

ANCCI UNIVERSITY

CH 102 -GENERAL CHURCH HISTORY

RATIONALE

Since Christianity is a historical religion hence it is essential to study the Church History. The advent and the ascension of Jesus Christ was all planned by God and foretold in the Holy Bible. The works of Jesus Christ were the foundation stones of the church. Christianity spread across the bound of Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria. Today the Church has become a strong institution, however over the centuries it has been divided into different denominations and sects but it is a place where Jesus Christ is still spiritually present. It is very important to note that beside discrimination and persecution the church is yet triumphant in the world. Largely our identity as a Christian means that we are the inheritors of the deeds of holy men and women, who for 2000 years have built a great civilization and spread the gospel throughout the world. Church history is not just the recitation of popes, saints, people, places and events, it is a story of adventure, rebellion, reform, and devotion. So the aim of this program is to understand the history of Christianity and the church.

OBJECTIVES

This course will help the students to learn about the eminent people, places, and events that existed in the two thousand years of Church history. This course is comprised of the following contents.

1. The Start of the Christian Church.
2. Expansion, Persecution and Prosecution.
3. The Christian Church and the Roman Empire.
4. Medieval Christianity.
5. The Reformation and the Counter Reformation.
6. The Age of Reasons and Revival.
7. The Christian Church in the Nineteenth Century.
8. The Christian Church in the Twentieth Century.

STRATEGY

Teaching is not a linear one-way delivery of knowledge but an interactive process that requires adapting to shifting contexts, demands of content, and student input. For example, how do instructors identify and respond to challenges that their students are facing in the course? How well does their teaching represent the complexity of the discipline and the social realities in which it is situated?

There are two schools of thought, one believe that the history of Christian church has a structure whereas others believe that it is spiritual reality without any physical bounds. Apart from these philosophical views on Christianity the first Christian church was established in Rome in the first century AD and it was based on the religious teaching of Jesus Christ. From the very inception of the Christian church they accepted gentiles. Also the Bible tells us that Jesus commanded his apostles to preach the good news of salvation to the ends of the earth and promised to be present with them through thick and thin.

So this course will focus on the history of the church, how it started and the significance of various historical events. The origins of a religion and its development are presented in historical context with the political and cultural influences represented as central to understanding how that religion emerged, gained followers, and spread.

REQUIRED READING

Concise Church History by John Hunt AMG publishers, available at Banes & Noble bookstores.

EVALUATION All students will be required to select a topic from the course and prepare a written assignment and a short presentation that will be evaluated and used for grading.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER READING

Introduction to the History of Christianity by Tim Dowley, Publishers Fortress Press.
The Story Of Christianity by Justol.Gonzale ,volume1 ,publishers Harper Collins
The Story Of Christianity by Justol.Gonzale ,volume 2 ,publishers Harper Collins
Pocket History off the Church by D. Jeffrey Bingham, InterVarsity Press.