STUDIES IN CHURCH HISTORY: THE GREAT AWAKENING
25177B CT

Syllabus

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“I look at Whitefield, and love him. He restores my faith in biblical preaching and my hope of church revival. And his dictum, “let the name of Whitefield perish, if so be that Christ is glorified,” does me no end of good.”

*J.I. Packer, 1986*
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I. COURSE DESCRIPTION AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES

A specialized study of the Great Awakening, especially focusing on the role of evangelist George Whitefield (1714–1770).

The intended learning outcomes of the course are basically six.

- To provide the student with a basic understanding of the key events, personalities, and texts of the Great Awakening in its Welsh, Scottish, English, and American contexts.

- To foster within the student an awareness of the historical and theological background leading up to the Great Awakening.

- To demonstrate some of the significant results of the revivals for the evangelical movement.

- To expose the student to the convictions and spirituality of some of the leaders in the revivals, especially those of George Whitefield.

- To produce a familiarity with the relevant primary source materials and an ability to engage critically with them.

- To promote an awareness of models for imitation in his or her Christian life (see Hebrews 11:1-12:3; 13:7).

II. COURSE TEXTS


III. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. The course will meet on Monday, October 20, 2014 from 1:00–9:30pm, and Thursday, October 23, 2014, from 8:00–11:30am.

2. The student will also be required to attend the conference “Whitefield & the Great Awakening” which will be held on the campus of Southern on October 21–22, 2014. See schedule below. No registration necessary as your registration fees are included in the cost of the course.

3. There will be written assignments which will usually consist of brief answers to questions based on primary and secondary sources. The sources will be the Course Texts and any other texts provided by the professors through Moodle. Assignments must be in a type-written form. The pre-course assignments will be posted on Moodle by August 31, 2014 and will be due at the first class on October 20, 2014. The remaining assignments will be posted by September 30, 2014 and will be due by November 30, 2014. Marks will be deducted for numerous grammar and spelling errors. These written assignments constitute 60% of the final mark.

4. 25% of the final mark is made up of a paper entitled “The significance of George Whitefield” and is to be based on the lectures during the conference “Whitefield & the Great Awakening.” This paper is to be submitted no later than November 14, 2014. This paper must be typed, double-spaced in 2,000 words.

5. 15% of the final mark will be made up by a paper entitled “The Personal Impact of the Spirituality of the Writings of George Whitefield.” This paper is to be the fruit of a month-long meditation on selections from the writings of Whitefield. These selections may be found in the book The Revived Puritan: The Spirituality of George Whitefield. Between November 1 and 30, 2014, these selections are to form the content of regular meditation and reflection, which is to be recorded in a journal. A paper that brings together this reflection in a structured form is to be drawn up and handed in no later than December 8, 2014. This paper must be typed and comprise no more than 1,500 words.
IV. COURSE OUTLINE

PRE-CONFERENCE SESSIONS (Monday, October 20, 2014)

1:00–4:30pm (taught by Steve Weaver)

Lecture 1: Introduction to the course; the English Reformation and its theology

Lecture 2: Puritanism as a renewal movement

Lecture 3: The rise and decline of Dissent

4:30–6:00pm  Dinner Break

6:00–9:30pm (taught by Michael Haykin)

Lecture 4: The Welsh Revival

Lecture 5: The Awakening in Scotland

Lecture 6: The Great Awakening in America

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE: (For the most up to date schedule, please see events.sbts.edu/andrewfuller.)

TUESDAY | October 21, 2014

11 a.m. – 2 p.m.   Conference check-in, lunch on your own

1:30 p.m.   Session I: Thomas Kidd

  *The Calvinism of George Whitefield*

3 p.m.   Session II: Lee Gatiss

  *George Whitefield: The Anglican Evangelist*

5:30 p.m.   Dinner

7 p.m.   Session III: Stephen Nichols
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>8:30 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Preaching George Whitefield</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>8 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>George Whitefield &amp; the Wesleys</strong></td>
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<td>9 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>The Spirituality of George Whitefield</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>George Whitefield: The Accidental Revolutionary</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>12 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Lunch</strong></td>
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<td>2:30 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Parallel sessions</strong></td>
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**Group A: Women**
- Phillis Wheatley (Dustin Benge)
- Selina Hastings (Priscilla Chan)
- Elizabeth Whitefield (Digby James)

**Group B: Americans**
- Samuel Davies (Joe Harrod)
- Jonathan Edwards (Owen Strachan)
- Oliver Hart (Eric Smith)

**Group C: English**
- Matthew Henry (Roger Duke)
- John Newton (Grant Gordon)
- John Cennick (Tom Schwanda)

**Group D: Biographers**
- Arnold Dallimore (Ian Clary)
Robert Robinson (Michael Haykin)
Cornelius Winter (Blair Waddell)

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<tr>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Dinner</td>
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<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>Session VII: David Bebbington</td>
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<td><em>The Legacy of George Whitefield</em></td>
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<td>8:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Session VIII: Esther Crookshank</td>
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<td><em>The Hymnody of the Great Awakening</em></td>
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**POST-CONFERENCE SESSIONS (Thursday, October 23, 2014)**

8:00–9:30am *(taught by Steve Weaver)*

Lecture 7: William Carey and the modern missionary movement

10:00–11:30am *(taught by Michael Haykin)*

Lecture 8: William Wilberforce and the abolition of slavery