

**RELI223-01 FALL 2006 (CRN 21155) American Church History
COURSE CALENDAR**

This calendar is subject to revision at the instructor's discretion. Reading and homework are due at the beginning of class on the date for which the reading or assignment appears on the calendar.

UNIT 1: APPROACHING THE STUDY OF RELIGION IN THE UNITED STATES

- 9/6: Orientation to the Course: Participants, Instructor, Purpose, Content, Format
Why the Academic Study of Religion in the Curriculum at PLU?
What is the Academic Study of Religion in the United States?
- 9/8: Orientation to the Course: Critical Reading, Active Questioning, and Key Concepts in
Thinking Historically About Religion
Reading: Read Syllabus
Due: Two pages: decisions/choices in the syllabus; the syllabus and your thinking about the
study of religion
- 9/11: Studying the History of Religion in the United States: Concepts, Categories, Organizing
Themes
Reading: Jon Butler (JB), 7-8, 11-29
- 9/13: Studying the History of Religion in the United States: Defining Religion—Religious Systems
Reading: Brett Carroll (BC), 10-16
Due: One page: What is Carroll's definition of religion? What are its constituent elements?
- 9/15: **Test 1**

**UNIT 2: EUROPEAN CHRISTIANITIES ENTER THE AMERICAS AND ENCOUNTER ITS
PEOPLES**

- 9/18: French and Spanish European Christianity Encounters Native Traditions: Religious Systems,
Context, and Change; Catholics in the Americas
Reading: BC, 22-29
Due: Attendance at Martin Marty lecture, "Global Christian Energies Move South" – 7:30pm,
CK
- 9/20: English Protestant Christianity Arrives in North America:
Reading: JB, 31-51; BC 30-37
- 9/22: English Protestant Christianity – Puritan Theology: Document Laboratory 1
Reading: John Winthrop, "Model of Christian Charity" (to be distributed TBD)
- 9/25: English Protestant Christianity – Other British Protestant Families
Reading: BC 38-45
- 9/27: Continental Protestants, Catholics, Jews
Reading: JB, 53-73; BC, 46-55
- 9/29: Reading Day – no class session

- 10/2: Document Lab 2: Religious Change in North America
Reading: John Winthrop, “Model of Christian Charity”; Jonas Michaelius, “Letter”; Lutherans in New Netherlands, “Petition” (TBD)
- 10/4: A Contemporary Perspective: Are We the Children of Puritans?
Reading: Amanda Porterfield, “The Puritan Legacy in American Religion and Culture” (electronic reserve)
- 10/6: **Test 2**

UNIT 3: FROM EUROPEAN COLONIES TO AMERICAN REPUBLIC

- 10/9: The Great Awakening: Reviving Religion in North America
Reading: JB, 97-119; BC 56-59
- 10/11: The Great Awakening: Reviving Religion in North America – Document Lab 3
Reading: see 10/9 and documents from George Whitefield and Timothy Cutler
- 10/13: The Great Awakening: Reviving Religion in North America – Document Lab 3 contd.
- 10/16: Religion and the American Revolution:
Reading: JB, 121-141
- 10/18: Religion and the American Revolution: “The Mission of America Equation”
Reading: Hudson and Corrigan, 110-130 (tbd)
- 10/20: Mid-semester break – no class

UNIT 4: RELIGION IN 19th AND EARLY 20th CENTURY NORTH AMERICA—EXPANDING VOLUNTARISM AND PLURALISM

- 10/23: The Second Great Awakening: Social, Cultural, Religious Change and the Emergence of “Evangelical Protestantism”
Reading: BC, 60-69; autobiography of Rev. Peter Cartwright (electronic reserve)
- 10/25: The Second Great Awakening: Developing an ‘American’ Way of Being Religious – Document Lab 4
Reading: Charles Grandison Finney on revivals; voluntary associations, women in revivals (tbd)
- 10/27: The Second Great Awakening: Developing an ‘American’ Way of Being Religious – Document Lab 4 contd.
- 10/30: Insiders and Outsiders: Locating Communities and Selves in a Pluralistic and Voluntaristic Religious Context
Reading: R. Laurence Moore, “Insiders and Outsiders in American Historical Narrative and American History” (electronic reserve)
- 11/1: African American Religion in the 19th Century: Christianity as Source of Oppression and Resistance
Reading: “‘Believer I Know’ The Emergence of African American Christianity”; and “The

- Life and Religious Experience of Jarena Lee” (electronic reserve)
- 11/3: African American Religion in the 19th Century: Christianity as Source of Oppression and Resistance
Reading: *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, An American Slave* (FD)
- 11/6: African American Religion in the 19th Century: Christianity as Source of Oppression and Resistance contd.
Reading: (FD)
- 11/8: American-Born ‘Outsiders’: Example -- The Origins of the Latter-Day Saints
Reading: Jan Shippo “The Story of a New Religious Tradition” (electronic reserve)
- 11/10: Expanding Knowledge and Stresses in American Protestantism: The Fundamentalist-Modernist Controversy Document Lab 5
Reading: Harry Emerson Fosdick and J. Gresham Machen (tbd)
- 11/13: Faith, Knowledge, and Christian Life in Corporate, Industrial America: The Rise of Pentecostalism
Reading: BC, 116-119; Aimee Semple McPherson, “Girlhood and Salvation and the Baptism of the Holy Spirit” (electronic reserve)
- 11/15: Presentations
- 11/17, 11/20: Writing Days
- 11/22: Course Paper due by noon in Admin 103
- 11/24: Thanksgiving Break
- 11/27: Presentations
- 11/29: Presentations
- 12/1: Cultural and Religious Diversity in America Religion Today
Reading: Diana L. Eck, “Frontiers of Encounter: The Meeting of East and West in America Since the 1893 World’s Parliament of Religions” (electronic reserve); William R. Hutchinson, “Diversity and the Pluralist Ideal” (electronic reserve)
- 12/4: Cultural and Religious Diversity in America Religion Today: Religion and a Civil Order
Reading: Nancy T. Ammerman, “Golden Rule Christianity: Lived Religion in the American Mainstream” (electronic reserve); Mark Noll, “What is Evangelicalism” (electronic reserve)
- 12/6: Cultural and Religious Diversity in America Today: Hospitality as a Moral Challenge
Reading: Martin E. Marty, “The Risk of Hospitality” (electronic reserve)
- 12/8: Closure and Assessment
- 12/12: **8:00am Final Exam**