

# History 31905

## Christianity in the Global Age

### Course Description

This course examines the social, cultural, economic, legal, and religious dynamics of global Christianity in its emerging centers of Latin America, Asia, and Africa during the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries.

### Course Requirements

You will also find up-to-date weekly schedule, assignments, and guidelines on Blackboard.

- Exams (2 @ 20% each) – Two essay exams (midterm on **March 10** and a final exam). Essay questions will be handed out at least a week in advance and will be based on already assigned course material.
- Quizzes (20%) – Bi-Weekly online quizzes on Blackboard. (Dates on Schedule)
  - Questions cover the readings and lectures.
  - You are welcome to refer to your notes and the readings.
  - The lowest two quizzes will be dropped.
  - Questions are multiple choice, matching, true/false, short answer, etc.
  - Quizzes will be available from Friday @ 3pm until Monday at 1 pm.
- Reading/Writing/Discussion Assignments (20%) – This score will include several types of assignments including:
  - Written preparation for discussion. Most of these assignments are included on the syllabus. Additional assignments may be announced (at least a week in advance) in class and on Blackboard. These assignments are due by **noon** on the day of we will be discussing them.
  - Short papers on the assigned texts: *The Rebirth of American Christianity* (due **February 27**) and *God is Red* (due **April 10**). Guidelines to be handed out.
  - Class Participation and attendance

Instructor: Prof. Deborah Fleetham

E-Mail: [dfleetham@purdue.edu](mailto:dfleetham@purdue.edu)

Office: UNIV 126

Office Hours: W 12-1 (or by appt)

### Textbooks

Textbooks for Purchase:

- Todd Hartch, *The Rebirth of Latin American Christianity* (Oxford, 2014)
- Liao Yiwu, *God is Red* (Harper 2012).

Readings Available online through library (links in Blackboard)

- Ogbu Klau, *African Christianity*
- Peter Phan, *Christianities in Asia*
- Daniel Bays, *A New History of Christianity in China*

### Announcements

Because this class covers some current events, some topics and readings may be substituted. Changes to the syllabus (particularly reading and discussion preparation assignments) will be announced in class and on Blackboard. Students are responsible for checking Blackboard announcements and email.

### Computer Use Policy

Use of computers/tablets for notetaking (except for documented disabilities) or other activities is **prohibited** in this class. Why? Recent research (links on Blackboard) suggests that computer notetaking is a distraction and that it *decreases* learning and comprehension. E-Readers/tablets/phones are permissible to access sources for discussions.

### Academic Honesty

Academic dishonesty (cheating, plagiarism, hiring another to do your

- Contemporary Issue Assignment (20%) – You will choose a contemporary issue dealing with some aspect of Christianity in the global world. Over the course of the semester, you will be asked to collect articles on the topic, summarize them, and write an analysis of how this topic fits into broader historical developments. You will post an article each Friday. A separate document will explain this assignment.

## Course Schedule

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Week 1 (January 9-13): Introduction

Topics: Definition and Framework for the Global South  
Missionary Movement and its Discontents

Assignments: Discussion: Sanneh “Introducing the Oxford Series” (in Hartch pp. xiii-xvi) and Phan, “Introduction” (Due 1/11) (Handout and on Blackboard)

**Preparation Questions due on Blackboard on 1/11 at noon**

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Week 2 (January 16-20): Global Christianity in the First Half of the Twentieth Century

Topics: Latin America

Assignments: **First Contemporary Issue Article Due** (See Assignment Sheet)  
Reading: Hartch, Introduction (pp. 1-18)

**Quiz 1 (opens on 1/20 at 3 pm, due by 1/23 @ 1 pm)**

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Week 3: (January 23-27) Global Christianity in the First Half of the Twentieth Century (Con’t)

Topics: Colonial Africa  
South Africa and Apartheid

Assignments: First Contemporary Issue Article Due

Reading: Kalu, Chapters 12, 13 (Blackboard link)

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Week 4: (January 30 – February 3) Global Christianity in the First Half of the Twentieth Century (Con’t)

Topics: Nationalist China  
Korea and India

Assignments: Reading: Chang Chi-Shek, “My Religious Faith” (2/1) on Blackboard

**Preparation Questions due on Blackboard on 2/1 at noon**

Reading: Bays, Chapter 6 (Blackboard link)

**Quiz 2**

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Week 5: (February 6-10) The Global Reach of Vatican II

Topics: Vatican II as part of larger globalizing of Catholic Church  
Vernacular liturgy and indigenous worship

Assignments: Reading TBA

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work, etc.) is unacceptable and will not be tolerated in this course. The penalty for academic dishonesty will be failure for the course and a forwarding of the case to the Dean of Students office for university review.

Plagiarism is the un-credited use of another’s words or ideas. Examples include failure to put quotation marks around direct citations; paraphrasing material without citing the source; cutting and pasting from web sites and other sources; and turning in someone else’s work as your own. You will find a link to the Online Writing Lab’s discussion of plagiarism and how to avoid it under Helpful Writing Links in the Course Information tab on Blackboard.

## Contingency Disclosure

In the event of a major campus emergency (such as a natural disaster, epidemic, campus shutdown etc.) the requirements, deadlines, and grading policies/percentages as detailed in this syllabus are subject to changes that may be required by an officially revised semester calendar. Any such changes in this course will be posted, once the course resumes, on the course site on Blackboard or can be obtained by contacting the instructor.

## Late Assignment Policy

All assignments may be turned in before the assigned deadline. Late assignments, however, will **NOT** be accepted, except for in cases of documented emergencies (death, hospitalization, etc.), as determined by the instructor. Leaving assignments to the last minute and encountering unexpected problems does

Week 6: (February 13-17) Pentecostalism and Charismatic Christianity

Topics: What is Pentecostalism?

Pentecostalism and growth

Pentecostalism, urbanization, and health and wealth gospel

Assignments: Allan Anderson, *Pentecostalism* (Blackboard link)

**Preparation Questions due on Blackboard on 1/13 at noon  
Quiz 3**

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Week 7: (February 20-24) Christianity in Latin America

M February 20: Discussion of Hartch, Chapters 1-5

**Preparation Questions due on Blackboard on 2/20 at noon**

W February 24: Discussion of Hartch, Chapters 6-10

**Preparation Questions due on Blackboard on 2/22 at noon**

Assignments: Reading of Hartch (whole book)

**Paper on Hartch due Monday, February 27**

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Week 8: (February 27 – March 3) China under Mao

Topics: Evolving religious policies of the *Communist* government

Three-Self Movement

Cultural Revolution

Underground church movement

Assignments: Discussion of *God is Red*, Part 1 (3/1)

**Preparation Questions due on Blackboard on 3/1 at noon**

Reading Bays, Chapter 7 (Blackboard link)

**Quiz 4**

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Week 9: (March 6- 10) Beliefs and Practices in the Global South

Topics: Indigenous worship and theology

Church building and architecture

Holistic ministry

The role of women

Assignments: **EXAM 1 – March 10**

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## SPRING BREAK

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Week 10: (March 20-24) Christianity in Post-Colonial Africa

Topics: African Nationalism

East Africa Revival

Prophecy and Healing in African Christianity

Political Corruption, War and Genocide

Assignments: Kalu (Blackboard link)

**Quiz 5**

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not constitute an emergency. Late assignments will be treated as uncompleted and receive no points.

System problems do occur. Blackboard issues will receive extensions only at the discretion of the instructor and only if the issues are reported immediately.

### Attendance

Attendance in this course is required. Attending class is crucial for understanding the material and developing analytical skills. Because illnesses and extracurricular obligations do occur, absences will not count against your grade until the seventh absence. You do not need to inform me of an absence unless:

- You will miss a Discussion class.
- You will be absent for an extended period.

### Emergency Preparedness

In the Course Information folder on Blackboard, you will find a document from the provost's office on Emergency Preparedness. It explains the university warning signals as well as provides links to building evacuation and shelter-in-place procedures.

### Course Objectives

During this course, you should achieve the following objectives:

- Understand key issues in the global Christianity in 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries
- Distinguish between secondary and primary sources, and be able to critically read both types of sources.

Week 11: (March 27-31) Christianity in Asia and the Pacific Rim

Topics: The Koreas, India, Indonesia, and Philippines.

Assignments: Reading Phan, Chapters 2, 4, 6, 11 (Blackboard link)

**Quiz 6 (shifted up a week)**

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Week 12: (April 3-7) Chinese Christianity after Mao

Topics: Evolving religious policies from Deng to Xi

House Churches

Christianity and the Professionals

Assignments: *God is Red* (Part II and III)

**Preparation Questions due on Blackboard on 4/5 at noon**

**Paper Due on *God is Red* on Monday, April 10**

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Week 13: (April 10-14) Religious Pluralism, Religious Freedom and Religious Persecution in Africa and Asia

Assignments: Reading TBA

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Week 14: (April 17-21) The Southern and Eastern Diaspora within the Global South and East

Topics: East Asians in the Gulf

China and Africa

Mission within the Global South and East

Assignments: Reading: Kalu, Chapter 19 (Blackboard link)

**Quiz 7**

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Week 15: (April 24-28) The Global South and East Diaspora in the Global West

Topics: Global South Churches in the Cities of the Global West

Conflict and Transformation of International Christian Institutions

The Missionary Movement in Reverse

Assignments: Reading TBA

**Contemporary Issue Assignment Due**

**Final Exam TBA**

- Synthesize information and arguments from both types of sources.
- Engage in independent historical analysis with the use of primary and secondary sources.
- Write analytical essays in fluid English prose with thesis statements, clear organization, and appeals to concrete evidence.
- Research a contemporary topic using a variety of international sources and write a report analyzing the issue in the context of longer historical developments.