

Note:

Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.

COURSE SYLLABUS

CHHI 660

AMERICAN CHRISTIANITY

COURSE DESCRIPTION

A study of the beginnings of Christianity in America to the present. Includes the European background, colonial Christianity, the first Great Awakening, the rise of the United States, the separation of church and state, the second Great Awakening, the development of religious diversity, the impact of the Civil War on religion, denominational development, the impact of immigration and industrialization, and the modern period. (Formerly CHHI 692)

RATIONALE

A study of the Christian movement in America is essential to a proper understanding of this nation. This course is designed to give ministry students an appreciation for their heritage by linking the present with the past, which formed it.

I. PREREQUISITE

For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the [Academic Course Catalog](#).

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASE

Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: <http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm>

III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING

- A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
- B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
- C. Blackboard [recommended browsers](#)
- D. Microsoft Word
- E. School of Divinity Writing Guide:
<https://www.liberty.edu/divinity/index.cfm?PID=28160>

IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Identify the major people, places, events, and issues in the history of American Christianity.
- B. Explain the historical and doctrinal developments of the major denominations in the United States.
- C. Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of American Christian leaders and movements.
- D. Distinguish the challenges of Christianity in various sub-cultures of the United States.
- E. Propose strategies for effective ministry in the various sub-cultures of the United States.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

A. Textbook readings and lecture presentations/notes

B. Course Requirements Checklist

After reading the Syllabus and [Student Expectations](#), the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.

C. Discussion Board Forums (4)

The student will participate in 4 Discussion Board Forums throughout this course. The student is required to provide a thread in response to the provided prompt for each forum. Each thread must be 400–600 words in length and demonstrate course-related knowledge. In addition to the thread, the student is required to reply to 2 other classmates' threads. Each reply should be at least 200 words.

D. Biographical Research Paper

This paper will consist of 2 parts:

Proposal

The student will write a 300–700-word proposal in current Turabian format that address the topic of his/her research paper. The proposal must include at least 10 references, not including the course textbooks and the Bible.

Submission

The student will write a 4,000–5,000-word research paper in current Turabian format that focuses on a person who had a direct and profound effect on American Christianity. The paper must include at least 10 references, not including the course textbooks and the Bible.

E. Local Church History Report

The student will write a 1,200–1,500-word report in current Turabian format that details the history of a local church. The report must include at least 2 references in addition to the class textbook and the Bible. The sources must include at least 1 interview and 1 written source.

F. Exams (7)

Each exam will cover the Reading & Study material for the module/week in which it is assigned. Each exam will be open-book/open-notes; contain 25 true/false, multiple-choice, and matching questions; and have a 60-minute time limit.

VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

Course Requirements Checklist	10
Discussion Board Forums (4 at 50 pts ea)	200
Biographical Research Paper:	
Proposal	50
Submission	250
Local Church History Report	150
Exams (7 at 50 pts ea)	350
Total	1010

B. Scale

A = 940–1010 A- = 920–939 B+ = 900–919 B = 860–899 B- = 840–859
 C+ = 820–839 C = 780–819 C- = 760–779 D+ = 740–759 D = 700–739
 D- = 680–699 F = 0–679

C. Style Guidelines

All assignments for this course are to be formatted in accordance with the [LUSD Writing Guide](#) and the latest edition of the Turabian style manual (*A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*). Discussion assignments and essay examinations may use the parenthetical citation style. All other written assignments should use the footnote citation style. Supplemental writing aids are available via the [Online Writing Center](#).

D. Extra Credit

No additional “for credit” assignments will be permitted beyond those given in the course requirements stated above.

E. Course Changes

Course requirements are subject to change by the administration of the University at any time with appropriate notice.

F. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online's Office of Disability Accommodation Support (ODAS) at LUOODAS@liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport.

If you have a complaint related to disability discrimination or an accommodation that was not provided, you may contact ODAS or the Office of Equity and Compliance by phone at (434) 592-4999 or by email at equityandcompliance@liberty.edu. Click to see a full copy of Liberty's [Discrimination, Harassment, and Sexual Misconduct Policy](#) or the [Student Disability Grievance Policy and Procedures](#).

COURSE SCHEDULE

CHHI 660

Textbook: Gaustad & Schmidt, *Religious History of America: The Heart of the American Story from Colonial Times to Today* (2004).

MODULE/ WEEK	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
1	Gaustad & Schmidt: chs. 1–3 1 presentation	Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions DB Forum 1 Exam 1	10 0 50 50
2	Gaustad & Schmidt: chs. 4–6 1 presentation	DB Forum 2 Exam 2	50 50
3	Gaustad & Schmidt: chs. 7–9 1 presentation	Biographical Research Paper: Proposal Exam 3	50 50
4	Gaustad & Schmidt: chs. 10–12 1 presentation	Exam 4	50
5	Gaustad & Schmidt: chs. 13–14 1 presentation	DB Forum 3 Exam 5	50 50
6	Gaustad & Schmidt: chs. 15–16 1 presentation	Local Church History Report Exam 6	150 50
7	Gaustad & Schmidt: chs. 17–18 1 presentation	DB Forum 4 Exam 7	50 50
8	1 presentation	Biographical Research Paper: Submission	250
TOTAL			1010

DB = Discussion Board

NOTE: Each course week begins on Monday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Sunday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday.