

**UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY  
FACULTY OF ARTS  
DEPARTMENT OF CLASSICS AND RELIGION**

RELS 373.08 L01

COURSE TITLE: Christianity in the Developing World

Instructor: Dr. Clara A.B. Joseph

Office: SS1026

Phone: 403-220-4232

E-mail: [cjoseph@ucalgary.ca](mailto:cjoseph@ucalgary.ca)

Office hours: Tuesdays 11:30 to 12:00 and Thursdays 11:30 to 12:00 or by appointment

**Course description:** The history, art, and literature of pre-colonial, colonial, and post-colonial South Asia testify not only to the practice of Christianity but also to the reception of creativity. This course examines how Christian art and literature in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka has prompted varied responses and how the political timing and the aesthetics of certain creations sometimes provoked violence. Students will gain an understanding of South Asian Christian art and literature and the history and politics of its reception. The goal of the course is also to improve critical thinking, academic research and writing, editing, team-playing, and oral communication.

**Required Texts:**

Ashcroft, Bill et. al. *Post-Colonial Studies: The Key Concepts*. 3rd ed. Routledge, 2013.

Podipara, Placid, ed. *The First Indian Travelogue*. Rome: Pont. Institutum Orientalium, Studiorum, 1971.

Joseph, Clara A.B. "The Bible and the Arts in South Asia." *The Oxford Encyclopedia of the Bible and Arts*. Ed. Timothy Beal. Oxford: Oxford University Press, Forthcoming.

Additional readings will be assigned based on student projects developed in class. All such readings will be available through the university's library system.

**Assignments and Evaluation:**

**Assignment 1:** a critical response to readings finalized in consultation with the instructor. The assignment will consist of the following:

- a) A 350 word proposal (due before midnight on Jan 27) (worth **10%**)
- b) A 25 minute presentation of the essay during the weeks of Feb 3 and Feb 10 (worth **10%**)
- c) A 2100 word Essay based on the proposal (due before midnight on Feb 19) (worth **20%**)

**Assignment 2:** An Edit Sheet (two pages) listing suggestions for the author/editor (due before midnight on February 20) (**5%**)

**Assignment 3:** a critical response to a case study that has to be finalized in consultation with the instructor. The assignment will consist of the following:

- a) A 350 word proposal (worth **10%**) (due before midnight on March 5)
- b) A 25 minute presentation of the project during the weeks of March 23 and March 30 (worth **10%**)

- c) A 2100 word essay based on the proposal (due before midnight on April 14) (worth **20%**)

Students will have the opportunity to accomplish the tasks in teams. The presentation should not be a word for word reading of the essay. Instead, the presentation can take creative forms and is the opportunity for the presenter to communicate to as well as engage the class. Mid-term grades are returned normally within two weeks of the assignment due date.

**Participation** grade is **15%**

While marks will be deducted for any distractive behaviour in class, marks will be awarded for the following:

1. Evidence of responsible reading of assigned readings
2. Taking intelligible notes during lectures and discussions
3. Regular and quality submission of in-class assignments.
4. Active and quality participation in discussions and group activities whether in-class or online
5. Successful participation in random quizzes and debates based on lecture material and the readings.
6. Initiative in bringing to the attention of the class relevant popular and academic information.
7. Ability to interact with the class in a professional and enthusiastic manner

**NOTE:**

All assignments must be completed in order to receive a passing grade on the course.

There will not be a Registrar Scheduled Exam in this course.

**Late assignment policy:** Assignments submitted after the deadline will be penalized (with the loss of a third of a grade (an A- to B+) for each business day [not class] that the assignment is overdue.

Assignments must be emailed as a Word document to the instructor at [cjoseph@ucalgary.ca](mailto:cjoseph@ucalgary.ca) before midnight of the due date. The file name must be according to the following format: for example, LastnameFirstname\_REL373Proposal\_Jan27-2015. Students must always copy themselves on any assignment emailed to the instructor, and save the item until final results are received from the registrar's office. If in doubt of the procedure, it is the responsibility of the student to check with the instructor well in advance. **DO NOT SEND THE ASSIGNMENT TO OR VIA D2L**

**Grading system:**

90 + %	A+
85 – 89 %	A
80 – 84 %	A–
77 – 79 %	B+
74 – 76 %	B
70 – 73 %	B–
67 – 69 %	C+
64 – 66 %	C

60 – 63 %	C–
55 – 59 %	D+
50 – 54 %	D
0 – 49 %	F

Please note that, according to the University Calendar (F.1), instructors may use their discretion when rounding upwards or downwards when the average of term work and exams is between two letter grades.

Although the A+ is solely an honorific that entails no additional points in the 4-point system, the course instructor will employ this mark to distinguish superlative work that exceeds expectations in style, correctness, intellectual depth and breadth, sophistication, and originality.

**Plagiarism:** Using any source whatsoever without clearly documenting it is a serious academic offense. Consequences include failure on the assignment, failure in the course and possible suspension or expulsion from the university. Please refer to the following information and make sure you are familiar with the statement below on plagiarism. <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-2-1.html>

**Academic Accommodation:** It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodation. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with Student Accessibility Services, please contact their office at 403-220-8237. Students who have not registered with Student Accessibility Services are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than **fourteen (14) days** after the start of the course.

#### **Student Ombudsperson and Students' Union Representative**

The Student Ombuds Office provides independent, impartial and confidential support for students who require assistance and advice in addressing issues and concerns related to their academic careers. See [www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds](http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds) for more information.

The Students' Union Faculty of Arts representative can be reached at [arts1@ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@ucalgary.ca).

#### **Emergency Evacuation Assembly Point**

In case of an emergency evacuation during class, students must gather at the designated assembly point nearest to the classroom. The list of assembly points is found at [www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints](http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints). Please check this website and not the nearest assembly point for this course.

#### **Safewalk**

The Safewalk program provides volunteers to walk students safely to their destination anywhere on campus (including McMahon Stadium, Health Sciences, Student Family Housing, the Alberta Children's Hospital and the University LRT station). This service is free and available to students, staff and campus visitors 24 hrs/day, 365 days a year. Call 403-220-5333 or use one of the Help phones located throughout campus to request a walk.