



HIST 6313 The Radical Reformation
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Division of Theological and Historical Studies
Spring 2020 - Thursday, 6:00-8:50 pm

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This course begins on **January 23, 2020**, and on that date students should have access to Blackboard, where they will find information and instructions about the course. Prior to that time, students should purchase the texts and be ready to participate in the course. The reading schedule is included in this syllabus so that, once students have secured the textbooks, they can begin reading their assignments.

Mission Statement

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Leavell College prepare servants to walk with Christ, proclaim His truth, and fulfill His mission.

Purpose of the Course

The purpose of this course is to provide quality theological education for students in the discipline of theological and historical studies. Lessons learned from the past inform the present and provide guidance for the future.

Core Value Focus

The seminary has five core values: Doctrinal Integrity, Spiritual Vitality, Mission Focus, Characteristic Excellence, and Servant Leadership. This academic year, the core value is Spiritual Vitality – “We are a worshiping community emphasizing both personal spirituality and gathering together as a Seminary family for the praise and adoration of God and instruction in His Word.”

Curriculum Competencies

All graduates of NOBTS are expected to have at least a minimum level of competency in each of the following areas: Biblical Exposition, Christian Theological Heritage, Disciple Making, Interpersonal Skills, Servant Leadership, Spiritual and Character Formation, and Worship Leadership. The curriculum competencies addressed in this course are:

Theological and Historical Heritage – comprehensive overview of the Reformation, its context, and development

Disciple Making – use the people from our past to model Christ-like behavior

Servant Leadership – use the people from our past to model servant leadership

Spiritual and Character Formation – model Christian character in relating to those in the Christian family with whom we disagree

Biblical Exposition – demonstrate the biblical foundation for the various denominational expressions stemming from the Reformation

Worship Leadership – examine the variety of worship styles and practices used during the

Reformation

Course Description

This course is an intensive examination of the radical streams of the Protestant Reformation of the sixteenth century. Attention is given to the Anabaptist, Spiritualist, and Evangelical Rationalist movements, their major representatives, historical development, theological and political significance, and influence upon later denominational expressions of Christianity.

Student Learning Outcomes

In order to understand and interpret Christian theological heritage and Baptist polity for the church, the student, by the end of the course, should:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of the nature and historical expressions of the Radical Reformation.
2. Understand the similarities and dissimilarities of the Radical and Classical (Magisterial) Reformations.
3. Appreciate the complex and multifaceted nature of the Radical Reformation, its rich heritage of persons, events, beliefs, and practices.
4. Demonstrate general knowledge of the influence of the Radical Reformation in later denominational expressions of Christianity.
5. Be aware of the distinctive contributions of the Radical Reformers to the Christian understanding of discipleship and of the nature and mission of the church.
6. Practice the historical method and historiography in order to interpret Christian theological heritage for the local church.

Textbooks:

Required:

[E] Estep, William R. *The Anabaptist Story*. 3rd edition. Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans, 1996.

[EA] Liechty, Daniel. *Early Anabaptist Spirituality: Selected Writings* [Classics of Western Spirituality] Paulist Press, 1994.

[RR] Baylor, Michael G. *The Radical Reformation*. Cambridge Texts in the History of Political Thought. Cambridge University Press, 1994.

Recommended:

Goertz, Hans-Jürgen, and Walter Klaassen, eds. *Profiles of Radical Reformers: Biographical Sketches from Thomas Müntzer to Paracelsus*. Scottsdale, PA, and Kitchener, Canada: Herald Press, 1982.

Klaasen, Walter. *Anabaptism in Outline: Selected Primary Sources* [Classics of the Radical Reformation]

Williams, George H. *The Radical Reformation*, 3d ed. Kirksville, MO: Sixteenth Century Journal Publishers, 1992.

Williams, George H. and Angel M. Mergal. *Spiritual and Anabaptist Writers*. Library of Christian Classics. Westminster John Knox Press; 1957.

Requirements

- A. **Biography:** Write a biography on a major individual associated with the Radical Reformation. You may choose the person, subject to instructor approval. Some possibilities are listed below; other individuals might also be acceptable. Your choice of subject must be submitted by the end of the second week of class. The paper **must** have a title page, footnotes or endnotes, be double spaced, and follow Turabian, sixth edition, for style. Use section headings instead of chapters to separate sections of your paper (chapters require a new page for each new chapter and the project is not long enough to justify this). Papers will be graded on clear organization, spelling, and grammar as well as content. Your biography should be 8-10 double-spaced pages in length and should use at least six good sources (Some internet articles are acceptable, but not Wikipedia or articles by people who do not know any more than you do).

Andreas Karlstadt
Thomas Muntzer
Michael Sattler
Balthasar Hubmaier
Pilgram Marpeck

Melchior Hoffman
Martin Cellarius
Michael Servetus
Sebastian Franck
Menno Simons

We will discuss the biography in class. **Due February 27.**

- B. **Book Review:** Each student will write a book review for one of the books in the bibliography. Suggested books are marked with an asterisk (*) but other books might also be acceptable. The review will be written as though for an academic magazine or journal. It should identify the book's main thesis or purpose, give a brief summary of the contents, and include an evaluation of the work's strengths and weaknesses. All quotations and direct references to sections in the book should be indicated by page numbers within parentheses. Citations or paraphrases from other sources should be noted and documented using either footnotes or endnotes. Use section headings instead of chapters to separate sections of your paper (chapters require a new page for each new chapter and the project is not long enough to justify this).

The review should be 5-6 single-spaced typewritten pages (Times New Roman 12 point font) in length and contain:

- (1) a bibliographical entry at the top of the first text page of the review,
- (2) a brief biographical sketch of the author,
- (3) a brief summary (two to three pages) of the contents of the book,
- (4) a statement of the author's purpose and the extent to which the purpose was realized,
- (5) a statement regarding the book's uniqueness,
- (6) a description of the author's style,
- (7) a description of the author's biases, and
- (8) concluding evaluation.

We will discuss the review in class on the due date. **Due April 2.**

C. **Reflection Paper:** Write a reflection paper answering the following questions about the Radical Reformation.

- Why did the Radical Reformation happen?
- How would you characterize the Radical Reformation?
- Which came first, the Reformation or the Radical Reformation?
- What was the impact of the Radical Reformation?

This paper is not a formal research paper, but you probably will want to include references to various sources, and thus will need footnotes, which will follow Turabian, sixth edition, for style. Papers will be graded on clear organization, spelling, and grammar as well as content. This paper should be at least 8 pages in length. **Due May 7.**

Penalties

- A. *Papers:* A late paper will be assessed an initial **10 point penalty**. Each class meeting day after the due date an **additional 10 point penalty** will be assessed.
- B. *Plagiarism:* New Orleans Baptist Seminary maintains high academic standards and is not tolerant of plagiarism. If you copy another author's work and present it as your own, you will be caught, and the penalty could be failure on that assignment or the course or expulsion from the Seminary.

Possible Points & Grading Scale

<u>Possible Points</u>	<u>Grading Scale</u>
Book Review: 60 pts.	A = 186-200 pts.
Biography: 60 pts	B = 172-185 pts.
Reflection Paper: 60 pts	C = 155-171 pts.
<u>Participation: 20 pts.</u>	D = 141-154 pts.
200 pts.	F = 140- ↓ pts.

Attendance

A student may miss up to three (3) class periods before failing the course. Should a student miss a class period, it is the responsibility of the student to obtain class notes. The professor does not provide copies of lecture notes.

Cellular Phones

All phones should be turned off or adjusted so as not to disturb the class. If you can wait until a break time to attend to calls and pages, that would be greatly appreciated. Students are also asked to refrain from text messaging during class.

Bibliography

General Surveys of the Reformation

- Atherstone, Andrew. *Reformation: A World in Turmoil*. Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel Publications, 2015.
- Bagchi, David V. N. *The Cambridge Companion to Reformation Theology*. Cambridge, UK ; New York: Cambridge University Press, 2004.
- Chadwick, Owen. *The Reformation*. Baltimore: Penguin Books, 1964.
- George, Timothy. *Theology of the Reformers*. Nashville, TN: Broadman Press, 1988.
- Gonzalez, Justo L. *A History of Christian Thought*. 3 vols. Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 1970.
- Grimm, Harold J. *The Reformation Era 1500-1650*. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1954.
- Hillerbrand, Hans J. *The Reformation*. New York: Harper & Row, 1964.
- Holl, Karl. *The Cultural Significance of the Reformation*. New York: Meridian Books, 1959.
- Janz, Denis R. ed. *A Reformation Reader: Primary Texts with Introductions*. Minneapolis, MN: Fortress Press, 1999.
- Lindberg, Carter. *The European Reformations*. Cambridge, MA: Blackwell Publishers Inc., 1996.
- _____. *The Reformation Theologians: An Introduction to Theology in the Early Modern Period (The Great Theologians)*. Oxford/Cambridge, MA: Blackwell Publishers, 2002.
- MacCulloch, Diarmaid. *The Reformation: A History*. New York: Viking, 2004.
- McGrath, Alister E. *The Intellectual Origins of the European Reformation*. Cambridge, MA: Blackwell Publishers Inc., 1987.
- Oberman, Heiko. *The Reformation: Roots and Ramifications*. Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1994.
- Pauck, Wilhelm. *The Heritage of the Reformation*. Glencoe, IL: The Free Press, 1950.
- Pelikan, Jaroslav. *The Christian Tradition: A History of the Development of Doctrine*, Vol. 4 Chicago: Univ. of Chicago, 1971.
- Spitz, Lewis W. *The Protestant Reformation*. St. Louis, Concordia, 2003.
- Thompson, Stephen P. *The Reformation*. San Diego, CA: Greenhaven Press, 1999.

Works about the Radical Reformation, Anabaptists, and Other Radicals

- Arnold, Eberhard. *The Early Anabaptists*. Second Ed. Rifton, NY: Plough Pub. House, 1984.
- *Bainton, Roland H. *Hunted Heretic: The Life and Death of Michael Servetus, 1511-1553*. Boston, Beacon Press, 1960.
- *Bender, Harold S. *The Anabaptist Vision*. Scottsdale, PA: Herald Press, 1944.
- *_____. *The Anabaptists and the Religious Liberty in the Sixteenth Century*. Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1970.
- *_____. *Conrad Grebel, the Founder of the Swiss Brethren*. Goshen, IN: Mennonite Historical Society, 1950.
- *Bergsten, Torsten, and William Roscoe Estep. *Balthasar Hubmaier: Anabaptist Theologian and Martyr*. Valley Forge, PA: Judson Press, 1978.
- Cohn, Norman H. *The Pursuit of the Millennium*. Fair Lawn, NJ: Essential Books, 1957.
- Davis, Kenneth. *Anabaptists and Asceticism*. Scottsdale, PA: Herald Press, 1974.
- Denck, Hans. *Selected Writings of Hans Denck, 1500-1527*. Translated by E. J. Furcha. Pittsburgh: Pickwick Press, 1975.
- Depperman, Klaus. *Melchior Hoffman*. Edinburgh: T&T Clark, 1987.
- Estep, William Roscoe. *Anabaptist Beginnings (1523-1533): A Source Book*. Nieuwkoop: B. de Graaf, 1976.
- _____. *The Anabaptist Story: An Introduction to Sixteenth-Century Anabaptism*. 3d ed. Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans, 1996.
- *Goertz, Hans-Jürgen, and Walter Klaassen eds. *Profiles of Radical Reformers: Biographical Sketches from Thomas Müntzer to Paracelsus*. Scottsdale, PA, and Kitchener, Canada: Herald, 1982.
- *Hershberger, Guy F., ed. *The Recovery of the Anabaptist Vision*. Scottsdale, PA: Herald Press, 1957.
- Kot, Stanislaw. *Socinianism in Poland*. Boston: Starr King Press, 1957.
- Lederach, Paul M. *A Third Way*. Scottsdale, PA: Herald Press, 1980.
- *Liechty, Daniel. *Andreas Fischer and the Sabbatarian Anabaptists*. Scottsdale, PA: Herald Press, 1988.
- Liechty, Edward E. *The Plain People: The Left Wing of the Reformation*. Berne, IN: Publisher's Printing House, 1973.
- *Littell, F. J. *The Anabaptist View of the Church: A Study of the Origins of Sectarian Protestantism*. Second Ed. Boston: Starr King Press, 1958.

- *Loewen, Harry. *Luther and the Radicals*. Waterloo, ON: Wilfrid Laurier University, 1974.
- Mattheson, Peter, ed. *The Collected Works of Thomas Muntzer*. Edinburgh: T & T Clark, 1968.
- *Oberman, Heiko A. *Forerunners of the Reformation*. London: Lutterworth Press, 1967.
- Oyer, John Stanley. *Lutheran Reformers Against Anabaptists: Luther, Melancthon, and Menius, and the Anabaptists of Central Germany*. The Hague, the Netherlands: Martinus Nijhoof, 1964.
- Ozment, Steven E. *Mysticism and Dissent: Religious Ideology and Social Protest in the Sixteenth Century*. New haven, CT: Yale University Press, 1973.
- Radical Tendencies in the Reformation : Divergent Perspectives*. Edited by Hillerbrand, Hans Joachim. Kirksville, MO. : Sixteenth Century Journal Publishers, 1988.
- **Radical Reformation Studies: Essays Presented to James M. Stayer*. Aldershot, Hants; Brookfield, VT: Ashgate, 1999.
- Rican, Rudolph. *The History of the Unity of Brethren: A Protestant Hussite Church in Bohemia and Moravia*. Bethlehem, PA: Moravian Church in America, 1992.
- *Rupp, Gordon E. *Patterns of Reformation*. Philadelphia: Fortress, 1969.
- *Ruth, John L. *Conrad Grebel, Son of Zurich*. Scottsdale, PA Herald Press, 1975.
- *Snyder, C. Arnold. *The Life and Thought of Michael Sattler*. Scottsdale, PA: Herald Press, 1984.
- Steinmetz, David Curtis. *Reformers in the Wings*. Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1971.
- Verduin, Leonard. *The Reformers and Their Stepchildren*. Dissent and Nonconformity 14. Paris, AR: The Baptist Standard Bearer, 2001.
- Williams, George H. *The Radical Reformation*, 3d ed. Kirksville, MO: Sixteenth Century Journal Publishers, 1992.
- Williams, George H. and Angel M. Mergal. *Spiritual and Anabaptist Writers*. Library of Christian Classics. Westminster John Knox Press; 1957.

Luther's attack on the church was very radical. He condemned Church doctrines, the way that Church tradition had controlled and interpreted the Bible, the leadership of the Pope, and the sacredness and specialness of the clergy. He was definitely a religious radical, and his ideas were similar in some ways to those of earlier heretics like Hus. However, he did not start out intending to split the church. In 1522 he left Wartburg in order to calm down the radical direction that reform was taking in Wittenburg under his colleague Carlstadt and the Zwickau prophets. There had been disorder. The Radical Reformation was the response to what was believed to be the corruption in both the Roman Catholic Church and the expanding Magisterial Protestant movement led by Martin Luther and many others. Beginning in Germany and Switzerland in the 16th century, the Radical Reformation birthed many radical Protestant groups throughout Europe. Unlike the Catholics and the more Magisterial Lutheran and Reformed (Zwinglian and Calvinist) Protestant movements, some of the Radical Reformation abandoned the idea that the "Church visible" was distinct from the "Church invisible."^[3] Thus, the Church only consisted of the tiny community of believers, who accepted Jesus Christ and demonstrated this by adult baptism, called "believer's baptism".