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## The History and Theology of the Papacy

**PC Course Code:** THL 360

**Subject Areas:** Theology, Religious Studies

**Level:** 300

**Prerequisites:** For Providence College students, 200 Level Theology Course

**Language of Instruction:** English

**Contact Hours:** 45

**Recommended Credits:** 3

### Course Description

This course will introduce the student to the history and theology of the papacy. The idea that the bishop of Rome, as the successor of St. Peter, has been given the responsibility and the powers to ensure that the Church as a whole remains united in the faith transmitted by Jesus Christ to the apostles resides at the heart of Catholic ecclesiology. Yet, as important as the Petrine ministry has been for Roman Catholicism, it has, and remains, controversy within Christianity as a whole. The papacy has been an important element in the splits within the Christian faith, both those separating Roman Catholicism from Eastern Orthodoxy as well as from the varieties of Protestantism. Moreover, the papacy has a fascinating history of its own and one that touches upon many vital streams within western and world history. In this course, we shall learn not only about the historical evolution of the papacy, but about some of the individual popes who have shaped that history. Yet, since history is only part of the story, we shall also read theologians on the papacy, both Catholic and not, critics as well as champions. By the end, each student should have a good understanding of the papal past and its future potential.

### Learning Objectives

By the end of course the student should be able:

- to explain and evaluate the Roman Catholic claims that God wills the bishops of Rome, as successor of Peter, to have universal and immediate jurisdiction over the local churches that make up Christianity.
- to competently discuss the various objections to the Catholic viewpoint from both Protestant theologians as well as Eastern Orthodox ones.
- to give a broad overview of papal history with special attention to the origins of the papacy, its early martyrs, the effects of imperial sanction and support, struggles with the Eastern emperor, the turn west, the pinnacle of papal power in the high Middle Ages, the challenges of Conciliarism, the Reformation, and the emergence of the modern nation-state.

### Instructional Format

This course will meet once per week for 3 hours, for a total of 14 class sessions. Course work is comprised of in-class lectures and discussions, group exercises, student presentations, documentary films, extensive outside readings, independent group and individual onsite study, a research project, and a number of instructor-led onsite research excursions to relevant course-related sites and institutions in the city.

*If you require any special accommodations, please contact your instructor.*

## Forms of Assessment

Participation, presentations and quizzes	40%
Two exams	20%
Research paper	20%
Final oral exam	20%

### Participation, presentations and quizzes (40%)

All courses at the collegiate level rely on student input. Such input depends on student comprehension of the reading assignments prior to the class session in which they are to be discussed. Accordingly, a significant part of your grade is related to your capacity for participation. This capacity can be assessed by a variety of means. We shall decide upon which are appropriate as and when the course progresses. **You should expect a quiz or out of class writing assignment on the reading for each class.**

**Class Participation (15%):** This grade will be calculated to reflect your participation in class discussions, your capacity to introduce ideas and thoughts dealing with the texts, your ability to interpret different uses of literary language and to express your analysis in intellectual, constructive argumentation. When determining your class participation grades, traditional criteria such as material preparation, completed reading before class, and collaborative group work are all evaluated. But it is the active, meaningful and informed verbal and written contribution that you make that is most important to your overall participation grade. Indeed, willingness to share views in classroom discussions and the insightfulness of your comments and questions about assigned readings will all be taken into account when evaluating your participation. Additionally, it is important to demonstrate a positive and supportive attitude to the instructor and your classmates, and give full attention to class activities (i.e., cell-phones off, laptop for notes only, etc.). Whereas attendance and punctuality are expected and will not count positively towards the grade, laxity in these areas will have a negative effect. The instructor will use the following specific criteria when calculating your class participation grade:

Criteria for Assessing Class Participation	Grade
You make major and original contributions that spark discussion, offering both critical and analytical comments clearly based on readings and research and displaying a working knowledge of theoretical issues.	A+ (9.70–10.00)
You make significant contributions that demonstrate insight as well as knowledge of required readings and independent research.	A-/A (9.00–9.69)
You participate voluntarily and make useful contributions that are usually based upon some reflection and familiarity with required readings.	B/B+ (8.40–89.90)
You make voluntary but infrequent comments that generally reiterate the basic points of the required readings.	C+/B- (7.70–8.39)
You make limited comments only when prompted and do not initiate debate or show a clear awareness of the importance of the readings.	C (7.00–7.69)
You very rarely make comments and resist engagement with the subject, attending class having manifestly done little if any preparation.	D (6.00–6.69)
You make irrelevant and tangential comments disruptive to class discussion, a result of frequent absence and complete un-preparedness.	F (0–5.90)

### Exams (20%)

There will be two examinations during the semester.

### Research Paper (20%)

Each student will complete a research paper of 10-15 pages. The paper will engage either a theological or historical issue concerning the papacy. Details specified anon.

### Final Oral Exam (20%)

## GRADE AND QUALITY POINT CHART

Letter Grade	Percentage Range	Standard Quality Points
A Superior	94.0 - 100%	4.00
A-	90.0 – 93.9%	3.67
B+ Very Good	87.0 – 89.9%	3.33
B Good	84.0 – 86.9%	3.00
B-	80.0 – 83.9%	2.67
C+ Above Average	77.0 – 79.9%	2.33
C Average	74.0 – 76.9%	2.00
C-	70.0 – 73.9%	1.67
D+ Passing	67.0 – 69.9%	1.33
D Low Passing	64.0 – 66.9%	1.00
D-	60.0 – 63.9%	0.67
F Failure	0 – 59.9%	0.00
WD	Withdrawal	
I	Incomplete	

### CEA Attendance Policy

Every student is expected to attend all scheduled class sessions on time and be thoroughly prepared for the day's class activities. In compliance with NEASC accreditation requirements, CEA instructors compile regular attendance records for every course and take these records into account when evaluating student participation and performance.

- In each three-credit 15-week course, a maximum of the equivalent of two weeks of accumulated absences due to sickness, personal emergency, inevitable transport delay and other related impediments will be tolerated.
- Your final course grade will drop one full letter grade (e.g. A- to B-) for each additional class missed beyond this two week period, regardless of the reason for your absence.
- You will automatically fail a course if your absences exceed the equivalent of three weeks of class.

Furthermore, to comply with immigration and financial regulations, you must maintain full-time student status and attend at least 12 hours of class every week. Consequently, the Dean and Program Director will dismiss from all CEA courses, programs, activities and housing any student who fails to maintain full-time status.

### Academic Integrity

Students are expected to abide by the principles of academic integrity. Specifically, students may not plagiarize, cheat, or collude. Plagiarism is defined as the act of taking the words, ideas, data, illustrative material, or statements of someone else, without full and proper acknowledgement, and presenting them as one's own. Cheating is the use of improper means of subterfuge to gain credit or advantage. Forms of

cheating include the use, attempted use, or improper possession of unauthorized aids in any examination or other academic exercise submitted for evaluation. It is also cheating to submit the same work for credit in more than one course, whether taken at Providence College or not. Collusion is assisting or attempting to assist another student in an act of academic dishonesty. (Modified from the *Providence College: Undergraduate Catalog, 2008-2010*, p. 54).

“Acts of academic dishonesty (plagiarism, collusion, cheating, etc) are subject to an appropriate penalty. The grade of “F” may be assigned to students found guilty of such acts. The professor of the course in which this infraction occurred will inform the Office of the Dean of Undergraduate Studies of the offense and the action taken.” *Providence College Undergraduate Catalog, 2002 -2004*, p. 39.

Cheating is an academic crime; it will not be tolerated. Note: “a second offense against academic honesty renders students liable to automatic dismissal from the College.” *Providence College Undergraduate Catalog, 2002 - 2004*, p. 39

### **Required Reading**

Listed below are the required course textbooks and additional readings. Whether you buy your books from our locally affiliated merchants or whether you acquire these before arrival, you must have constant access to these resources for reading, highlighting and marginal note-taking. It is required that you have unrestricted access to each. Additional copies will be placed on reserve in the Academic Affairs office for short-term loans. Access to additional sources required for certain class sessions will be provided in paper or electronic format consistent with applicable copyright legislation. In addition, the Academic Affairs Office compiles a bank of detailed information about the many libraries, documentation centers, research institutes and archival materials located in the host city and accessible to CEA students. You will be required to use these resources throughout your studies.

Duffy, Eamon. *Saints and Sinners: A History of the Popes*, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. Yale University Press ISBN-13: 978-0300115970.

J.N.D. Kelly and Michael Walsh. *The Oxford Dictionary of Popes*. Oxford University Press, 2006. ISBN-13: 978-0198614333.

Schatz, Klaus. *Papal Primacy: From its Origins to the Present*. Translated by John Otto and Linda Maloney. The Liturgical Press, 1996 ISBN: 081465522X.

Carl Braaten, Robert W. Jenson, editors. *Church Unity & the Papal Office*. Eerdmans, 2001. ISBN: 0802848028.

Clement, Oliver. *You Are Peter: An Orthodox Reflection on the Exercise of Papal Primacy*. New City Press, 2003. ISBN: 978-1565481893.

## The History and Theology of the Papacy

Session	Topic	Activity	Student Assignments
Session 1	Magisterial Teaching on the Papacy	Lecture & discussion	Handouts
Session 2	Peter in the New Testament and After	Lecture & discussion	Handouts
Session 3	Rise of the Papacy	Lecture & discussion	<b>Reading:</b> Duffy, 1-22; Schatz, 1-21; Kelly [read relevant parts]
Session 4	Constantine and the Councils	Lecture & discussion	<b>Reading:</b> Duffy 23-72; Schatz 21-40; Daley, "The Ministry of Primacy" CUPO, 27-58; Kelly
Session 5	Exam I	Class Exam	<b>Review for Exam</b>
Session 6	Dark Days and the Turn West	Lecture & discussion	<b>Reading:</b> Duffy 72-109; Schatz 41-77; handout [Popescu]; Kelly
Session 7	Papal Monarchy	Lecture & discussion	<b>Reading:</b> Duffy 110-150; Schatz 78-94; Kelly
Session 8	Exile, Schism, and Decadence	Lecture & discussion	<b>Reading:</b> Duffy 151-195; Schatz 95-127; Kelly

Session 9	Reformation and Counter-Reformation	Lecture & discussion	<b>Reading:</b> Duffy 208-229; Schatz 128-142; Yeago, "The Papal Office and the Burdens of History" CUPO, 98-123; Kelly
Session 10	Exam II	Class Exam	Review for Exam
Session 11	Under the Kings and Against Them	Lecture & discussion	<b>Reading:</b> Duffy 230-304; Schatz 143-154; Kelly
Session 12	The Modern Papacy	Lecture & discussion	<b>Reading:</b> Duffy 305-396; Schatz 155-183; Kelly
Session 13	The Papacy and the East	Lecture & discussion	<b>Reading:</b> <i>You are Peter.</i>
Session 14	The Future of the Papacy	Lecture & discussion	<b>Reading:</b> Wainwright, " <i>Ut Unum Sint</i> in Light of "Faith and Order"—or "Faith and Order" in Light of <i>Ut Unum Sint</i> , CUPO 76-97; Mouw, "The Problem of Authority in Evangelical Christianity" 124-142.