



HTS 512 History of Christianity II 2 cr hr or 3 ceu

Instructor Name	Thomas W. Shepherd, D.Min.
Office Hours	TBA
Telephone	(816) 347-5529 / Cell phone: (816) 572-1906
E-Mail	shepherdtw@unityonline.org
Required Texts	<p>Braden, Charles S. (1984). <i>Spirits in Rebellion: The Rise and Development of New Thought</i>. Dallas, TX: SMU Press.</p> <p>Chidester, David. (2000). <i>Christianity: A Global History</i>. NY: HarperSanFrancisco..</p> <p>Shepherd, Thomas W. (2006). <i>Friends in High Places</i>, 3rd Ed. Lincoln, NE: iUniverse Books.</p>
Other Required Reading	Selections from writings of key figures, all downloadable from online sources. Also, PowerPoint programs as provided by instructor. Specifics TBA.
Recommended Reading	Howard Stone and Duke, J.O. (2006). <i>How to Think Theologically</i> , 2 nd Ed. Minneapolis, MN: Fortress Press. (Highly recommended.)

Highly recommended: Read the opening four chapters of Howard Stone and J.O. Duke, (2006). *How to Think Theologically*, 2nd Edition before the course begins.

Course Description

This is the second in a comprehensive, two-part survey of the history of Christianity. The course continues the study with an in-depth look at the emergence of postmodern New Thought Christianity, Reformation Era through the twenty-first century, with special attention to the origins of Unity from nineteenth century healing movements and the intellectual-spiritual matrix of Protestant Transcendentalism. Basic skills in historical research and the ability to "think theologically" are assumed. Prerequisite: HTS 511.

Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Evaluate the main points of theologians and philosophers studied in this course.

2. Analyze the progression of religious thought from the Protestant Reformation to postmodernism.
3. Compare and contrast elements in earlier theologies which have contributed to the development of Unity and other progressive religious movements.
4. Explain the historical process, which led to Unity's emergence and growth as a movement in the 19th and 20th centuries.

Reading Requirements: Readings from the three basic texts (continuation from HTS 511). Additionally, selections from writings of key figures, all downloadable from online sources. Specifics TBA.

Writing Requirements: Three profiles (6-8 pp / 1,500-2,000 words each) of figures from Christian history between the 17th and 20th centuries. At least one subject must be an early New Thought pioneer. All topics to be approved in advance. All papers must be properly formatted according to Turabian 7th Edition, with on-page footnoting, not endnotes. Profiles are expected to represent theological analysis as well as historical content. Any idea or fact which is not original thinking or cannot not reasonably be seen as common knowledge *must be footnoted*. Students will present their profiles orally in class, seminar style. Presentation dates will vary, based on historical sequence of subjects.

Grading

Assignment	Possible Points	Meets Learning Objective
First Profile	30%	MD-4
Second Profile	30%	MD-4
Third Profile	30%	MD-4
Class Participation	10%	MD-4

Expectations of All Students

Students are expected to read assigned material in advance and be prepared to discuss it. Participation in class discussion is required.

Detailed Syllabus: To be posted when course begins.