Huron FACULTY OF THEOLOGY

Fall Term 2026
Systematic Theology 110 / Church History 110
Anglican Theology and Identity:
History in Dialogue

Huron University College Land Acknowledgment

Huron is situated on the traditional lands of the Anishinaabeg, Haudenosaunee, Attawandaron, and Lenape peoples, whose sharing and stewardship of the land has been governed by the Dish with One Spoon treaty since time immemorial. We are guided by this treaty in the spirit of peace, friendship, and respect. Huron University College acknowledges its past role in perpetuating colonial and exclusionary relations. Because religious and ecclesial institutions were instrumental in such relations, we consider it our particular responsibility as a Faculty of Theology to work towards justice and reconciliation.

Course Dates: From November 19th – December 10th, 2026
Time: Thursdays from 7 – 9 P.M. (CT), 8 – 10 P.M. (ET)
Delivery: Hosted via Zoom
Instructor: The Rev. Canon Dr. Grayhame Bowcott, BTh, MDiv, DMin
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Course Description

Anglican Theology and Identity is a Reading and Discussion-oriented course.
It will explore the historical and theological origins of the Anglican tradition by examining the ripple effects of the Reformation in England. Through numerous transitions in leadership through both Church and Monarchy, a distinct Anglican identity was formed among various theologies and political movements.

Participants of this course are required to read the two assigned texts, with care and thoughtful attention, following the in-class (virtual) section of the course. Students are expected to attend the virtual lectures and will be graded on class participation. Two assignments will follow the lecture series to complete the evaluative component of the course.

Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes

At the end of this course, students will have learned a survey understanding of the various theological and political movements that have come to define the Anglican tradition throughout the world today. They will have grown in their appreciation of the diversity of Anglican thought and practice. They will be able to trace how historic debates and doctrinal statements have continued within the Anglican denomination to represent our identity within the Contemporary Church (specifically, in the Anglican Church of Canada).

Required Texts

The Principal Texts/Documents for this course will be:

1. **Chapman, Mark. Anglicanism: A Very Short Introduction. The Oxford Short Introduction Series. New York, New York: Oxford University Press, 2006.**

The first book covers the establishment of the Anglican Church, the competition of visions for the Church of England during the Reformation, the evangelical and Anglo-Catholic movements, the expansion of the Global Communion and Chapman's insights into the future of the Anglican Communion.

2. **Scott Gunn & Melody Wilson Shobe, To Love & Serve Anglican Beliefs and Practices, (Forward Movement), 2022. Available for purchase through the Anglican Church of Canada Bookstore.**

This book is perhaps the most comprehensive presentation of Canadian Anglican Beliefs and Practices to be published to date. It explores Anglican Sacramentality, Worship Services and Offices, foundational beliefs, Trinitarian teachings, understandings on personal vocation, and much more!

Course Outline/Plan

Week 1 Thursday, November 19th – 8:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. (EASTERN TIME)

<u>What does it mean to be Anglican?</u>

This opening lecture will unpack some of the stereotypes of Anglicanism. Together we will explore the historical and political events that, over generations, began to differentiate an English Church that was distinct from the Christian Tradition centred in Rome.

The theological and political response to the European Reformation will begin to highlight a series of events in England which will expedite the self-differentiation of an "Ecclesia Anglicana".

What was Martin Luther seeking to accomplish in his publication of his 95 Theses of the Church of Rome? How would this go on to shape the Church in England (and elsewhere throughout Europe)?

Week 2 Thursday, November 26th – 8:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. (EASTERN TIME)

Church and Monarchy

As England explored the concept of a contextual (English) expression of Christian ecclesiology, how does the leadership (the monarchy) understand itself in relationship to the Church?

What is the lasting impact of the Reformation in England as presented within the Anglican Communion today?

How do we begin to see the balancing of hierarchical and democratic traditions within the Anglican tradition?

Week 3 Thursday, December 3rd – 8:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. (EASTERN TIME)

The Post-Tudor English Church

Upon the death of Henry the VIII, several theological movements occur within the English Church. Who were the leaders of these movements and what were the movements that they began?

This lecture will explore the theological and historical impacts of Evangelicalism, The Oxford Movement, Colonialism and the role of Missionary Societies in the development of the Global Anglican Communion.

Week 4 Thursday, December 10th – 8:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. (EASTERN TIME)

Discussion Component Wrap-Up and Review of Independent Readings and Assignments

This final lecture is set aside for students who may have questions regarding the reading assignments for this course, and the expectations of the Book Review Assignment and the Congregational Reflection Paper.

Method of Evaluation and Criteria for Grading

(only for students choosing to be evaluated for full course credit)

Class Participation

This is a reading and lecture-oriented course. Class participation (for the three lectures) is central to our work together. Participation is, therefore, treated as considerably valuable.

Grade Value: 20%

Book Review Assignment

Students are to submit a book review of Chapman's *Anglicanism: A Very Short Introduction*.

The objectives of the review are to provide a brief summary of the text.

What is the specific topic of the book?
Who is the book written for?
How is the book divided into sections?
Are there any primary arguments that the author is making in the book?
Are there any conclusions that the author makes at the end of the book?

Lastly, in addition to providing summary information on the text, what are your own thoughts about the book?
What did you find challenging in reading it?
What did you find new or helpful?
What will you take from the book, going forward, in your own ministry?

A successful Assignment will address each of these questions, thus demonstrating the student's comprehensive understanding of this course text.

Grade Value: 30%
Due date: January 13th, 2027.

Congregational Theology Reflection Paper

The final project for completion of this course, is for the students to submit a short reflection paper that seeks to integrate their learnings from the second class text: ***To Love & Serve: Anglican Beliefs & Practices.***

Students will begin reading the text.
This book is perhaps the most comprehensive presentation of Canadian Anglican Beliefs and Practices to be published to date. It explores Anglican Sacramentality, Worship Services and Offices, foundational beliefs, Trinitarian teachings, understandings on personal vocation, and much more!

After reading the book, students are asked to write a Theological Reflection Paper that addresses the following questions:

1. What are the concerns or hopes that you are hearing among parishioners in your own congregation? In terms of their Anglican identity or Theology?

2. Where is Anglican theology being taught or shared in your own home church?

3. What aspects of Anglicanism do you hear being valued or appreciated in your congregation? Are there any aspects of our tradition that are not appreciated?

4. Lastly, having explored the diversity of theological expression within Anglicanism in this course, what might your own personal role be in encouraging continued theological dialogue in your own ministry context?

   What might one practical application (one small idea or project) be that you could undertake to expand theological conversations in your congregation?

Grade Value: 50%
Due Date: Wednesday, January 27th, 2026

Huron Grade Descriptors

A+	90-100	One could scarcely expect better from a student at this level
A	80-89	Superior work which is clearly above average
B	70-79	Good work, meeting all requirements, and eminently satisfactory
C	60-69	Competent work, meeting requirements
D	50-59	Fair work, minimally acceptable
F	below 50	Fail

Student Code of Conduct

Membership in the community of Huron University College and Western University implies acceptance by every student of the principle of respect for the rights, responsibilities, dignity and well-being of others and a readiness to support an environment conducive to the intellectual and personal growth of all who study, work, and live within it. Upon registration, students assume the responsibilities that such registration entails. While in the physical or online classroom, students are expected to behave in a manner that supports the learning environment of others. Please review the Student Code of Conduct at: https://huronatwestern.ca/sites/default/files/Res%20Life/Student%20Code%20of%20Conduct%20-%20Revised%20September%202019.pdf.

Statement on the Recording of Class Activities

Students may not record or distribute any class activity, including conversations during office hours, without written permission from the instructor, except as necessary as part of approved accommodations for students with disabilities. Any approved recordings may only be used for the student's own private use.

Online courses within the Licentiate in Theology Program are recorded for student engagement purposes. These recording are only used by the registered students of the class and made available through a restricted video hosting site to respect both privacy and intellectual property. Should a student be uncomfortable with this practice, they can contact the course instructor or the LTh Program Director, Dr. Grayhame Bowcott at grayhame.bowcott@huron.uwo.ca

Statement of Prohibition on the Use of AI

As the primary purpose of Huron's Licentiate in Theology Program is to enable critical thinking, spiritual growth, the cultivation of individual ministry skillsets, and personal discernment for future ministry leadership, this means that we expect our students to offer up only their own ideas and original contributions of writing, assignments, and evaluative content. Any and all use of AI (Artificial Intelligence) is strictly prohibited within this program. Any student who violates this prohibition will be disqualified from receiving credit for the course they are taking. Any student who repeatedly violates this prohibition may risk expulsion from the LTh Program.

Support Services

For advice on course selections, degree requirements, and for assistance with requests for medical accommodation, students should contact the LTh Program Director, Dr. Grayhame Bowcott at grayhame.bowcott@huron.uwo.ca.

Huron University College Licentiate in Theology Program

THIS COURSE HAS BEEN APPROVED BY HURON'S FACULTY OF THEOLOGY COMMITTEE
FOR THE FALL TERM OF THE LTH PROGRAM, 2026.