Course Description: This course will trace the developments from Ancient Israelite religion to Early Judaism (concentrating on the Hellenistic and Roman periods), and the emergence of Christianity from this Jewish matrix (including both the indebtedness of Early Christianity to Judaism and the Early Christian [and to a lesser extent Jewish] polemic against its sibling). The course does presuppose some background on the part of the student in terms of both course content and critical methodology.

Required Texts:

S. Cohen, From the Maccabees to the Mishnah, 3rd edition (=Cohen)
G. Nickelsburg and M. Stone, Early Judaism: Texts and Documents on Faith and Piety, revised edition (=Nickelsburg/Stone)
R. Stark, The Rise of Christianity (=Stark)

Course Grade:
Quizzes x3 (10% each) 30%
1st Take-home Exam (Early Judaism) 30%
2nd Take-home Exam (Early Christianity - not comprehensive) 30%
Daily Assignment Questions/Attendance 10%
    collected intermittently without advance notice
    3-5 significant questions or observations which come from the reading assignment

Grading Scale:
Final letter grades will be assigned according to the following scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93-100</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90-92</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87-89</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83-86</td>
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<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80-82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77-79</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td>60-69</td>
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<td>E</td>
<td>0-59</td>
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</table>

For UF policies on grading, please see:
https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx
Attendance:
Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at: https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx

Course Evaluations:
Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at https://evaluations.ufl.edu.

Classroom Accommodations:
Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

ASSIGNMENTS

AUG 21 General Introduction to the Course
Nickelsburg/Stone, pp. 1-8

23 Cain and Abel – What’s missing?

EARLY JUDAISM

25, 28, 30 Ancient Israel to Early Judaism and Early Christianity
Cohen, pp. 1-26
Nickelsburg/Stone, pp. 18-21

SEP 1

4 NO CLASS - LABOR DAY

6 Gentile Political Domination
Cohen, pp. 26-37
Nickelsburg/Stone, pp. 42-47, 121-150, 159-179

8 QUIZ 1 (10%)

11, 13 Anti-Judaism and Philo-Judaism
Cohen, pp. 37-51
Nickelsburg/Stone, pp. 47-49

15, 18 Jewish "Religion"
Cohen, pp. 53-102
Nickelsburg/Stone, pp. 93-109, 201-227

20, 22 Community and Institutions
Cohen, pp. 103-122
Nickelsburg/Stone, pp. 55-80
25 Sects
   Cohen, pp. 123-142
   Nickelsburg/Stone, pp. 9-18

27, 29 Pharisees, Essenes, Sadducees, Zealots
   Cohen, pp. 142-171
   Nickelsburg/Stone, pp. 21-42

OCT 2 QUIZ 2 (10%)  

4 Canon
   Cohen, pp. 173-190
   Ehrman, pp. 365-372

6 NO CLASS - HOMECOMING

9 Implications of Canonization
   Cohen, pp. 190-210

11, 13 Emergence of Rabbinic Judaism
   Cohen, pp. 211-229
   Nickelsburg/Stone, pp. 87-89, 116-118, 152-156, 194-196, 228

TAKE-HOME EXAM – DUE OCT 20 (25%)  

EARLY JUDAISM AND EARLY CHRISTIANITY

16 Early Christian Sources – more than the New Testament

18 Conversion and Christian Growth
   Stark, pp. 3-27
   Ehrman, pp. 1-25

20 Class Basis of Early Christianity
   Stark, pp. 29-47

23 The Mission to the Jews
   Stark, pp. 49-71
   Cohen, pp. 231-258

25 Anti-Jewish Polemic
   Ehrman, pp. 111-147
   Nickelsburg/Stone, pp. 80-87
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Pages/Authors</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Epidemics, Networks, and Conversion</td>
<td>Stark, pp. 73-94</td>
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<td>30</td>
<td>Role of Women in Christian Growth</td>
<td>Stark, pp. 95-128</td>
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<td>Ehrman, pp. 475-504</td>
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<td>NOV 1</td>
<td>Christianizing the Roman Empire</td>
<td>Stark, pp. 129-145</td>
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<td>3, 6</td>
<td>Early Christian Apologists</td>
<td>Ehrman, pp. 56-110</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Urban Chaos and Crisis</td>
<td>Stark, pp. 147-162</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>NO CLASS - VETERANS DAY OBSERVED</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>QUIZ 3 (10%) – covers material through Nov 6 assignment</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>The Martyrs</td>
<td>Stark, pp. 163-189</td>
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<tr>
<td>17, 20</td>
<td>Attacks on Christianity</td>
<td>Ehrman, pp. 26-55</td>
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<td>22, 24</td>
<td>NO CLASS _ THANKSGIVING BREAK</td>
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<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Opportunity and Organization</td>
<td>Stark, pp. 191-208</td>
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<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Church Offices/Liturgy</td>
<td>Ehrman, pp. 429-446, 454-471</td>
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<td>DEC 1</td>
<td>Biblical Interpretation</td>
<td>Ehrman, pp. 373-389, 394-407</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Stark Reflections/Summary/Conclusions</td>
<td>Stark, pp. 209-215</td>
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<td>Ehrman, pp. 505-553</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Nickelsburg/Stone, pp. 109-111</td>
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**TAKE-HOME EXAM – DUE DEC 14 (25%)**