



5. The Tradition of the Church

CHRISTIAN HISTORY

Content and Themes

Ability to outline the sweep of the Christian movement from its inception to the present.

Ability to explain the institutional development and significant moments of change in the history of the Christian Church

Skills of Interpretation

Ability to demonstrate their use of primary, secondary, and interpretive resources to delineate the life and organization of the Christian community through two millennia.

Identity

Ability to explain the distinctive nature and history of the Episcopal church and the Anglican Communion

Competencies

Describes the structure/organization and missional theology and strategy for each of the following eras in the history of the Christian Church

- Pre-Constantinian
- Nicean era to the Great Schism
- the Middle Ages
- the era of the Reformations: continental, British isles
- colonialism and spread of Christianity
- 19th century; worldwide, in North American
- 20th century to the present

Describes the origins and initial organizing of The Episcopal Church

Traces the history of the diaconate from Apostolic times to the present

- explain the evidence for the diaconate/order of deacons in The Book of Acts and the New Testament Epistles
- demonstrate an understanding of John Collins' concept of agency
- elaborate the history of the diaconate in The Episcopal Church
- explain the Plater/Watson Epting concept of 'waves' of development of the diaconate in The Episcopal Church
- explain the differences from The Episcopal Church in the understanding and role of deacons in at least three other Christian expressions

Describes the role of *The Book of Common Prayer* in the

- origins of The Church of England

- life of The Episcopal Church
- worship of The Episcopal Church
- beliefs of The Episcopal Church
- structure and identity of The Anglican Communion

Demonstrations of Competence in Christian Tradition

Develop and lead a short course on *The Book of Common Prayer* for a group

Write a homily employing historical analysis, e.g. how doctrine has changed; how attitudes toward slavery evolved; how has the Church dealt with historically marginalized group

Sources/Resources

Diarmaid McCullough, *Christianity: The First Three Thousand Years* (Penguin, 2011)

David Chidester, *Christianity: A Global History*. HarperOne, 2001.

Justo L. Gonzalez, *The Story of Christianity, Vol. 1: The Early Church to the Dawn of the Reformation* (HarperOne, 2010)

Justo L. Gonzalez, *The Story of Christianity, Vol. 2: The Reformation to the Present* (HarperOne, 2010)

The Penguin History of Christian series

Henry Bettenson and Chris Maunder, eds. *Documents of the Episcopal Church*. Fourth edition.

F.L. Cross and E.A. Livingstone, eds. *The Oxford Dictionary of the Christian Church*. Fourth edition (Oxford University Press: 2005)

David Chidester. *Empire of Religion: Imperialism and Comparative Religion* (University of Chicago Press, 2014)

David L. Holmes, *A Brief History of the Episcopal Church* (T&T Clark, 1993)

Robert W. Prichard, *A History of the Episcopal Church*, Third Revised Edition: *Complete Through the 78th General Convention* (Morehouse Publishing, 2014)

A history of your diocesan context

Histories on the Diaconate

Susanne Watson Epting, *Unintended Consequences: The Diaconate Renewed* (Morehouse, 2015)

John Collins, *Deacons and the Church: Making Connections between Old and New* (Morehouse Publishing, 2003)

James Monroe Barnett, *The Diaconate: A Full and Equal Order*. (Trinity Press International, 1995)

Ormonde Plater. *Many Servants: An Introduction to Deacons*. Revised edition (Cowley Publications, 2004)

The Prayer Book

The Book of Common Prayer

Enriching Our Worship

The Book of Occasional Services

Marion J. Hatchett, *Commentary on the American Prayer Book* (HarperOne, 1995)

Charles Hefling and Cynthia Shattuck, eds., *The Oxford Guide to the Book of Common Prayer: A Worldwide Survey* (Oxford University Press, 2008)

For Trial Use