

COS 222 – THEOLOGICAL HERITAGE II

EARLY CHURCH

COURSE DESCRIPTION *(Goals & Objectives)*

This course focuses on the history and theology of the Church through the first five centuries. Using primary sources, students will reflect on significant individuals, events, and the articulation of the Christian faith during this period.

Students will be able to:

1. Understand and articulate the doctrine of the Trinity, and the historical debates in the early Church around the person and nature of Christ.
 2. Understand and articulate a doctrine of salvation in light of the controversies of the early church.
 3. Understand the history and significance of the creeds and ecumenical councils.
 4. Appropriate historical theology for pastoral ministry.
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TEXTBOOKS

REQUIRED TEXTS:

- Justo Gonzales: ***The Story of Christianity, Vol 1***
- Roberta Bondi: ***To Love As God Loves***

REFERENCE:

- Henry Bettenson & Chris Maunder: ***Documents of the Christian Church***

TEXTBOOK SELECTION FOR COURSE OF STUDY

Goal: Two basic texts (**required**) per class. Individual faculty may add another.

Reference books are **required** and are to help a student build their own library.

Assignments assure the use of the reference books; they are not classroom texts.

Supplemental texts are valuable, but **optional** texts if a student wants to pursue an area of ministry.