



HISTORY 317

Christianity 0-1500: From Jesus to Luther

Fall 2018

MWF 1:30-2:30

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Christianity began as a small movement of Jesus followers in rural Palestine. By the eve of the Reformation, it had become the most powerful institution in Europe. We will examine: the distinctiveness of Christianity in the Ancient World; its spread within the Roman Empire and beyond; its beliefs and devotional practices; its art, architecture,

and music; its institutions and movements of reform; the disagreements among Christians and their engagement with pagans, Jews, and Muslims; and the interaction between church, state, and society. Readings include: Augustine's *Confessions*, Basil the Great's sermons on wealth and poverty, and "The Martyrdom of Saints Perpetua and Felicitas."