



AMBROSE
SEMINARY

Alliance History and Thought (CH 610)

National Ministry Centre

Instructor: Ken Draper, PhD

Class times: May 10-14, 2010

Classes begin at 9:00 and finish at 4:30

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Alliance History and Thought

Course Description

This is a denominational history course. Its task is to orient people training for vocational ministry within the Alliance and interested lay people to the spiritual, theological, and pastoral resources of the denominational heritage. To bring life to denominational history the course employs a concept of "living tradition" as the mode of both appropriating and critiquing this heritage.

When understood as a living tradition, Alliance history and thought is meant to be more than something old and irrelevant to be read about in a textbook. The course is to inform an Alliance sense of identity, to ground teaching and worship, and to find its way into lived commitments. Alliance identity is shaped by a tradition, expressed by Albert B. Simpson as the Fourfold Gospel, which has continually witnessed to the fact that Christ's work has present as well as future implications. It calls adherents to and empowers them for holiness, it affirms God's interest in the physical as well as the spiritual, and it points forward to hope in the coming of Christ's Kingdom.

Course Objectives

1. Students will be able to explain selected historical themes affecting the Christian and Missionary Alliance from the late nineteenth century to the present.
2. Students will have an interpretive grid for analysing the history of the Christian and Missionary Alliance through its central continuities and changes.
3. Students will be able to identify the Alliance distinctives that have shaped its historical and doctrinal experience. Particular attention will be paid to sanctification, healing, eschatology, and missions.
4. Students will have a broadened understanding of the work of the Christian and Missionary Alliance in Canada and throughout the world.

Textbooks

















Required

1. Kenneth L. Draper, "Readings in Alliance History and Thought," (Ambrose, 2009).
2. Lindsay Reynolds, *Rebirth: The Redevelopment of the Christian and Missionary Alliance in Canada*, (Willowdale: Christian and Missionary Alliance in Canada, 1992).
3. A.B. Simpson, *The Fourfold Gospel*, (Camp Hill [PA]: Christian Publications, 1984).

Books for Review Assignment

1. A.B. Simpson, *Larger Christian Life*, (Camp Hill [PA]: Christian Publications, 1991).
2. A.W. Tozer, *The Pursuit of God*, (Camp Hill [PA]: Christian Publications, 1993).
3. Samuel Stoesz, *Sanctification: an Alliance Distinctive*, (Camp Hill [PA]: Christian Publications, 1991).
4. Gordon T. Smith, *On the Way: A Guide to Christian Spirituality*, (Colorado Springs: NavPress, 2001).

Class Schedule

		Related Reading	Must read
Mon., May 10			
9:00	Introduction: A Living Tradition	 Readings, Preface.	
1:00	A.B. Simpson: His life	 Readings, 1.1 - 1.3	
3:00	Simpson: Spiritual crises and the origins of Alliance History and Thought	 Readings, 2.1 - 2.4	2.1-2.4
Tues., May 11			
9:00	The Alliance and Nineteenth-Century Evangelicalism		
10:30	Simpson and Alliance Hymnody	 Readings 3.1.	
1:00	The Founding of the Alliance	 Readings, 4.1 - 4.3.	4.2-4.3
3:00	The Work of the Early Alliance	 Readings, 5.1 - 5.3.	
Wed., May 12			
9:00	Missions and Missions Policy	 Readings, 7.1 - 7.3.	7.1
10:30	Developments in Alliance History	 Readings 6.1 - 6.3	6.2
1:00	Succession and Constitutional Change	 Readings 6.1 - 6.3	
3:00	The Fourfold Gospel	 <i>The Fourfold Gospel</i> , pp. 10-70; Readings, 8.1.	8.1
Thurs., May 13			
9:00	The Early Alliance View of Sanctification	 Readings 9.1 - 9.4.	
10:30	Developments in the Alliance View of Sanctification	 Readings 10.1, 10.3, 10.4.	10.3
1:00	An Approach to Understanding the Progressive Nature of Sanctification		
3:00	Healing as an Alliance Distinctive	 Readings 11.1 - 11.4.	11.4
Fri., May 14			
9:00	A Contemporary Alliance View of Healing	 Readings 12.1 - 12.3.	
10:30	The Coming King	 Readings 13.1, 13.2, 14.1-14.3.	14.3
1:00	Toward a Doctrinal Statement	 Readings 15.1 - 15.4.	15.1
3:00	Alliance History and Thought: Living a Tradition		

Assignments

1. Each student is expected to be prepared for and to participate in each class session. This is reflected in the proportion of the final mark assigned to participation. Students will be asked to present an informal summary to the class of one of the required readings.
2. A list of completed required reading will be submitted to the instructor.
3. Each student will write a critical book review which integrates a discussion of the four books listed above. Your review is to evaluate the degree to which 1) each book makes a contribution to Alliance thought and 2) together constitute a recognizable theological tradition. Your analysis will be significantly strengthened by reference to materials discussed in class and referenced in the bibliography which accompanies this syllabus. The review is to be no longer than 10 pages (approx. 2500 words).
4. Lindsay Reynolds outlines the history of the Christian and Missionary Alliance in the twentieth century in *Rebirth*. Use the interpretive grid for Alliance history presented on the final day of class to critically analyse Reynold's book. Assess the degree to which the tensions identified in the lecture are supported by the history of the Alliance in Canada and assess the degree to which this grid was helpful in identifying central themes in the narrative. This review should be no longer than 5 pages (approx. 1250 words).
5. The research papers are meant to explore new areas of Alliance history. It is suggested that this paper focus on a local church history, either of the church you now attend or one you have been associated with in the past. Papers will be no longer than 15 pages (approx. 4,000 words) and should involve primary research.
6. As an alternative to the local history paper, students may participate in the Alliance Oral History Project. This project seeks to collect, preserve and make accessible to researchers oral history interviews on topics relating to the Alliance in Canada. Students electing this assignment will conduct at least five one hour to one and a half hour interviews and submit a voice recording and transcript of each and a three to five page reflection paper. There will be three instructional seminars on oral history during the lunch hours Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday that are required for participation in the Alliance Oral History Project.

Due Date

All assignments are due **July 16, 2010**.

Course Requirements

1. Participation	10%
2. Reading report	10%
3. Critical book review	25%
4. Review of <i>Rebirth</i>	15%
5. Local church history research paper or Alliance Oral History Project	40%
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	100%

General Information

Inclusive language: Ensure that all written work employs inclusive language. Recent changes in our use of language and social sensibilities require that words indicating the male sex but referring to the whole of humanity, such as “man” or “he”, be replaced by inclusive words such as “human” or “they”.

Assignment format: Written assignments should follow an acceptable format such as Turabian. Examples are found in the History Department Style Guide available on the website.

Submission of Assignments: Reading reports, book reviews and research papers are to be submitted using the “Dropbox” on the course website or emailed to kdraper@ambrose.edu. If you do not have internet access mail to Ken Draper, Ambrose University College, 150 Ambrose Circle SW, Calgary, AB T3H 0L5.

Academic Regulations: The instructor will comply with all academic regulations as set out in the current College Calendar and Student Handbook. It is the responsibility of students to familiarize themselves with these.