

EARLY CHURCH HISTORY

Daniel F. Cates

COURSE INFORMATION:

MSOP M.O.S.T. Course #663

To contact the instructor:

101 Harvest Rd.
Coldwater, MS 38618

662-560-8045
dsmcates@msn.com

TEXTBOOK:

Cates, Daniel, *Acts and Beyond: A Study of the Early Church by Location*, (Unpublished, and yet incomplete). [This is available as a course document on .pdf.]

There are no required books to purchase; these other books are recommended if one is interested in having more books on church history and can find them--some remain in print, others are no longer in print. As several were written or edited from a denominational perspective, this is not to be seen as an endorsement of the doctrine in these sources.

Bercot, David W., ed., *A Dictionary of Early Christian Beliefs*, (Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, Inc., 1998).

Bettenson, Henry, and Maunder, Chris, *Documents of the Christian Church*, Third ed., (New York: Oxford University Press, 1999).

Brown, Harold O.J., *Heresies: Heresy and Orthodoxy in the History of the Church*, (Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, Inc., 2007).

Eusebius, *The Church History*. [It is freely available as a .pdf in any number of translations via numerous internet sources]

Ferguson, Everett, *Backgrounds of Early Christianity*, Third ed., (Grand Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans Pub. Co., 2003).

Ferguson, Everett, *Church History: Early and Medieval*, Second ed., (Abilene, TX: ACU Press, 1985).

Ferguson, Everett, *Church History: Reformation and Modern*, Second ed., (Abilene, TX: Biblical Research Press, 1967).

Ferguson, Everett, *Early Christians Speak*, (Austin, TX: Sweet Pub. Co., 1971).

Fox, John, *Book of Martyrs*.

This book is available as a .pdf from numerous internet sources.

Friend, W.H.C., *The Rise of Christianity*, (Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1984).

Guy, Laurie, *Introduction to Early Christianity*, (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2004).

Mattox, F.W., and McRay, John, *The Eternal Kingdom*, (Delight, AR: Gospel Light Publishing Co., 1961)

McKeechne, Paul, *The First Christian Centuries: Perspectives on the Early Church*, (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2001).

Wace, Henry, and Piercy, William C., eds., *A Dictionary of Early Christian Biography*, (Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, Inc., 1999).

REQUIREMENTS:

Each student will be required to pay attention to the instructor, to follow along in the handouts, to do any required reading and assignments outside of class, and to actively participate in class.

Students taking the class toward the M.O.S.T. Certificate must write two 2-3 page double-spaced introductions in outline form. Students taking the class toward the M.O.S.T. Advanced Diploma must write three 3-5 page double-spaced introductions in outline form. These will need to be submitted in PDF from by the appropriate class session. The categories and sample subjects follow:

INTRODUCTION # 1: A Person	2: A Doctrine	3: A Council or Creed
examples	Polycarp	Transubstantiation
	Constantine	Docetism
	Eusebius	Donatism
		I Nicea
		III Ecumenical
		Apostle's Creed

Only students who are auditing are exempt from the introductions and final exam.

GRADING:

There are 200 possible points divided in this way (this grading system is flexible):

 Introductions (100 total)

 Final Exam (100)

Grading scale: 95-100=A, 85-94=B, 70-84=C, 60-69=D, 0-59=F

IMPORTANT DATES: *(this schedule is also flexible)*

Fifth class session

First Introduction Due

Ninth class session

Second Introduction Due

Twelfth class session

Third Introduction Due

Thirteenth class session

Final Exam