descriptor**

14.09.2016

GENERAL INFORMATION

Credit Rating	10
Course Unit Title	Reformation Church History
Unit Code	240 (8240 for distance learning version)
Unit Level	2
Contact Hours	22 (n/a for distance learning version)
FHEQ Level	5
Teaching Period	Flexible delivery
Teaching Staff	Dr Peter J. Morden
ECTS	5

EXTERNAL FACING COURSE UNIT OVERVIEW

The unit begins by considering the background issues and examines the way in which the Reformation had links with Renaissance humanism. Students give particular attention to the major streams of the European Protestant Reformation. They also study the Catholic Reformation and the Radical Reformers. The unit moves on to evaluate developments in England in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Students examine the emergence of Puritanism (in England and Scotland), Separatism and the Free Church tradition. Study of the relationship between spirituality, mission and society in the seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries in Europe lays the foundation for an understanding of more recent church history.

COURSE UNIT OVERVIEW

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AIMS

To develop a critical understanding of the major themes and episodes in church history during the period of the Reformation in Europe, and to reflect on contemporary issues in the light of these.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Knowledge and Understanding

By the end of this unit students will be able to:

- Describe important developments in Christianity in the Reformation period

Intellectual Skills

By the end of this unit students will be able to:

- Understand and explain how theological, political, social and cultural factors influenced developments

Practical Skills

By the end of this unit students will be able to:

- Apply key methods and concepts of historical and theological analysis
- Reflect upon a range of primary historical data, as well as evaluating the arguments of secondary sources

Transferable Skills and Personal Qualities

By the end of this unit students will be able to:

- Make critical judgements with regard to differing interpretations of historical events and developments

Employability Skills

Graduates will be able to offer leadership within a Christian context in a way that is informed by the lessons of the past and alert to the challenges of the present

SYLLABUS

1. Introduction; The European Reformation: An overview of themes and issues
2. Reformation background: The Renaissance, humanism and Erasmus / Martin Luther and the rise of Protestantism
3. Martin Luther and the rise of Protestantism, part II
4. Huldrych Zwingli and the Reformation in Zurich; John Calvin and the Reformation in Geneva
5. John Calvin and the Reformation in Geneva, part II; the Lord's Supper in Protestant thought and practice
6. The Radical Reformation
7. The Radical Reformation, part II; The Roman Catholic 'counter Reformation'
8. Approaches to biblical interpretation in sixteenth-century western Europe; The English 'Reformations'
9. The English 'Reformations' part II; Bible translation work
10. The rise of English and Scottish Puritanism and Puritanism as a movement of spirituality
11. The eighteenth-century Evangelical Revival: John Wesley and George Whitefield

TEACHING AND LEARNING METHODS

240: Interactive lectures

8240: Distance learning

Unit materials are available at Spurgeon's *Online* to support student learning

ASSESSMENT METHODS

Assessment task	Length	Weighting within unit
Formative:		
• 240 A class test	45 minutes	n/a
• 8240: An online test	45 minutes	n/a
Summative:		
• 240: An essay	3000 words	100%
• 8240: An essay and a learning journal*	3000 words	100%
* Distance learning students are required to pass this element. So long as this element has been passed, they will be eligible for compensation if the overall unit mark is within the compensation zone (30-39%), and the compensatable credit allowance as set out in the Degree Regulations has not been exceeded.		

FEEDBACK METHODS

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oral feedback in class (240 Only) Written feedback on formative and summative written submissions within 15 working days

REQUISITES

Available on which programme(s)?	BA in Theology
Available as Free Choice (UG) or to other programmes (PG)?	Available as free choice (UG)
Pre-requisite units	n/a
Co-requisite units	n/a

RECOMMENDED READING

<p>Bebbington, David W., <i>Evangelicalism in Modern Britain: A History from the 1730s to the 1980s</i> (London: Routledge, 1995)</p> <p><i>The Cambridge Companion to Puritanism</i>, ed. by Coffey, John and Paul C. H. Lim. (Cambridge Companions to Religion. [E-book] Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2008) http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/CCOL9780521860888</p> <p><i>The Cambridge Companion to Reformation Theology</i>, ed. by Bagchi, David and David C. Steinmetz (Cambridge Companions to Religion. [E-book] Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2004) http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/CCOL0521772249</p> <p>Collinson, Patrick, <i>The Reformation</i> (London: Weidenfeld and Nicolson, 2003)</p> <p><i>Documents of the English Reformation</i>, ed. by Bray, Gerald (Cambridge: J. Clarke, 1994)</p> <p>Lindberg, Carter, <i>The European Reformations</i>, 2nd edn (Chichester: Wiley-Blackwell, 2010)</p> <p>MacCulloch, Diarmaid, <i>Reformation</i> (London: Penguin Books, 2005)</p> <p>McGrath, Alister, <i>Christianity's Dangerous Idea: The Protestant Revolution – A History From the Sixteenth Century to The Twenty-First</i> (New York: Harper Collins, 2007)</p> <p>McGrath, Alister, <i>Reformation Thought</i> (Oxford: Blackwell, 1993 [and various other editions])</p> <p>Noll, Mark A., <i>The Rise of Evangelicalism</i> (Leicester: IVP, 2004)</p> <p>Reeves, Michael, <i>The Unquenchable Flame</i> (Leicester: IVP, 2009)</p> <p>Ryrie, Alec, <i>Being Protestant in Reformation Britain</i> (Oxford: OUP, 2015)</p> <p>Whitford, David M., ed., <i>T&T Clark Companion to Reformation Theology</i> (London: Bloomsbury, 2014)</p>
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SCHEDULED ACTIVITY HOURS

22 contact hours (N/A for distance learning version)

PLACEMENT HOURS

N/A

INDEPENDENT STUDY HOURS

78 (100 for distance learning version)

ADDITIONAL NOTES

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APPROVAL

Date approved by UGC	
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Valid from Date (Publishing Date)	
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