

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

**COURSE OUTLINE – WINTER 2017**

**Course:** RELS 373.08 Topics in Religious Studies (Christianity in the Developing World)  
**Time:** T/R 2:00-3:15  
**Instructor:** Craig W. C. Ginn, PhD  
**Office Hours:** Thursday 3:30-4:30 or by appointment  
**Office:** SS 522  
**E-mail:** [cwcginn@ucalgary.ca](mailto:cwcginn@ucalgary.ca)  
**Telephone:** (403) 220-5612

**Required Text(s):**

Philip Jenkins, *The Next Christendom: The Coming of Global Christianity*. Oxford University Press, 2011. Third Edition

Timothy C. Tennent, *Theology in the Context of World Christianity: How the Global Church Is Influencing the Way We Think about and Discuss Theology*. Zondervan, 2007.

**Course Description:**

The course will begin with a brief historical-doctrinal overview of Christianity providing students with a summary of key movements, events, terms, and theological concepts.

A considerable portion of the course will follow Philip Jenkins' book *The Next Christendom: The Coming of Global Christianity*, a work that reflects current attention given to the remarkable growth of "apostolic" Pentecostalism, the challenges of syncretism, the religio-political effects of liberation and apocalyptic theology, and the shift of Christianity's centre from Europe (Christendom) to the Global South (the New Christendom). Students will be guided through a close reading of select New Testament texts in an effort to examine a range of hermeneutical and epistemological approaches, as well as issues of continuity and discontinuity with early Christianity.

This course will also discuss select material from Timothy C. Tennent's book *Theology in the context of World Christianity*. Tennent's work provides a systematic framework to explore the globalization of Christianity and its intersection with other world religions, Islam and Hinduism in particular. Students will be guided through an analysis of critical theological issues raised by Tennent.

Under the umbrella of religious studies, this course will take an interdisciplinary approach intersecting with history, theology, cultural studies, musicology, and political studies. Various themes will be highlighted, including ecclesial authority, martyrdom, music, anti-Semitism, colonialism (including attention to residential schools in Canada), missionization as Americanization, supernaturalism, and church-state dynamics. Several modern theologies will be explored, including

black theology, feminist theology, liberation theology, queer theology, and the conservative-liberal theological spectrum.

**Online Elements for this Course:**

There are no online elements for this course.

**Core Competencies:**

Upon completion of this course, students will become familiar with:

- approaches and obstacles to the study of religion
- a historical-doctrinal overview of Christianity
- issues related to continuity and discontinuity with the apostolic church
- the development of Christianity in its social, political and geographical contexts
- the rise of Christianity as a global phenomenon
- theological and ecclesial dynamics in global Christianity
- a range of hermeneutical approaches to the Hebrew Bible and New Testament
- current discussions in Christian theology
- projections related to the growth and profile of World Christianity
- the rise of Christianity in the Global South

**Course Requirements:**

Date	Assessment	Weight (%)
February 14	Test 1	25%
March 9	Research Paper due at the beginning of class (2:00)	35%
March 23	Test 2	25%
March 28, 30; April 4, 6	Research Presentations	15%

This course will not have a Registrar-scheduled final examination.

**Grading:**

A numerical mark will be given for each course requirement. A letter grade will be assigned on the following number and letter grade scheme, usually used within the Department of Classics and Religion:

A+	100 - 96	A	95 - 90	A-	89 - 85
B+	84 - 80	B	79 - 75	B-	74 - 70
C+	69 - 65	C	64 - 60	C-	59 - 55
D+	54 - 53	D	52-50	F	Under 50

**Adjusted Final Grades:**

The instructor will implement a standard measure of adjustment (.5%) for final grades. For example, a final grade of 64.5% (C) will be rounded up to 65% (C+). Please do not send email inquiries asking the instructor to increase or 'round up' your final grade.

**Research Paper:**

Students will choose from a list of topics provided by the instructor. The list of topics, essay requirements, and a marking rubric will be presented in class and posted on D2L. The research paper is due at the beginning of class (2:00) on March 9. Length: 2000-2200 words. Do not exceed 2200 words. Assignments that exceed 2200 words will be deducted 5% per 100 excess words. All essays must include a word count.

**Writing Assistance:**

The instructor will not read through or evaluate a student's research paper in advance of the due date. If a student would like to present a rough draft of their research paper to the instructor in advance of the due date, the student may bring the rough draft to the instructor during office hours or arranged appointment. The instructor will read select sections of the draft and advise the student according to the marking rubric. Do not email the rough draft to the instructor. For assistance in writing, students are advised to consult Writing and Learning Services.

**Research Presentation:**

Each student will present a 6-7 minute summary of their research paper and respond to 3-4 questions from other students in the class and/or instructor. Research presentations are scheduled for March 28, 30, April 4 and 6. A sign-up sheet for presentation dates will be circulated in class. Each student will provide the instructor with a hard copy of their summary (typed script or power point slides with notes).

**Policy with regard to Missed Assessments:**

If a student misses a test, the student must provide the instructor with supporting documentation (note from doctor, counselor, accident report, etc.) within 48 hours of the absence. If documentation is not provided within 48 hours, the student will not be provided an opportunity to make up the test and will receive a numerical mark of zero. There are of course many reasons for missing the test that are not considered to be valid, including but not limited to: work schedules that conflict with the day of the test, family functions that conflict with the day of the test, forgetting about the test, traffic congestion on the day of the test, and having no internet connection on the day of the test.

**Penalty for Late Assignments:**

Late submissions are deducted 15% per day. Students seeking an extension for an assignment must make a written request by email at least 48 hours before the deadline.

**Extra Assignments:**

There are no extra assignments for this course. Students will not be given an opportunity to submit extra work or retake tests to increase their grade.

**Weighting of Tests:**

The weighting for tests is identified above. The weighting of tests will not be changed to accommodate individual student requests.

**Expectations for Student Conduct in this Course:**

Please be courteous toward other students in the course. Please do not engage in behavior that is distracting to other students. For students who raise questions during class, please contribute to the resourceful use of classroom time by limiting the number of questions you ask in each class. While evaluative inquiries are permitted, students are encouraged to steer inquiries toward objective investigation rather than confessional or adversarial agendas.

**Expectations for Email Correspondence in this Course:**

Please identify the subject of your email and clearly identify yourself by name and the course you are registered in. Please do not send email inquiries related to dates and deadlines. Students shall refer to the university calendar, course outline, and final exam schedule for schedule information. Inquiries related to tests or assignments must be sent no less than 24 hours before a deadline. Do not ask the instructor to preview your test answers.

**Electronic Device Policy:**

Laptops are permitted if used for the purpose of taking lecture notes. Do not use laptops during class for email, Facebook, or other nonacademic activities. Cell phones must be turned off during the entire class time. Texting during class is not permitted. Taking pictures in the classroom is not permitted. This includes taking pictures of data projector images and slides. Students that distract the instructor or other students due to the misuse of electronic devices during class will be requested to leave the classroom.

Recording of lectures is prohibited without the consent of the instructor. According to Academic Regulations E.6, "With the permission of the instructor, students may tape record lectures, provided that the student and instructor sign a Release form available from departmental and faculty offices. A copy of the Release form shall be retained by the instructor and by the department in which the course is offered."

**Syllabus:**

A complete syllabus (class schedule) will be made available the first week of class.

### **Academic Honesty:**

Plagiarism is not tolerated at the University of Calgary and has serious consequences. Your essays/presentations must be your own work and inadequate referencing may be seen as plagiarism. Please see the relevant sections on Academic Misconduct in the current University Calendar (section K, which can be found here: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>.) If you have questions about correct referencing, please consult your instructor, librarian staff or the Chicago manual of style.

### **Academic Accommodation:**

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 403-220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre 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.

### **Desire 2 Learn (D2L) Help:**

Go to <http://elearn.ucalgary.ca/desire2learn/home/students> for Student Help and FAQ's about D2L. Troubleshooting tips and a tutorial are also available on this website.

### **Gnosis:**

Gnosis is the Religious Studies Student Club. For membership or more information please email: [gnosis@ucalgary.ca](mailto:gnosis@ucalgary.ca) or visit <http://www.ucalgary.ca/~gnosis>.

### **Classics Student Society:**

Classics Student Society is the Greek and Roman Studies Student Club. For membership or more information please email: [classsoc@ucalgary.ca](mailto:classsoc@ucalgary.ca) or visit <http://grst.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate/classics-students-society>.

### **Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources:**

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS110, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at [artsads@ucalgary.ca](mailto:artsads@ucalgary.ca). You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.
- For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre at (403) 220-5881 or visit them on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.

### **Freedom of Information and Privacy**

This course is conducted in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPP): <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>

The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act indicates that assignments given by you to your course instructor will remain confidential unless otherwise stated before submission. The assignment cannot be returned to anyone else without your express permission. Similarly, any information about yourself that you share with your course instructor will not be given to anyone else without your permission. As one consequence, students should identify themselves on all written work by placing their name on the front page and their ID number on each subsequent page.

### **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.