More of the World’s Greatest Churches Syllabus

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In this class you’ll come to understand the architecture, art, and theology of some of the world’s most beautiful buildings, as they express Christian spirituality across an astounding range of cultures and periods.

We will explore these architectural masterworks that rank among the most revered, most beloved, and most iconic buildings of world civilization. Artistic stature is only one measure of the significance of the great Christian churches. In their essential religious role, the buildings themselves instruct, edify, and inspire the communities that worship in them, using iconography, symbolism, and the language of architecture as ultimate expressions of faith.

This course will feature videos by Professor William R. Cook, illustrated with breathtaking photos, detailed floor plans, and 3-D models. These lectures take you deeply into the culture and theology of a global faith through its most important and magnificent buildings. The course will be supplemented with additional visual materials.

Session 1:  
Introduction to Cathedrals
Great Churches of Russia

Session 2: January 19  
The Churches of Georgia
Painted Churches of Romania

Session 3: January 26  
Saint-Denis and engineering of gothic style
Notre Dame of Paris

Session 4: February 2  
Winchester Cathedral
Westminster Abbey

Session 5: February 9  
The Wieskirche in Bavaria
The Cathedral of Montreale

Session 6: February 16  
La Compania and Las Lajas Sanctuary
La Sagrada Familia

Session 7: February 23  
Iceland’s Hallgrimskirkja
Two Churches in Seoul Korea