

Classic Christian Texts I
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This is an abbreviated course outline for one of a two-semester course sequence for Theology majors (and some minors), usually taken in the junior year.

The first essay was on *St. John Chrysostom: On Marriage and Family Life*, ed. by Catharine Roth; the second was on the two editions of Cyprian's *De unitate*.

The semester project was to choose (with guidance) a primary source document and create a lesson plan for a group of high school seniors at a denominational school or a class of sophomores in a general education theology class at Fordham. On the final days of the course students 'taught' their lesson and received helpful comments from members of the class.

Creeds handout- comparative Apostles, Old Roman, Nicene-Constantinopolitan Councils - Almost all Christians accept the first seven ecumenical councils. Catholics count the largest number. See *Medieval Sourcebook* <http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/sbook2.html#conc2>
 Denominational materials "Creeds of Christendom" <http://www.creeds.net/> and various denominational sites. For non-denominational churches, consult congregational leaders.

Date	Topic/Questions	Readings CW = Cloud of Witnesses MM = Many Mansions
Part I: Earliest Christianity CW Chapters I-IV		
Th 9/4	What is this class about? What do Christians believe? The Creeds Handout	
M 9/8	A canonical gospel	The Gospel of Matthew in your Bible or at http://www.usccb.org/nab/bible (Be sure to read any intro & footnotes your text offers.)
Th 9/11	A non-canonical gospel	<i>The Protoevangelium of James</i> http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/text/infancyjames-roberts.html
M 9/15	Liturgy & Catechesis I	From the Bible: 1 Corinthians 11:17-33 and 14:20-40 ; Didache Chapters 7-14; Justin, First Apology §§65-67 (LXV-LXVII)
Bible - http://www.usccb.org/nab/bible/ (Be sure to read the intro & footnotes.) Didache - http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/text/didache-lake.html Justin - http://www.earlychristianwritings.com/text/justinmartyr-firstapology.html		

Th 9/18	Liturgy & Catechesis II (early church architecture)	Hippolytus <i>On the Apostolic Tradition</i> http://www.bombaxo.com/hippolytus.html
M 9/22	Liturgy & Catechesis III (baptisteries)	http://www.bombaxo.com/hippolytus.html Ambrose On the Sacraments http://www.crossroadsinitiative.com/library_article/657/On_the_Mysteries_St_Ambrose_on_the_Sacraments.html
Part II: The Formation of “Orthodoxy” CW V-XI, MM II, VI-VIII, X		
Th 9/25	Who is Jesus? I	Review Creed HO from 9/4; ER Soteriology & Christology, pp.1-6 (to Nicaea) ER Letter of Dionysius of Rome (reigned 259-263) to Dionysius of Alexandria (embedded in Athanasius <i>De Decretis</i> , Chapter 6 §§ 25 and 26); ER Athanasius, <i>Against the Arians</i> III. Chapters 26 and 27 (= paragraphs 26-41)
By 10/2 you should have consulted with your professor on a text for your semester project.		
M 9/29	Who is Jesus? II	ER Soteriology & Christology pp. 6-10; Cyril of Alexandria, Ep. IV (second letter to Nestorius only)
http://www.piar.hu/councils/ecum03.htm#Second%20letter%20of%20Cyril%20to%20Nestorius		
Th 10/2	Divine & Human - Images of Jesus I and Iconoclasm	MM XIV , The Iconoclastic Controversy, “What Was the Iconoclastic Controversy All About” http://www.theandros.com/iconoclast.html St. Theodore the Studite <i>On the Holy Icons</i> , Introduction, First Refutation, and Second Refutation sections 1-26
M 10/6	The Eucharist I	Review 1 Corinthians from 9/15; read Cyril of Jerusalem, <i>Catechetical Lectures 20 and 23</i> (= <i>Mystagogic Catechesis</i> 2 and 5)
http://www.monachos.net/library/Cyril_of_Jerusalem%2C_The_Mystagogics_%28or_The_Mystagogical_Catecheses%29 or (if the first is not restored) (Lecture 20=2) http://home.newadvent.org/fathers/310120.htm and (Lecture 23=5) http://home.newadvent.org/fathers/310123.htm		
Th 10/9	The Human Family Essay #1 due today	John Chrysostom essay on Homilies 19, 20 and 21
F 10/10	Last day to opt for a Pass-Fail grade	
M 10/13	No class Columbus Day celebrated	
Th 10/16	First Exam	
Part III: Sacraments and Salvation (CW XIII-XVI), MM IV-V, XIII, XV		

M 10/20	The Eucharist II	MM XIII, ER From G. Macy, <i>The Banquet's Wisdom</i> 68-89
Th 10/23	The Eucharist III	Thomas Aquinas, <i>Summa Theologica</i> Third part, Questions 74-78 + one article of your choice on Eucharist.
<i>Summa</i> - http://www.newadvent.org/summa/4.htm Scroll down to 'The Holy Eucharist' to start.		
M 10/27	Eschatology	MM XVIII, ER "Dies Irae"
Th 10/30	Marian devotion	MM XV, ER Marian hymns
Make an appointment this week to see your professor during the next week regarding progress on your project.		
M 11/3	Pious practice as text	ER Introduction to <i>Processione</i>
Part IV Mysticism, Christ and the Church MM IX		
Th 11/6	Mysticism - Pseudo-Dionysius, Suger, and architecture	Pseudo-Dionysius, <i>The Ecclesiastical Hierarchy</i> Chapter 1 (sections IV and V only) and Chapters 5 and 6 Before reading the sections of Suger, see the plan at http://www.planetware.com/map/abbey-of-saint-denis-map-f-parstden.htm and view the slides of St. Denis on ER Suger: Read Intro. and sections XXVII&XXVIII (next box)
	Pseudo-Dionysius - http://www.tertullian.org/fathers/areopagite_14_ecclesiastical_hierarchy.htm Suger - http://www.history.vt.edu/Burr/DeAdmin.pdf	
F 11/7	Last day to withdraw without a WF grade	
M 11/10	Mysticism and Images of Jesus II	ER Bernard of Clairvaux "Three Kisses" and Beatrijs of Nazareth "There are Seven Manners of Loving"
Th 11/13	Christology again and Imitating Jesus	MM XIV Review ER Soteriology & Christology, pp. 1-2 and read <i>Cur Deus Homo</i>
http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/basis/anselm-curdeus.html Read the Table of Contents, Book First, Chapter 1, and Book Second (all)		
M 11/17	2nd essay due Ecclesiology I	1 Corinthians 12:1-12:13; and ER Cyprian <i>On the Unity of the Church</i> 1-12 (CW XIV gives the background)
Th 11/20	Ecclesiology II	Boniface VIII, <i>Unam sanctam</i> ; Council of Constance, <i>Frequens</i> ; Marsilius (Marsiglio) of Padua, <i>Defensor pacis</i> and associated documents. See next box.

Boniface - <http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/b8-unam.html>
 Constance - <http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/constance2.html>
Frequens - <http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/constance2.html>
Defensor pacis Abbreviated text <http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/marsiglio4.html>
 Conclusions <http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/marsiglio1.html>
 Papal condemnation <http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/marsiglio2.html>

M 11/24	2 nd exam
Th 11/27	No class Thanksgiving
M 12/1	Student presentations
Th 12/4	Student presentations
M 12/8	Student presentations
12/18 9:30 am	On the day/time assigned for the final exam, you will turn in a copy of the text you presented and the final version of your presentation. See instructions for the semester project. Late papers will be penalized.