

DCH 132.15 The Big Questions: Key Figures and Events in Church History.

Content.

This unit will provide a historical overview to a number a key people and events in the history of the Christian church.

In particular, it will explore some of the significant issues that have been faced by Christians throughout the life of the church, and how the responses of the church in the past inform our life together as Christians today.

Learning Outcomes.

It is expected that upon successful completion of this unit the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate familiarity with the main events, themes and ideas encountered in the study of particular periods of church history.
2. Name a number of key figures in the history of the church and to understand their significance for the Christian faith.
3. Describe at least three of the ways in which thinking about God has changed over the centuries.
4. Detail at least three of the important questions of faith that have been looked at by the church.
5. Show an ability to examine critically the ways that the Christian tradition can inform faith in the present and future.

Prerequisites

Nil.

Teaching Methods.

The unit will be taught via a combination of lectures and tutorials.

Assessment.

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| Two 750 word document study exercises of 750 words | 50% |
| One 1,500 word thematic essay | 50% |

Offered.

At Camp Wilkin in Semester Two, 2009 (September 28-October 2).

Unit Value.

15 points at Diploma level.

Faculty.

David Enticott and Janine Kemp.

Textbooks.

- Chadwick, H. *The Early Church*. Harmondsworth: Penguin, 1987.
- Dowley, T (ed). *The History of Christianity: A Lion Handbook*. Surry Hills: ANZEA Books, 1977.
- Gonzales, J.L. *The Story of Christianity*, vol 1 and 2. San Francisco: Harper, 1985.
- McManners, J. (ed) *The Oxford Illustrated History of Christianity*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1990.
- Noll, M. *Turning Points: decisive moments in the history of Christianity*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1997.
- Shelley, B.C. *Church history in plain language*. Waco: Word, 1995.