

Anglican School of Ministry  
Foundations for Christian Ministry  
Syllabus FOU 004  
Church History  
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Course Title: Church History FOU 004

Course Texts:

*Exploring the Church's Past* by Leslie P. Fairfield

(A workbook available through Trinity Episcopal Seminary. Contact your instructor for information on ordering and payment.)

*The Story of Christianity* by Justo L. Gonzalez, HarperCollins, 1985.

(This work is available both in hardback and soft cover edition in two volumes. It is often available "used" at [abebooks.com](http://abebooks.com))

Faculty: Mr. Pat Lynch (DipTS) is a graduate of the Anglican School of Ministry and is a Licensed Lay Minister and Catechist at St. Andrews Church in Little Rock, Arkansas. He directs the Foundations program for ASM, and is also a professional journalist, columnist, and broadcast commentator.

The course will present the individuals who most influenced the development of Christianity within their cultural context. The development of doctrine, church government and worship will be explored.

Course objectives:

- Identify important Christian leaders and explain their contributions.
- Note the movements and persons that held beliefs outside of orthodox doctrine and explain how they influenced church teachings.
- Identify and describe the major periods of church history.
- Outline the development of Christian doctrine and correctly locate individuals and occurrences within the prevailing culture.
- Explain theological and cultural terms related to church history.
- Articulate Christian doctrine as it relates to the elements of church history.

Assessments will be on a pass/fail basis based on the completion of weekly assignments and class participation.

Weekly assignments are based on the chapters in *Exploring the Church's Past* and corresponding readings from Gonzalez's *Story of Christianity*.

Week One: Ignatius of Antioch and the Roman World

Week Two: Irenaeus and the Defense of the Gospel

Week Three: Constantine and the State Church

Week Four: Monks and Popes in the 500s A. D.

Week Five: Innocent III and Francis of Assisi

Week Six: Thomas Aquinas on Reason and Faith

Week Seven: Martin Luther and the Reformation

Week Eight: The Age of Reason

Week Nine: George Whitefield and the Evangelical Revival

Week Ten: William Wilberforce and the Transformation of Society

Week Eleven: Scientism, Modernist Theology and the Spiritual Decline of the Global West

Week Twelve: Christian Growth in the Global South