

*Readings for:*  
**361: Wealth in the Ancient Church**

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Dr. Brenda Ihssen, *ihssenbl@plu.edu*, x7237

Class: Tuesday and Thursday, 1:45 - 3:30, Admin. 219

Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 10:00 - 1:00; Wednesday and Friday 9:00 - 11:00; and by appointment

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Please Note: The information below is subject to change at the discretion of the professor.

### ***Week One***

Thursday, February 8<sup>th</sup>

- ✘ Introduction to the course (syllabus, texts, reading list)

## **I. The Ancient World ~ Culture and Economy**

### ***Week Two***

Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup>

- ✘ Introductory Lecture: The World of Late Antiquity

*Please read:*

- Justo González, *Faith and Wealth: A History of Early Christian Ideas on the Origin, Significance, and Use of Money* (Eugene, OR, Wipf and Stock Publishers, 1990): 28-68.
- Reader: Selections from *Select Papyri*, trans. A.S. Hunt and C.C. Edgar (Harvard University Press, 1959). Please read the sections that have been marked.

Thursday, February 15<sup>th</sup>

Lecture: Money in the Classical World ~ Greece and Rome

- ✘ Map Quiz (5 points)

*Please read:*

- González, 3-19.
- Reader: Plutarch, *On Love of Wealth*, from *Moralia*, VII, trans., Phillip H. De Lacy (Harvard University Press, McMLIX).
- Reader: Plutarch, *That We Ought Not to Borrow*, from *Moralia*, VII, trans., Harold North Fowler (Harvard University Press, McMLIX).

### ***Week Three***

Tuesday, February 20<sup>th</sup>

Lecture: Wealth and Poverty in the Classical World ~ The Ancient Hebrews

*Please read:*

- González, 19-23.
- Selections from the Hebrew Bible

*Please bring to class:* readings and questions for discussion.

Thursday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>

Library Day: Conducting Responsible Library Research

## II. The Early Centuries of Christianity

### *Week Four*

Tuesday, February 27<sup>th</sup>

Lecture: Wealth and Poverty in the New Testament

*Please read:*

- González, 71-91.
- Selections from the New Testament

Thursday, March 1<sup>st</sup>

- Discussion groups ~ reading material.

*Please bring to class:* readings and questions for discussion.

### *Week Five*

Tuesday, March 6<sup>th</sup>

Lecture: The Sub-Apostolic Church

*Please read:*

- González, 92-142.
- Reader: Clement of Alexandria, *The Rich Man's Salvation*, trans, G.W. Butterworth (Harvard University Press). 271-367.

Thursday, March 8<sup>th</sup>

- Discussion groups ~ reading material.

*Please bring to class:* readings and questions for discussion.

### *Week Six*

Tuesday, March 13<sup>th</sup>

Lecture: Monastic Economy

*Please read:*

- González, 149-172
- Reader: Selections from *The Sayings of the Desert Fathers, The Alphabetical Collection*, trans., Benedicta Ward, SLG (Cistercian Publications): please read the sections that are marked.
- Reader: *The Rules of Saint Pachomius with Jerome's Preface*, trans., Armand Veilleux (Cistercian Publications, 1981): 141-67.
- Reader: Selections from St. Basil's *The Long Rules*, and *Homily 21 (On Detachment from Worldly Goods)* in *Saint Basil Ascetical Works*, trans., Sister M. Monica Wagner, CSC (The Catholic University of America Press, 1962): 252-59; 487-505.

Thursday, March 15<sup>th</sup>

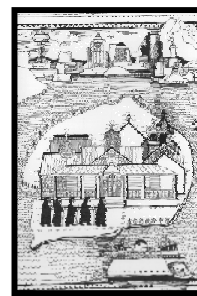
Workshop: constructing an annotated bibliography.

- Discussion groups ~ reading material.

*Please bring to class:* readings and questions for discussion.

### *Week Seven*

- Field Trip to *All Merciful Saviour Russian Orthodox Monastery*



## *Spring Break*

- No classes March 24<sup>th</sup> ~ April 1<sup>st</sup>

## **III. The Great Bishops**

### *Week Eight*

Tuesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>

Lecture: The Great Bishops (West) Ambrose

Paper Due on either monastic economy or trip to the monastery

*Please read:*

- González, 187-99.
- Reader: St. Ambrose, *On Naboth*, trans., Boniface Ramsey OP (London: Routledge): 117-44.

Thursday, April 5<sup>th</sup>

- Annotated bibliography materials due.
- Discussion groups ~ reading material.

*Please bring to class*: readings and questions for discussion.

### *Week Nine*

Tuesday, April 10<sup>th</sup>

Lecture: The Great Bishops (East) St. John Chrysostom

- González, 173-86; 200-13.
- Selected sermons from *On Wealth and Poverty*.

Thursday, April 11<sup>th</sup>

- Discussion groups ~ reading material.

*Please bring to class*: readings and questions for discussion.

### *Week Ten*

Tuesday, April 17<sup>th</sup>

Lecture: The Great Saint (St. John the Almsgiver)

- Reader: *The Life of St. John the Almsgiver*, trans., Elizabeth Dawes and Norman H. Baynes (St. Vladimir's Seminary Press, 1996): 195-270.

Thursday, April 19<sup>th</sup>

- Discussion groups ~ reading material.

*Please bring to class*: readings and questions for discussion.

### *Week Eleven*

Tuesday, April 24<sup>th</sup>

Discussion of Peter Brown's *Poverty and Leadership in the Later Roman Empire*.

Thursday, April 26<sup>th</sup>

Student conferences; students will turn in their book review and will discuss their research with me in an individual conference.

### ***Week Twelve***

Tuesday, May 1<sup>st</sup>

Student conferences; students will turn in their book review and will discuss their research with me in an individual conference.

Thursday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>

Student presentations.

### ***Week Thirteen***

Tuesday, May 8<sup>th</sup>

Student presentations.

Thursday, May 10<sup>th</sup>

Student presentations.

### ***Week Fourteen***

Tuesday, May 15<sup>th</sup>

- final class:
  - Maps due (students will present them to the class)
  - group evaluations
  - course evaluation

Thursday, May 17<sup>th</sup>

- Research Paper due

### ***Week Fifteen - Finals Week***