

**BTS-4595/5530 CONTINUITY AND CHANGE IN ANABAPTISM**  
 COURSE SYLLABUS; SPRING-SUMMER SEMESTER 2013-2014  
 CANADIAN MENNONITE UNIVERSITY  
 DRAFT SYLLABUS

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 Schedule: May 20-23 & 26-30; 9:00am to 12pm; Location: TBA  
 Last day for voluntary withdrawal from course without academic penalty: TBA  
 Exam Date: Take-home due June 6

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This course explores the dynamic and evolving character of Anabaptist identity over an almost 500-year period. It attends to the various theological impulses that shaped Anabaptism in its early phase as well as in the centuries that followed. The course also focuses on Anabaptism's various contemporary theological expressions.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:** Students in this course will 1) gain a critical appreciation of the Anabaptist theological tradition including its unity and diversity, and its continuous as well as changing characteristics over time; 2) become acquainted with the internal and external issues facing Anabaptists and Mennonites in the last five hundred years; 3) become critically aware and knowledgeable of, and increasingly articulate in, their own theological convictions and commitments; 4) develop an awareness of the historical nature of religious expression.

**TEXTS:** The Reading material will consist mainly of electronic sources that will be located either through the student portal (or through moodle) and through electronic sources accessible through the CMU library. Copies of the reading material can also be found on the reserve shelf in the library. For general references students may want to purchase or refer to one of the following: C. J. Dyck, *An Introduction to Mennonite History*, Third Edition (Herald Press, 1993); Hans-Jürgen Goertz, *The Anabaptists* (Routledge, 1996); John D. Roth, *Stories: How Mennonites Came to Be* (Herald Press, 2006); C. Arnold Snyder, *Anabaptist History and Theology: An Introduction* (Pandora Press, 1995); George Hunston Williams, *The Radical Reformation* (Sixteenth Century Journal Publishers, 1992).

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS SUMMARY:**

Class Participation	20%	
Book Review	10%	(first day of class)
Class Presentation	10%	
Essay and Presentation	40%	(Due: June 30)
Take Home Exam	20	(Due: June 6)

**GRADING SCALE:** A+ 95-100; A 88-94; B+ 81-87; B 74-80; C+ 67-73; C 60-66; D 50-59; F <50

**MORE ON COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

**ATTENDANCE AND CLASS PARTICIPATION:** Class sessions will include lectures, student presentations, and discussion. It is expected that students will have studied all the assigned readings for each class. This includes the readings listed in the syllabus as well as the prepared student reading reflections. Students will be graded on the basis of their attendance and ability to engage with the readings and class discussions each day. For this reason students should dedicate their time to the course work over the two-week period.

**BOOK REVIEW:** Students will be asked to read John D. Roth's *Stories: How Mennonites Came to Be* (Scottsdale, PA: Herald Press, 2006), 244pp. Written for general audiences, this is a book intended to give a very general overview of Mennonite history. The book should be read prior to the beginning of the course. The review should be about 1,000 to 1,200 words in length and include a summary and an evaluation (about 60% should be summary and 40% should be evaluation). Students should consider the following questions as a guide for their work: What is the book about? Who is the author? How does the author achieve his/her objectives; or stated differently, how are the chapters in the book developed? What

do you perceive to be the book's strengths and/or shortcomings? What might readers learn from this book? Who might benefit from this book the most? In terms of formatting, specific references from the book should be referred to by page number in parentheses. There should be no separate title page for this assignment. In lieu of a title page, author, title, publishing details and the student's name should appear at the top of the first page.

PRESENTATION: Students will prepare a 900-word presentation that will be shared with the rest of the class. About one third of the presentation should summarize the contents of the reading. The rest of the assignment should involve identifying arguments or specific passages in the readings that the student finds particularly helpful, significant or problematic.

ESSAY: Students will write a 15-20 page essay, ca. 4500-6000 words, which gives attention to a theme or issue related to the course. Papers written by undergraduate students can be closer to 15 pages in length. The essay must have a thesis statement--not merely a statement of intent--which furnishes an argument or takes a particular position or point of view. The essay will be evaluated on the basis of form and content. It should have a proper introduction that includes a thesis statement and perhaps a brief summary regarding the intention, scope, and approach of the essay. The introduction might also make a case for why the subject matter that has been chosen is worthy of investigation. The main body of the essay should carry out what has been promised in the introduction, while the conclusion could be a summary, a discussion about important findings and implications, or a discussion about issues that need further attention (or the conclusion may include all of the above). The completed essay will normally include 10 to 20 different sources, of which some will be academic journals. Sources should not include internet sources unless they are academic references. It is also expected that the essay will provide documentation according to the University of Chicago style with the use of footnotes (not parenthetical referencing--MLA or APA style etc.). Students may want to include subheadings in their essay—but not too many. Essay topic must be chosen in consultation with the professor.

EXAM: The final exam will be a take-home class assignment responding to one or two questions that have been distributed in advance.

TENTATIVE COURSE OUTLINE AND READING SCHEDULE  
Students will be reading selections from the list below.

- M20 INTRODUCTION TO THE COURSE/HISTORIOGRAPHICAL ALTERNATIVES AND IMPLICATIONS  
-John D. Roth, *Stories: How Mennonites Came to Be*
- M21 SWISS ANABAPTISM  
-Harold S. Bender, "Conrad Grebel, the founder of Swiss Anabaptism," *Church History*, 7 no 2 (April 1938): 157-178 (ATLA)  
-C. Arnold Snyder, "The Monastic Origins of Swiss Anabaptist Sectarianism," *Mennonite Quarterly Review*, 57 no 1 (Ja 1983): 5-26 (ATLA)  
-Conrad Grebel, "Grebel to Müntzer" in Harder, ed., *The Sources of Swiss Anabaptism* Herald Press, 1985), 284-294 (SP)  
-Michael Sattler, "Brotherly Union" and "Congregational Order," in Yoder, *The Legacy of Michael Sattler* (Herald Press, 1973, 34-54 (SP)
- M22 SOUTH GERMAN ANABAPTISM  
-Werner Packull, "A Medieval Point of Departure," *Mysticism and the Early South German-Austrian Anabaptist Movement 1525-1531* (Herald Press, 1977), 17-34 (SP)  
-C. Arnold Snyder, *Mysticism and the Shape of Anabaptist Spirituality*, in *Commoners and Community*, ed. C. Arnold Snyder (Pandora Press, 2002), 195-215 (SP)  
-Hans Denck, "Concerning True Love," and "The Divine Order," in *Early Anabaptist Spirituality*, ed. Liechty, *Early Anabaptist Spirituality* (Paulist Press, 1994), 111-134 (SP)  
-Hubmaier, "On the Sword," in *Balthasar Hubmaier: Theologian of Anabaptism*, eds H. Wayne Pipkin and John H. Yoder (Herald Press, 1989), 492-523 (SP)  
-Marpeck, "Pilgram Marpeck's Confession of 1532," in *The Writings of Pilgram Marpeck*, eds.

- William Klassen and Walter Klaassen (Herald Press, 1978) 107-157 (SP)
- M23 NORTH GERMAN-DUTCH ANABAPTISM  
 -Alastair Hamilton, "The Development of Dutch Anabaptism in the light of the European Magisterial and Radical Reformation," in *Martyr to Muppe*, eds. Alastair Hamilton, Sjouke Woolstra, Piet Visser (Amsterdam University Press, 1994), 3-14 (SP)  
 -Sjouke Woolstra, "The Art of Oblivion," in *Menno Simons: His Image and Message*, (Bethel College, 1997), 18-34 (SP)  
 -Menno Simons, "The New Birth," and excerpts from "Foundation of Christian Doctrine" in *Complete Writings of Menno Simons*, Verduin tr. and Wenger ed (Herald Press, 1984)" 89-102,190-206 (SP)  
 -Dirk Philips, "The Incarnation," *The Writings of Dirk Philips*, eds. C. J. Dyck, William E. Keeney, Alvin J. Beachy (Herald Press, 1992) 134-151 (SP)
- M26 THE CONFSSIONAL AGE  
 -Karl Koop, "Changing Contexts in a Confessional Age," *Anabaptist-Mennonite Confessions of Faith: The Development of a Tradition* (Pandora, 2004), 31-48 (SP)  
 -Koop, "Introduction," in *Confessions of Faith in the Anabaptist Tradition* (Pandora, 2006), 1-16, 333-336 (SP)  
 -Steven Siebert, "Modernity's Long Shadow: the Banishment of the body and the Suppression of Memory in the *Confession of Faith in a Mennonite Perspective*," *MQR* 81, no. 3 (July 2007): 399-426 (ATLA)  
 -Dordrecht Confession, 1632" in Howard J. Loewen, *One Lord, One Church, One Hope, and one God: Mennonite Confessions of Faith* (IMS, 1985), 63-70 (SP)  
 -"Prussian Confession" (1660) in Koop, *Confessions of Faith*, 311-330 (SP)
- M27 THE AGE OF THE SPIRIT AND THE TURN INWARD  
 -John D. Roth, "Pietism and the Anabaptist Soul," in *The Dilemma of Anabaptist Piety*, ed. Stephen L. Longenecker (Bridgewater: Forum for Religious Studies, 1997): 17-33, 211-14 (SP)  
 -"Jeme (Joannes) Deknatel" in *Mennonite Encyclopedia*, vol. 2, (or GAMEO)  
 Victor G. Doerksen, "A Second Menno? Eduard Wüst and Mennonite Brethren Beginnings," *MQR* 74, no. 2 (April 2000): 311-325 (ATLA)  
 -Pieter Pietersz, "The Way to the City of Peace," in *Spiritual Life in Anabaptism*, ed. C. J. Dyck (Herald Press, 1995), 231-283 (SP)  
 -"Inaugural Sermon of Eduard Hugo Otto Wuest," and the history of the MB church leading to the "Secession or Founding Document," in Peter Martin Friesen, *The Mennonite Brotherhood in Russia (1789-1910)* (Winnipeg: Christian Press, 1980), 205-232 (SP)
- M28 MODERNITY, ENLIGHTENMENT AND NATIONALISM  
 -Koop, "At the Margins and at the Centre of Modern Expression: Reconsidering Anabaptist Mennonite Confessions of Faith," 1-11 (unpublished manuscript) (SP)  
 -Andrew Fix, "The Ideal of the Universal Church: A Religion of Reason and Toleration," in *Prophecy and Reason* (Princeton University Press, 1991), 113-132 (SP)  
 -Michael Driedger, "An Article Missing from the Mennonite Encyclopedia: 'The Enlightenment in the Netherlands,'" in C. Arnold Snyder, *Commoners and Community* (Pandora Press, 2002), 101-120 (SP);  
 - Mark Jantzen, "Conclusions," *Mennonite German Soldiers: Nation, Religion, and Family in the Prussian East, 1772-1880* (University of Notre Dame, 2010), 247-254 (SP)  
 -W. Mannhardt, "Concerning the Question of Military Service" (Handout)
- M29 FUNDAMENTALISTS, PROGRESSIVES, EVANGELICALS, AND THE RECOVERY OF THE ANABAPTIST VISION  
 -James Juhnke, "Gemeindechristentum and Bible Doctrine: Two Mennonite Visions of the Early Twentieth Century," in *MQR* 57:3 (July 1983): 206-221 (ATLA)  
 -Paul Toews, "Mennonites and Evangelicalism," in Toews, *Mennonites in American Society, 1930-1970*," (Herald Press, 1996), 214-237 (SP)

- Harold S. Bender, "The Anabaptist Vision," *Church History* 13, no. 1 (March 1944), 3-24 (ATLA)
  - John Howard Yoder, *The Politics of Jesus* (Eerdmans, 1996), 1-13 (SP)
  - Steve Dintamen, "The Spiritual Poverty of the Anabaptist Vision," *CGR* 10.2 (Spring 1992): 205-208 (SP)
- M30 RECENT CURRENTS
- Gordon D. Kaufman, "Religious Diversity, Historical Consciousness, and Christian Theology," in *God-Mystery-Diversity* (Fortress, 1996), 54-67 (SP)
  - Harry Huebner, "Imagination/Tradition: conjunction or Disjunction?" in Alain Epp Weaver, ed., *Mennonite Theology in the Face of Modernity: Essays in Honor of Gordon D. Kaufman* (North Newton: Bethel College, 1996), 53-79 (SP)
  - A. James Reimer, "Lost Horizon: Whatever Happened to Classical Theology," in *Mennonites and Classical Theology: Dogmatic Foundations for Christian Ethics* (Kitchener: Pandora Press, 2001), 321-336 (SP).
  - Paul Doerksen, "Toward an Anabaptist Political Theology," in Bergen, Doerksen, Koop, eds., *Creed And Conscience: Essays in Honour of A. James Reimer* (Pandora Press, 2007), 281-301 (SP)
  - Irma Fast Dueck, "The performance of worship and the ordering of our lives: liturgy and ethics in the Mennonite tradition," *MQR* 79 no 1 (Ja 2005), 51-67 (ATLA)
  - Chris Huebner, "Make us your laughter: Stanley Hauerwas's Joke on Mennonites," *MQR* 84:3 (July 2010): 357-373 (SP)
  - Karl Koop, "Reading Tradition through Catholic Lenses: Moving Beyond Restorationism," in *New Perspectives in Believers Church Ecclesiology*, eds. Dueck, Harder and Koop (CMU Press, 2010), 125-142 (SP).