

**UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY  
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES  
DEPARTMENT OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES  
Winter 2010**

*updated December 10, 2009*

Course: Religious Studies 383 L01: Origins of Christianity 100 BCE – 200 CE  
Time: TR 12:30 – 1:45  
Instructor: Anne Moore  
Office Hours: TR 11:00 – 12:00 R 2:00 – 3:30  
Office: Social Sciences 1324  
Telephone: (403) 220-3288; (403) 210-0801 (Fax)  
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Graduate Teaching Assistant: Sharon Mogen e-mail: [spmogen@shaw.ca](mailto:spmogen@shaw.ca)

Textbooks:

- 1) Horsley, Richard. Ed. *Christian Origins*. Vol. 1 of *A People's History of Christianity*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2005.
- 2) Ehrman, Bart D. *A Brief Introduction to the New Testament*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Blackboard: Some course material will be available through blackboard: <http://blackboard.ucalgary.ca>

Course Description:

This course focuses on the transformation of a group of followers of a Jewish teacher to a religious community within the diversity of the Roman Empire. In other words, it is concerned with the conversion of a Second Temple Jewish sect to a separate religion. It will examine how a historical figure, Jesus of Nazareth, was transformed into a mythological/theological figure of Christ.

Outcomes:

This course is designed to familiarize students with the assumptions and methods used in the study of Christian origins. This familiarization process will take the form of lectures, readings, and exercises that have been structured to present the basic information and to demonstrate the interdisciplinary nature of scholarship in this area. There will be a specific focus on the use of the social sciences in the reconstruction of Christian Origins.

The requirements of the course are also structured to acquaint students with the primary sources including the New Testament and its companion literature from Second Temple or Formative Judaism.

The requirements are also designed to develop skills necessary for the construction of research papers and the critical examination of secondary sources; in other words, the type of analytical and critical techniques that would be required for any detailed examination in any discipline.

Self-Directed Study

Students are expected to develop skills of time management, organization and independent learning through assigned readings, preparation for exams and in developing a research essay.

Course Outline:

The following outline will be considered a provisional guide only to the content of the course.

**1. Sources**

*What is the New Testament?*  
*Influences on the New Testament*  
*Different Gospel Views of Jesus*

**January 14 – February 9**

Ehrman, Chapters 1-8  
Horsley, Chapters 5-8

**2. History to Gospel**

*The Historical Jesus*  
*Jesus Movements*  
*The Emergence of the Gospel Story*

**February 11 - March 11**

Ehrman, Chapters 9-11  
Horsley, Chapters 1-4

**3. Paul and the Gentile Church**

*The Apostle Paul*  
*The Pauline Churches*  
*The Pauline School*

**March 16 – April 1**

Ehrman, Chapters 12-18  
 Horsley, Chapters 9-12

**4. After Paul**

*Pastoral Letters*  
*Revelations*

**April 6 – 15**

Ehrman, Chapters 19-21

Course Protocol

A penalty of 5 marks per day (including weekends) will be deducted from late assignments.

Extra credit will NOT be granted in this course.

Deferred exams are a privilege. In the case of an absence from an exam, the student is obligated to contact the professor within 24 hours of the scheduled exam.

N.B. All written assignments will be graded with regard to both form (i.e. grammar, spelling, organization) and content.

Course Requirements:**1. In-Class Exam [Tuesday February 9]****20%**

Multiple format exam based on lectures from January 12 to February 5 (inclusive) and Ehrman, chapters 1-8 and Horsley chapters 5-8.

**2. Take-Home Exam [Questions Given on Thursday March 25. Due: Tuesday March 30]****30%**

Essay Questions based on lectures from January 12 to March 11<sup>th</sup> (inclusive) and Ehrman, chapters 9-18 and Horsley 1- 4 and 9-12.

**2. Term Paper**

A term paper is a thoughtful argumentation based on facts, evidence, and logical reasoning that proves or validates a particular thesis.

a. Thesis statement with Annotated Bibliography, Statement of Research Approach or Thesis and Provisional Outline of Sections.

**[Due: Thursday March 18]****10%**

Annotated Bibliography will be in proper format (MLA, CHICAGO, or APA) and include a minimum of one primary source, 3 academic journal articles and 3 books.

**b. Paper [Due: Tuesday April 13]****30%**

Length: 2, 500 word or 10 pages double-spaced using one of the approved style guides

**3. Quiz [Thursday April 15]****10%**

Multiple-choice, true and false, fill-in the blank and/or short answer questions based on lectures from April 6-15 and Ehrman, chapters 19-21.

There will be no Registrar scheduled final examination in this course.

Grading

A numerical mark will be given for each course requirement. A letter grade will be assigned on the following number and letter grade scheme:

A+	100 - 96	A	95 - 90	A-	89 - 85
B+	84 - 80	B	79 - 75	B-	74 - 70
C+	69 - 65	C	64 - 60	C-	59 - 55
D+	54 - 53	D	52-50	F	Under 50

Continuing Courses:

Religious Studies 483 or 485.

**Academic Honesty:**

*Plagiarism is not tolerated at the University of Calgary and has serious consequences. Your essays/presentations must be your own work and inadequate referencing may be seen as plagiarism. Please see the relevant sections on Academic Misconduct in the current University Calendar. If you have questions about correct referencing, please consult your instructor.*

**Academic Accommodation:**

If you are a student with a disability who requires academic accommodation and you have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at (403) 220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. Once registered, please discuss any upcoming tests/examinations with the instructor **two weeks** before the scheduled date.

**Gnosis:**

Gnosis is the Religious Studies Student Club. For membership or more information please email: [gnosis@ucalgary.ca](mailto:gnosis@ucalgary.ca) or visit <http://www.ucalgary.ca/~gnosis>.