

CH2: *Ecclesia Anglicana*: History of Anglican Christianity Syllabus

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Purpose: This course offers a broad historical overview of Anglican Christianity. We will briefly look at British religious history during the first 1500 years A.D. and then gradually widen our scope as the English Church followed British traders, entrepreneurs, adventurers and missionaries around the globe, planting the seeds of what would become a loose Anglican Communion and a unique American Episcopal Church. Our purpose is to prepare you to use history pastorally in your various ministries.

Approach:

- Make you comfortable with the main themes, events, personalities, controversies, movements, and issues in the history of global Anglican Christianity;
- Help you to become familiar with the basic tools needed for researching historical questions that may arise in your ministries and future studies and how to use them;
- Enable you to identify and assess the impact of various aspects of our history on current issues facing the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion.

Procedure:

Complete the assigned readings prior to class. Chapman assumes a literate and informed Anglican British audience, so he sometimes introduces a concept or term prior to explaining it in context. Try to work through this. There's always *Wikipedia!*

As names come up in the readings, check them out on the Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music (SCLM) blog page: <http://liturgyandmusic.wordpress.com>. Click on the green "Search" square on the upper right side of the webpage and then enter the name of the person in the search box. Many of the names in your readings have been added to the church calendar, some more recently than others.

Assessment of your work will come in various forms, ranging from written assignments to questions and discussions during our meetings together. The intent of the assessments will be to see how you are applying the material covered in class and the readings to your emerging ministries.

Schedule:

1. **Session 1:** Course overview and introduction to the issues of Anglican identity and uniqueness. Prior to class read Podmore, *The Origins and Development of the Church of England*. We will then look at the "English Church" from its early beginnings to the time of the Reformation. Associated Readings: Chapman, Chapter 1; Picton, Introduction; and Ward, *A True Easter*.
2. **Session 2:** The sixteenth century Reformations in Britain. Readings: Chapman, Chapters 2-3 (through page 44). Haugaard, *From Reformation to Eighteenth Century* (pages 3-18), and Wallace, *Via Media*. [Picton, Chapters 1 and 2]

3. **Session 3:** Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries: Pietism, Evangelicalism, Wesley. Readings: Chapman, Chapter 3(45-56) - 4; Haugeard, pages 19-27, Butler, *From the Early Eighteenth Century to the Present Day*, page 30 – mid 35; Skim the “Articles of Religion” in the Historical Documents section of the 1979 BCP. Of interest: Hatchett, *A Sunday Service In 1776 Or Thereabouts*. [Picton, Chapters 3, 4 and 5]
4. **Session 4:** The Critical Nineteenth Century: Missionary work; church parties; beginnings of the “Anglican Communion”; early approaches to Ecumenism. Readings: Chapman, Chapters 5-6; Butler, page 35- top of 43; *Praying for Rain; National Apostasy*, Newman, *Tract 1*. [Picton, Chapter 6]
5. **Session 5:** Anglican Christianity in the Twentieth and Twenty-first centuries. Broad changes in all areas of the Church’s life in the Anglican Communion and “beyond.” Readings: Chapman, Chapter 7; Butler, pages 43-50; *The Anglican Way; History of the Church of England*; Picton, *Anglican ecumenism*. For fun: Van De Weyer, *A Celtic Resurrection*. [Picton, Chapter 7]

Required Text:

Mark Chapman. *Anglicanism: A Very Short Introduction*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2006.

The single text will be supplemented with various readings sent to class members via email prior to the class meetings.

For S4M Postulants; Optional for Laity: Herve Picton. *A Short History of the Church of England*. Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2015. An interesting chronological history of the C of E by a French scholar of the English Victorian Period. Chapters keyed to the assignments are noted in brackets.

There is one other book of potential interest: *Not Angels but Anglicans: A History of Christianity in the British Isles*, ed.by Henry Chadwick, et. al., Norwich, UK: Canterbury Press, 2000, 2010. The book is a series of articles published first in 2000 in the British Anglican newspaper *Church Times*. The articles are the same in the 2000 and 2010 editions, except for the last article which covers more recent information for the first decade of the 21st century. The authors are solid scholars in their fields. The book is expensive, although there are used copies of the older version. There are a few copies in the Library.

Resources.

There is much useful information available via the Internet. Particularly relevant for our work is the Project Canterbury website at <http://anglicanhistory.org>. This is a rich repository of source documents about the Anglican family of churches.

You should also become familiar with <http://justus.anglican.org/resources/index.html>, the “Anglican Resource Collection.” But beware of the timeline – it is idiosyncratic and very dated! The prayer book section is excellent and complete.

There is also substantial information at Anglicans Online: <http://anglicansonline.org/index.html>