

Church History (CH)

Australian College of Theology name: *Church History*

Unit description

Be introduced to the formative periods of the church's past which help us to understand the church today. Examine the first 500 years of the church, and then the church from the Reformation onwards.

Aim

To give an introduction to formative periods of the church's past which help us to understand the church today.

Outline

Section A: The First Five Centuries

Development of "institutions"; house-church and church buildings, liturgy, ministry, Scriptures, creeds, doctrines, councils, papacy, monasticism and relations with the State and society, and emergence of some significant Christian figures.

Section B: The Reformation and Later

- The extent and decay of medieval Catholicism, the new vigour from learning, discovery and nationalism.
- The Protestant Reformers: Luther and the Lutherans, Calvin and the Reformed tradition.
- The English Reformation: the break with Rome; later schools of thought — Evangelicals, AngloCatholics and Liberals.
- The Counter-Reformation; 19th century developments, Vatican II
- The origins of later denominations; Independents (Congregationalists); Baptists; Methodists; Churches of Christ.
- The evangelical revivals; missionary movement; the rise of Biblical Criticism; the ecumenical movement; the rise of Pentecostalism; the next Christendom.