

Core 4 Lecture and Reading Schedule

I. The Rise of Christianity

TOPIC	Date	Lecture	Required Reading
<i>The Founding of Christianity and Mark's Portrait of Jesus</i>	01-10	Michael Malone Introduction to Core 4	No Reading
	01-12	Tim McFarland Understanding the Christian Scriptures	Spielvogel, "The Rise of Christianity" pp.123-127; and the Gospel of Mark, Chapters 1-7
	01-17	Jeff Kirch Mark's Jesus	Gospel of Mark, Chapters 8-16
<i>The Spread of Christianity</i>	01-19	Tim McFarland The Early Christian Community	Acts of the Apostles, Chapters 1-6 and R. Stark, "Epidemics, Networks, and Conversion" in <i>Core 4 Syllabus</i> , 19-28
	01-24	John Nichols The Opening to the Gentiles	Acts of the Apostles, Chapters 7-15 and R. Stark, "Epidemics, Networks, and Conversion" in <i>Core 4 Syllabus</i> , 28-40
<i>The Apostle Paul</i>	01-26	Jerry Stack The Apostle Paul	1 Corinthians, Chapters 1-7
	01-31	Jeff Kirch Problems at Corinth	1 Corinthians, Chapters 8-16
<i>The Rise of Monasticism</i>	02-02	Heidi Rahe The Rise of Monasticism	Spielvogel, "Development of the Christian Church" pp. 138-143 and The Rule of Saint Benedict: Chapters 1-7; 33-40; 52-55; and 71-73.

II. Medieval Civilization

TOPIC	Date	Lecture	Required Reading
<i>The Early Development of Medieval Civilization</i>	02-07	April Toadvine Beowulf: A Literary Analysis	Spielvogel, "The Germanic Kingdoms" pp. 134-137; and Beowulf, 3-104
	02-09	Michael Nichols Beowulf and the Mythic Monster	Beowulf, 105-213
<i>The Growth of Medieval Civilization</i>	02-14	Peter Watkins European Civilization in the Medieval Period	Spielvogel, Chapter 8, 154-166 and Chapter 9, 175-194

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<i>Saints Who Made A Difference: Francis of Assisi and Thomas Aquinas</i>	02-16	Video: The Reluctant Saint The Life of Francis of Assisi	Mark Galli, Francis of Assisi and His World, pp. 6-71 (Introduction and Chapters 1-4)
	02-21	Video: The Reluctant Saint and Tom Ryan: The Message of Francis	Mark Galli, Francis of Assisi and His World, pp. 72-183 (Chapters 5-13)
	02-23	Michael Malone Introducing Thomas Aquinas and the Natural law Theory	Thomas Aquinas, Treatise on Law, Introduction (pp. v-xviii) and Question 94 (pp. 54-72)
	02-28	Angela Elrod-Sadler Applying the Natural Law	Thomas Aquinas on Specific Moral Issues in <i>Core 4 Syllabus</i> , 41-53
<i>The High Middle Ages and the Fourteenth Century</i>	03-01	Michael Nichols Crisis in Medieval Civilization	Spielvogel, Chapter 10, pp. 193-216 and Chapter 11, pp. 220-241

SPRING BREAK

TOPIC	Date	Lecture	Required Reading
<i>The Triumph of Medieval Poetry: Dante's Inferno and Chaucer's Canterbury Tales</i>	03-13	Michael Malone Lessons From Hell – Part I	Dante's Inferno, Cantos 1-7
	03-15	Jeff Kirch Theological Conceptions of Heaven and Hell	Dante's Inferno, Cantos 8-13; 19; 26-28
	03-20	Michael Malone Lessons from Hell – Part II	Dante's Inferno, Cantos 29-34
	03-22	Heidi Rahe What A Hypocrite!	Chaucer, Pardoner's Prologue and Tale, pp. 394-410
	03-27	Jody Watkins What A Wife	Chaucer, Wife of Bath's Prologue and Tale, pp. 219-250

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III. The Renaissance and the Reformation

TOPIC	Date	Lecture	Required Reading
<i>Renaissance Art</i>	03-29	Heidi Rahe Masterpieces of Renaissance Art	Spielvogel, Chapter 12, pp. 242-266; "Recovery and Rebirth: The Renaissance"
<i>The Catholic Conception of Salvation</i>	04-03	John Rahe The Drama of <i>Everyman</i>	Everyman, 36-59
<i>Martin Luther and the Reformation</i>	04-05	Michael Nichols Martin Luther and the Causes of the Protestant Reformation	Spielvogel, Chapter 13, pp. 267-274 and "Preface to Luther's Latin Writings" in <i>Core 4 Syllabus</i> , 9-18
<i>The Spread of the Reformation and the Counter-Reformation</i>	04-10	Tim McFarland Reformation and Counter-Reformation	Spielvogel, Chapter 13, pp. 275-289; "Reformation and Religious Warfare in the Sixteenth Century"
	04-12	Heidi Rahe The Effects of the Reformation on Western Civilization	Reading will be announced.
<i>Shakespeare's Othello</i>	04-17	Peter Watkins Shakespeare And His World	Shakespeare's <i>Othello</i> , Acts 1 and 2
	04-19	Video Selection from Shakespeare on Film: Othello	Shakespeare's <i>Othello</i> , Act 3
	04-24	Michael Nichols An Analysis of <i>Othello</i>	Shakespeare's <i>Othello</i> , Acts 4 and 5
<i>The Christian Impact on Western Civilization</i>	04-26	Michael Malone Looking Back and Looking Ahead	No Reading

*All scripture readings are from *The New American Bible*.

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Core 4 Required Texts

Beowulf. Translated by Heaney, Seamus. W.W. Norton: 2000.

Chaucer, Geoffrey. *The Canterbury Tales*. Translated by David Wright. Oxford: 2008.

Core 4 Syllabus - Rensselaer, IN. Saint Joseph's College: 2011

Alighieri, Dante. *The Divine Comedy I: Inferno*. Translated by Mark Musa. Penguin Classics: 2003

Everyman. Dover Thrift Edition: 2008

Galli, Mark. *Francis of Assisi and His World*. IVP Books: 2002.

The New American Bible - Saint Joseph Edition (Large Type - Illustrated). Catholic Book Publishing Company: 1992.

William Shakespeare. *Othello*. Norton: 2004.

Rule of Saint Benedict. Translated by Timothy Fry. Liturgical Press: 1982.

Thomas Aquinas. *Treatise on Law*. Regnery Publishing, Gateway Edition: 1956.

Spielvogel, Jackson. *Western Civilization: A Brief History* (Volume 1). 7th Edition, Thompson-Wadsworth: 2011.

Core 4 Faculty

John Egan, Music

Angela Elrod-Sadler, Philosophy

Paul Geraci, Music

Fr. Jeffrey Kirch, C.P.P.S., Theology

Michael Malone, Philosophy – Core 4 Director

Michael Nichols, Religious Studies

Heidi Rahe, Communication

Peter Watkins, Political Science

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Collegial Agreements

Collegial agreements insure that students taking Core 4 have a generally common experience and work on specific skills that are important components of the larger Core Curriculum. The Core 4 faculty agrees to the following:

1. Core 4 discussion groups will sit together in an assigned section of the Shen Lecture Hall to help facilitate student learning.
2. Each student will give an oral presentation sometime during the semester.
3. A minimum of twenty (20) pages of written work will be required of all students. Part of this requirement will include the following:
 - a. Each student will complete at least one formal writing assignment that requires taking a *moral* stand on an issue relevant to course material and supporting that stand with cogent principled reasoning.
 - b. Each student will complete at least one assignment that requires research and the proper use of references and citations.
4. Each student will complete a final exam that contains a comprehensive essay question. This essay question will constitute at least 40% of the final exam grade.