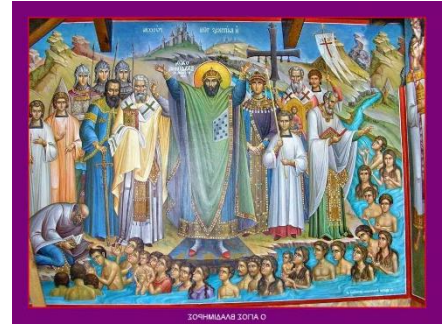


Orthodox Christianity
University of Pittsburgh
Spring Term AY 2018-19
RELGST 1135 – 1150/SLAV 1135-1010
CRN: 25661



Room: 213 CL

Meets: Mondays/Wednesdays 4:30-5:45

Instructor: Dr. Joel Brady

Office: 835 Alumni Hall (inside suite 834)

Office hours: Fridays 12pm – 1pm and by apt.

Course Description

This course is designed as an overview of the history, teachings and rituals of Eastern Orthodox Christianity in its multinational context. Geographically, this context refers primarily to southeastern Europe, Russia and the coastal areas of the eastern Mediterranean, but there is also a significant Orthodox diaspora in the western hemisphere and in other parts of the world. We shall examine specific historical experience of Orthodox Christians in its Byzantine context, under Ottoman rule, in Slavic lands, under communism, and beyond. We consider the broader context of Eastern Christianity (including Oriental Orthodoxy, the Church of the East, and Eastern Catholicism), as well as relations with Western Catholic and Protestant Christianity, and other religions and systems of belief (e.g., Judaism, Islam, atheism). Through lectures, readings, discussions, films, and a field trip to a local Orthodox church, students will gain an insight into multifaceted world of Orthodox Christianity: its spiritual practices and rich artistic, musical and ritual expressions.

Course Learning Objectives

By the end of this course, you will be able to....

- ✚ Identify key terms, concepts, themes, and people in the history of Orthodox Christianity and situate them within a broad temporal, geographical, and confessional framework.
- ✚ Articulate the connection(s) between Orthodox Christian doctrine and practice.
- ✚ Analyze the historical relationships and interactions between Eastern Orthodox Christianity, on the one hand, and on the other hand, other forms of Christianity, other religions, and various secular movements.
- ✚ “Read” Orthodox Christian primary sources (including religious texts and objects), explain the context in which they were produced, and identify the impact they made.
- ✚ Interpret contemporary phenomena with reference to Orthodox Christianity.

As a practitioner of the academic study of religion, you will also be able to...

- ✚ Apply methodologies, themes, and terminology from within the academic study of religion, and more specifically, from within the study of the *history* of religion, to analyze Orthodox Christian religious phenomena as a scholarly "outsider" (whether or not one is also an "insider" to a particular religious tradition).

Required Materials

Ware, Timothy. *The Orthodox Church*. London: Penguin Books, 2015.

The Way of a Pilgrim. Transl. R.M. French. HarperOne, 2010.

Additional materials will be provided on CourseWeb.

Assignments

Assignment	Points
Conceptual Papers (3)	30 (10 X 3)
Exams (2)	50 (25 X 2)
Primary Source Analyses (2)	10 (2 X 5)
Saint/Holy Day Presentation	5
In-Class Activities	5
	Total: 100

Key Dates

2/4	CP #1
2/25	CP #2
3/6	Exam 1
4/15	CP #3

Grading Scale:

A 93-100	A- 90-92	B+ 86-89	B 83-85	B- 80-82	C+ 76-79
C 73-75	C- 70-72	D+ 66-69	D 63-65	D- 60-62	F 59-0

1. **Conceptual Papers (3)** -- 30 points total (3 X 10 points)

Students will write three (3) 3-5 page conceptual papers, one each on the liturgy, spirituality, and history of Orthodox Christianity. The first paper will analyze a particular element or elements of the service observed during a class field trip to a local Orthodox Church, and should draw upon the course readings in Orthodox liturgy and ritual. The second paper will analyze an aspect of Orthodox spirituality, drawing upon the readings about “prayer of the heart,” as depicted in *The Way of the Pilgrim* and other corresponding readings, or Orthodox monasticism/asceticism. The third paper will analyze an aspect of Orthodox history covered substantially in the course readings. Each paper will be worth **10 points**. More details about expectations for this assignment will be provided in-class and on CourseWeb. *Optional:* With prior instructor approval, you may attend an Orthodox Christian Divine Liturgy service at an Eastern Christian parish and write an additional conceptual paper, to replace your grade on one of your first two conceptual papers. If you choose this option, you must submit this paper within 3 weeks (21 days) of receiving your original paper back. You should attend a parish in an Eastern Christian jurisdiction which you have not attended before.

2. **Exams (2)** 50 points (2 X 25 points)

Students will take two exams (a mid-term and a final). The exams will consist of short-answer questions drawn from lectures, readings, films, and in-class discussions. The final will be non-cumulative, but may address any material from the first part of the course also referenced in the second half of the course. More details about the exams will be provided in-class and on CourseWeb.

3. **Primary Source Analyses** 10 points total (2 X 5 points each = 15%)

Students will choose one Primary Source document from the course readings (marked PS in the course schedule) and conduct a 2 page analysis, which (a) *briefly* explains the historical/social context of the document; and (b) submits a particular aspect/element of the document to close analysis. You will submit your analysis by *the beginning of class* on the day we will discuss the document. Analysis may consist of problems of terminological definitions, of relating one part of the document to another, relating a part of the document to broader social/historical context, comparing a part of the document to other documents we have read, or even to religious texts not included in the course readings (recalling that the purpose of the comparison is to shed light on the PS that would not otherwise be gained). These are to be analyses, *NOT* summary. The analysis is to be your own, and as such, secondary analytical works should *not* be consulted. *Optional:* You may, with prior instructor permission, choose to do one of your primary source analyses on a source not listed in the syllabus, which must be relevant to the topic on the day you are submitting. *Optional:* With prior instructor permission, you may write an additional PS analysis to replace one of your first two PS analyses, within 1 week (2 class meetings) of receiving your original PS analysis back.

4. **Saint/Holy Day Presentation**

Together, teams of two students will give a brief, five minute (total...roughly 2.5 minutes per student) presentation on either an Orthodox Christian saint or holy day. The saint/holy day should preferably fall on the class day of presentation—at the very least it should fall within that calendar week. (It should be noted that part of the Orthodox world operates on the “old” Julian/Eastern Calendar, and the other part on the “new” or Gregorian/Western calendar—*either* are acceptable when determining whether the

saint/holy day falls within the calendar week. Students will be notified of their assigned pair and presentation, and should notify me which saint/holy day they will present and all sources to be used at least one week (7 days) prior to the presentation itself. These presentations should include the name of the saint/holy day, relevant biographical information if a saint or historical development if a holy day, and *if available/relevant*, any of the following: an excerpt of a writing attributed to the saint, an excerpt from an original hagiography, excerpts of relevant hymnography (e.g.: troparia and kontakia), relevant iconography, secondary scholarly research. You should also tell us what this saint tells us about the history of Orthodox Christianity. You should cite at least three sources, at least one of which is either a work of secondary scholarship published in peer-reviewed journal or published monograph/book, a liturgical text, a writing attributed to the saint, or original hagiography. You should NOT cite Wikipedia or OrthodoxWiki, though you may find sources cited in such articles useful. You may wish to consider augmenting your presentation with media (an audio excerpt of a hymn, an image of an icon, etc., but avoid a narrated portion of a documentary feature, as this should be *your* presentation).

Some helpful resources (note that these generally represent “insider” views of these saints/holy days):

<https://oca.org/saints/lives>

<https://www.goarch.org/chapel/calendar>

<http://antiochian.org/online-liturgical-guide>

<https://oca.org/liturgics/service-texts>

(Open especially the Vespers for a given day to locate hymnography for a particular saint.)

5. Participation Assignments (5%)

Successful class time relies upon your contributions as much as (if not more than) mine. I will appreciate your participation in class discussions and activities. To give everyone a fair chance to contribute, I will randomly call upon students to add their voices to class conversations, usually after providing some time to jot down a response to a question. If I call on you, you are welcome to “pass,” without penalty, should you wish to wait until a later time to speak up. The participation grade, itself, will be based upon actual in-class activities and homework assignments (small writing exercises, brief group presentations, and in-class quizzes).

Course Policies

Attendance

Attendance in this class is required. You may miss three unexcused classes without an attendance penalty, though you will receive a 0 for any in-class participation assignments that day. Every subsequent unexcused absence will result in a 2% deduction from your final grade. Persistent tardiness or leaving class early (i.e., more than three times in a semester) may result in your being marked absent. If you will be absent or late, please make every attempt to let me know beforehand, as soon as you know you will be absent. If you have a legitimate, University-approved reason for missing class (medical, death in the family, approved university sports obligation, etc.), you must provide documentation which specifies the date(s) of class excused.

Late Assignments

Unless you have made prior arrangements with me, late assignments will be penalized 10% per day late, up to 50%.

Academic Integrity

All students are expected to adhere to the standards of academic honesty. Any student engaged in cheating, plagiarism, or other acts of academic dishonesty, would be subject to disciplinary action. Any student suspected of violating this obligation for any reason during the semester will be required to participate in the procedural process, initiated at the instructor level, as outlined in University Guidelines on Academic Integrity <http://www.provost.pitt.edu/info/ai1.html>. This may include, but is not limited to, the confiscation of the examination of any individual suspected of violating the University Policy. Furthermore, no student may bring any unauthorized material to an examination, including dictionaries and programmable calculators.

It is imperative that you produce original work in this class and give credit to others when you use their work. If you have used someone else's work as a reference, you *must* cite, whether you have quoted them exactly or not. In other words, if you include a brief paraphrase of someone else's idea as an element in your paper, you *must* cite that reference. Papers that use someone else's ideas without attribution amounts to presenting those ideas as your own, and therefore constitutes plagiarism. Using parts of a paper you have submitted for a prior class, without noting this, also constitutes plagiarism. If you commit plagiarism or are caught cheating on a quiz, you will fail the class, no exceptions.

Citations

You may use any standard citation style (MLA, APA, Chicago/Turabian, ASA, etc.) but your citations *must* adhere to one of these standard styles, which provide the full reference somewhere in your paper, in addition to specific page references. You may not just make up your own citation style. If you are not familiar with proper citation in an approved style, you must familiarize yourself, and you may wish to make an appointment with a librarian at Hillman: they will be happy to help you. Papers with improper citations will be returned to you for correction, with late penalties applied. You should question your sources critically—many online sources are not credible, and in my experience many online citations cited by undergraduates are not credible. I am aware that you may decide to consult Wikipedia to get a brief overview/introduction to a topic, as well as references to credible sources. That is perfectly acceptable. For this class, however, Wikipedia is not an acceptable source, itself. Thus, while you may use credible sources cited by Wikipedia, you may not use Wikipedia as a source in your paper. (In other words, do not cite Wikipedia, and no paraphrases from a Wikipedia page, please!). You should treat most websites, in general, as suspect. You will be on safer ground with articles that you obtain through a search in JSTOR or GoogleScholar (though you should not limit your search to these or to purely online sources). As a rule of thumb, an online source is more likely to be credible if you are able to walk over to Hillman library and find the print version among the journals there. (Nevertheless, both print and web sources can be either reliable or unreliable—feel free to contact me if you have questions about a particular source.)

Course Communication

You can expect me to respond to e-mails within 24 hours. I do not generally check e-mail on weekends, however, so an e-mail after 4:00 on a Friday will likely not be answered until the following Monday. If you have not heard from me in the time frames specified above, *please resend your email*. Regular announcements will be posted on CourseWeb and a copy will be e-mailed to your Pitt e-mail. Please be aware, however, that differences e-mail filtering may prevent such a message from arriving to your in-box. If you see an announcement in CourseWeb

that did not arrive to your e-mail, please check your junk filter and approve the sender so that you will not miss future communications. Not receiving the copied e-mail will not be an acceptable excuse for failing to follow instructions in an announcement posted to CourseWeb.

Student Disability Services

If you have a disability for which you are or may be requesting an accommodation, you are encouraged to contact both your instructor and Disability Resources and Services (DRS), 140 William Pitt Union, (412) 648-7890, drsrecep@pitt.edu, (412) 228-5347 for P3 ASL users, as early as possible in the term. DRS will verify your disability and determine reasonable accommodations for this course.

Schedule of Readings and Assignments

We will make every attempt to hold to the schedule outlined below; if, however, any changes are necessary, you will be notified *at least one week in advance*. With the exception of the first class meeting, readings are to be completed *before* class. Apart from the textbook readings (Ware and *Way of the Pilgrim*), all readings are available on CourseWeb.

Week/Date	Topic	Readings
Week 1 (Jan. 7)	Introduction to Eastern Christianity	<i>To be distributed in class:</i> McCutcheon, "What is the Academic Study of Religion?"; "Daily Prayers," (PS) "Niceno-Constantinopolitan Creed (both to be distributed in-class) (PS) Video: "Patriarch Kirill to lead Feast of the Nativity" https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NLuYF9wNHNng Video: "Orthodox Christmas Mass in Moscow" https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sfv_ExuDNQ0&t=1728s Video: "Orthodox Church Gets 'Autocephaly' Status" https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RsFPuvGhYrE Video: "Metropolitan Hilarion on Patriarch Bartholomew" https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fnhooRbXc58
Week 1 (Jan. 9)	Life of Jesus and the Apostolic Age	Ware, Intro, Ch. 1 (1-17) Watch online PPT lecture: "Intro to Eastern Churches" "Jesus: The Founder"
Week 2 (Jan. 14)	Pre-Nicene Christianity	Florovsky, "Christianity and Culture," (67-83, 88-100); Polycarp, "Offices of the Church" (PS) "The State, Society and Martyrs," p. 61 – 67(PS) "Self-Portraits and Portrayals," p. 102 – 103(PS) Florovsky on Ignatius (1-7).
Week 2 (Jan 16) <i>(Note: add/drop ends Jan. 18)</i>	Constantinian Revolution and 4th Century Trinitarian Ecumenical Councils	Ware, Chs. 2 (p18-24 only), 10 (p195 – 207) "Niceno-Constantinopolitan Creed" (PS) Selections from the Council of Nicaea (PS) and Constantinople (PS) <i>Optional:</i> Ware, Chapter 11
Week 2 (Jan 18)	<i>Optional</i> field trip to St. George Orthodox Church (Orthros) – 10am-10:30am	If you cannot attend the service on 1/23 (preferred), you may attend this service instead.
Week 3 (Jan. 21)	No class – MLK	
Week 3 (Jan. 23) Class and Field Trip to St. George Orthodox Church, 7pm – 8:15pm	5th Century Christological Ecumenical Councils	Ware, Chs. 2 (p. 24 – 30 only); Readings from the Councils of Ephesus and Chalcedon (PS); <i>Optional:</i> Ware, Chapter 11; Re-watch online PPT lecture: "Intro to Eastern Churches" We will have class as usual on this day, and then reconvene at 7pm at St. George for this required field

		trip. If you cannot attend, please provide your reason for not attending and attend the 1/18 service instead.
Week 4 (Jan 28)	The Liturgy Deadline for 1 st Primary Source analysis <i>Guest lecture</i>	Ware, Ch. 13; “Meetings, Worship, and Church Practices”, p. 246 – 250 (#8 up to #13); <i>Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom</i> (selection) (PS) ; Selections from Vespers; (PS) In-class film: “Fountain of Immortality” https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hm2qSeiTCfI
Week 4 (Jan 30)	The Sacraments	Ware, Ch. 14 Selections from rites of Baptism and Marriage. (PS)
Week 5 (Feb. 4)	Feast Days and the Church Calendar <i>Conceptual Paper 1: Participant Observation Due</i>	Ware, Ch. 15 Peruse the items from Hopko’s unit on “The Church Year” in <i>The Orthodox Faith</i> (you can skim several of these: you’re not required to read them all): https://oca.org/orthodoxy/the-orthodox-faith/worship/the-church-year
Week 5 (Feb. 6)	Icons and Saints	Ware, Ch. 2 (30-35 only); “Theology of the Icon”; “Declaration of the Iconoclastic Council” (PS); “Decree of the 2 nd Ecumenical Council off Nicaea” (PS) ; “The Triumph of Orthodoxy” (PS)
Week 6 (Feb 11)	Monasticism and Asceticism Film: <i>60 Minutes: Mt. Athos</i> and Guest Lecture	Ware, Ch 2 (35-42); Florovsky “Christianity and Culture” (84-88); Athanasius, <i>Life of St. Anthony</i> (Selection) (PS);
Week 6 (Feb 13)	Monks, Nuns, and Ascetics Guest Lecture	<i>Life of Saint Mary of Egypt</i> (Selection) (PS); Sayings of the Desert Fathers; (PS) <i>Life of St. Simeon Stylites</i> (selection); “Holy Fools” (PS) Noell, “Race in Late-Antique Egypt,” http://artsonline.monash.edu.au/eras/race-in-late-antique-egypt-moses-the-black-and-authentic-historical-voice/
Week 7 (Feb 18)	Orthodox Mysticism	<i>The Way of a Pilgrim</i> ; Writings on Prayer of the Heart from the Philokalia (selection) (PS); Ware, 61-70; Ch 15 (298 – 306)
Week 7 (Feb 20)	Orthodox Mysticism	<i>The Way of a Pilgrim</i> ; Salinger, <i>Franny and Zoe</i> (selection); “St. Seraphim’s Dialogue with Motovilov” Optional: Pseudo-Dionysius(PS)

Week 8 (Feb. 25)	Baptism of the Slavs: Sts. Cyril and Methodius, the Bohemian mission and the Bulgarians <i>Conceptual Paper 2: Orthodox Spirituality paper due</i>	Soulis, "Legacy of Cyril and Methodius to the Southern Slavs;" "Pope Nicholas I to Khan Boris" (PS)
Week 8 (Feb. 27)	Baptism of Rus	Ware, Ch. 4; Shepard, "Slav Christianities," (16-27 only); Nestor, "Chronicle of the Christianization of Rus" (PS); and "The Martyrdom of Boris and Gleb" (PS). http://www.mgh-bibliothek.de/dokumente/a/a011458.pdf
Week 9 (March 4)	The Great Schism	Ware, Ch. 3; "Mutual Excommunications" (PS); "Sermons before the Final Attack on Constantinople" (PS); "Sack of Constantinople" (PS); "Pope Innocent III: Reprimand of Papal Legate" (PS)
March 6	EXAM 1	
Week 10 (March 11, 13)	No Class: Spring Break	
Week 11 (March 18)	The Schism is Solidified	Pelikan #2 "2 nd Council of Lyon (1274) (excerpts)" (PS) "Declarations of the Council of Florence" (PS); Tounefort, "Voyage into the Levant" (PS) "1895 Patriarchal Encyclical" (selections) (PS)
Week 11 (March 20)	Orthodoxy, Islam, and the Ottoman Empire	Ware, Ch. 5; Bakic-Hayden, "Empires Are Us" "St. John of Damascus's Critique of Islam" (PS); Urban: "Speech at Council of Clermont, 1095" (PS); "Palamas: Three Dialogues with Islam" (PS).
Week 12 (March 25)	Orthodoxy Contemporary and Islam	"Muslim-Christian Relations: Historical and Contemporary Realities" Anastasios, "Dialogue with Islam." Fernandez, "The ISIS Caliphate and the Churches"
Week 12 (March 27)	Reformation, Counter-Reformation, and Eastern Catholicism	"Declarations of Trent." (PS) Magocsi and Pop, "Unia/Church Union" (515 – 517); <i>Catholic Encyclopedia</i> : "Union of Brest"; "Document of the Union of Uzhorod." (PS); Selections: Mastrantonis, <i>Augsburg and Constantinople</i> (PS); "Confession of Cyril Lucaris" (PS)
Week 13 (April 1) Guest Lecture	Third Rome and the Russian Synodal Period, and Old Believers	Ware, Ch. 6 (102-114 only); "Meyendorff #2 "Third Rome?" "Moscow: The Third Rome," (PS)

Week 13 (April 3)	Orthodoxy and Modern Nation States	Ramet/Papadakis "Eastern Christianity and Politics 20 th Century"; Declaration on Ethnophyletism (PS)
Week 14 (April 8)	Orthodoxy and Militant Atheism: The Soviet Contexts	Ware, Ch. 6 (114-25) and 8; Meyendorff #2 "The Orthodox Church and the Communist State" (PS); "Communism" (PS); Ware, Chapter 9; <i>Optional</i> : Vasile, "Suppression of the Romanian Greek Catholic (Uniate) Church" "Lenin to Molotov;" (PS) "Martyrs under Communism;" "Rapprochement with the Soviets. (PS)"
Week 14 (April 10)	Orthodox Alaska	Ivanov, <i>The Russian Orthodox Church of Alaska</i> (1-5; 26-36); Kan, <i>Memory Eternal</i> (34-41; 89-94; 100-102).
Week 15 (April 15)	The Orthodox Diaspora – North America <i>Conceptual paper #3: Orthodox history due</i>	Kishkovsky https://oca.org/cdn/PDFs/dept-archives/orthodox-christians-na.pdf (Chapter 3, "Immigration and Conversion" and 5 "Other Orthodox Immigrations" and 6, "The Collapse of the Immigrant Church"; Chapter 7 "The Jurisdictional Solution"; Chapter 9, "Challenges to the Ethnic Churches" – use the chapter designations in the PDF <i>NOT</i> on the website; St. Alexis Toth, <i>Where to Seek the Truth</i> (selections) (PS); "OCA: Tomos of Autocephaly" (PS); <i>Optional</i> : Brady, "Transnational Conversions," (selections).
Week 15 (April 17)	Orthodoxy in the Modern World	Ware, Ch. 16; Pelikan, "Ecumenism,"; "Relations with other Christians" (Great and Holy Council of 2016) (PS) "Balmand Statement" (PS) Readings from: "The Great and Holy Council of 2016"

Final Exam