

2023 Summer Session—HIS 39F

Course Title:

Expansion, Power, and Change: Christian World Missions and Missionaries

“The servants asked him, ‘Do you want us to go and pull them up?’
‘No,’ he answered, ‘because while you are pulling the weeds,
you may uproot the wheat with them.
Let both grow together until the harvest.’”
New Testament, Matthew 13:28-29

Modality:

Lower-division online course, available for general education (GE codes: TA).

Course description:

Broadly speaking, Christian mission implies the propagation of the Gospel—individual or collective conceptions pertaining to Jesus’s Good News and teachings—that seek individual and societal conversion. This course introduces students to a two-millennium history of complexities of the Christian mission, one of the most enduring, world-shaping human movements, and with a focus on Roman Catholic and Protestantism.

This course begins from the 1st century BCE where Christianity emerged in West Asia and then branched out to Africa and Rome expanded along the Mediterranean trade network, and organized chronologically way down to the 21st century. On the one hand, the course examines the entanglement of Christianity expansion and external power that either appeared as rebellious and revolutionary momentum urged for justice or repressive conversion institution worked along political, military, and economic expansion; on the other, inquires about how the perception and strategy of Christian mission changed in time, region, groups, and individual missionaries, and how Christian mission, as a power, contributed to the regional and global changes from ancient world to the present day. In brief, this course stretches students’ reflections on the nature of Christian mission and the work of missionaries, their imbroglio with and involvement in state and society, and how historical sourcing may impact the way we see things, lives, and our past.

Course goals:

By the end of the course, students will be able to —

- 1) identify key historical sites and development of Christian missions with a chronological and geographical sense.
- 2) understand the mission-power intertwinement and the complexity of Christian mission that depends on time, region, individual missionaries.
- 3) understand that our knowledge is imperfect, limited by sources that have been uncovered.
- 4) contextualize primary sources of its times through the practices provided in lectures and the in-class and online assignments.

- 5) formulate short analysis essays in a scholarly manner with a driving argument and concrete examples/evidence with reference backing (Chicago style citation and bibliography).

Assignment and evaluation:

- 1) Attendance & Participation: 20%
- 2) In-class discussion & assignments: 30%
- 3) Primary Source Analysis (Wk 2-5, 4 analyses): 50%

Primary Source Analysis

Each week students will have to annotate one particular primary source that is related to the weekly class topic via Canvas.

In so doing, students will contextualize primary sources with the correspondent political, social, and religious context, and provide concrete examples/evidence with reference backing:

- 1) 500-600 words
Single-spaced page, 12 point Times New Roman font;
- 2) Use materials and content covered in class to contextualize the primary sources:
 - (1) Who, When, and Where (be specific);
 - (2) What: A summary of its key points;
 - (3) Contextualization:
 - How does the text reflect the political, social, and religious features of that time period?
 - How does the text help you to understand the time period?
- 3) Provide concrete examples/evidence with reference backing the claims
Chicago style citation and bibliography

Campus Resources (attached at the end of the syllabus)

Academic Integrity

To practice academic integrity to acknowledge the authors' intellectual effort, we will 1) provide clear references, 2) make a direct quote (with quotation marks, and usually a short sentence), or paraphrase the sentences we quoted from the others.

Here is a website, recommended by the UCSC library, providing concise instructions on how to avoid plagiarism: <https://ucsd.libguides.com/MCWP/plagiarism>

Please take note that plagiarism can come with severe consequences.

See the details on the UCSC website "[Academic Misconduct Policy for Undergraduates](#)."

Disability Accommodations

If you are a student with a disability who requires accommodations to achieve equal access to this course, please get an Accommodation Authorization from the Disability Resource Center (DRC) and submit it to me privately within the first two weeks of the course.

Contact the DRC at (831) 459-2089 (voice), or <http://drc.ucsc.edu> for more information.

Weekly lecture topics:

Week 1

Lecture 1: Course introduction

1) Course description:

- What is this “World History”?
- “Missionary religion,” “Expansion, Power, and Change.”
- Primary sources analysis

2) Course expectation and Coursework instruction

Lecture 2: From Judaism to Early Jesus Movement

- 1) A brief introduction of ancient Israel from United Monarchy c. 1000-930 BCE to the Roman Conquest 63 BCE.
- 2) 1st-century Early Jesus Movement: From Jewish Christianity to Gentile Christianity

Reading recommendations:

Horsley, Richard, ed. *Christian Origins*. A People’s History of Christianity. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2005.

Torjesen, Karen Jo. *When Women Were Priests: Women’s Leadership in the Early Church and the Scandal of Their Subordination in the Rise of Christianity*. San Francisco: HarperSanFrancisco, 1993.

Week 2

Lecture 3: Political consideration and the Christianization of the Roman Empire

- 1) From persecutions to state religion;
- 2) Emperors, the orthodoxization of Christianity, and the Christianization of the Roman Empire.

Reading recommendations:

Blakely, Sandra, and Billie Jean Collins. *Religious Convergence in the Ancient Mediterranean*. Vol. 2. Atlanta: Lockwood Press, 2019.

Bornstein, Daniel E, ed. *Medieval Christianity*. A People’s History of Christianity. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2009.

Lecture 4: The Religious Reformations (16th century)

- 1) The 16th-century Religious Reformations—Protestant reformations, Catholic Counter-Reformation, and the revolutionary revolts from below.
- 2) The close tie between the Protestant reformers/reformed churches and secular powers, followed by the ensuing missionary competition identical to the political rivalry among European states.

Reading recommendations:

Matheson, Peter, ed. *Reformation Christianity*. A People’s History of Christianity. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2006.

“Missions, Christian: Missions and Missionary Schools in the Middle East and North Africa.” The Oxford Encyclopedia of The Modern World, 2008.

Pope Urban II, [Speech at The Council of Clermont \(1095\)](#)

The counter-Reformation: Council of Trent, 1540s (particularly the 5th, 7th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 18th, 21st-25th Sessions)

Week 3

Lecture 5: The Church and State-chartered Expansion: Catholic and Protestant missions expanded along with the European nationalism and imperialism (16th – 19th century)

- 1) “One state, one confession” —The religious-political rivalries, the confessionalization in Europe around 1570, and the European nationalist agendas of centralized control and repression of dissenting views.
- 2) Parallel to European nationalism was the emergence of Western overseas imperialist colonization, which was first initiated by Catholic-dominant Portugal and Spain, and followed by the Protestant-majority Dutch and Britain, as well as Catholic France.
- 3) The locals, such as the cases in Mexico, sub-Saharan Africa, India, New Zealand, and Australia, were not mere puppets but attempted to turn Christianity as their own.

Reading recommendations:

Crewe, Ryan Dominic. *The Mexican Mission: Indigenous Reconstruction and Mendicant Enterprise in New Spain, 1521–1600*, 2019.

Porterfield, Amanda. *Modern Christianity to 1900*. A People’s History of Christianity. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2007.

Thornton, John K. *Africa and Africans in the Making of the Atlantic World, 1400-1800*. Second edition. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1998.

Lecture 6: Catholic Missions’ Asian Model—Jesuit missions to Africa and Asia (16th – 18th century)

- 1) Catholic Missionary orders’ competition over evangelization in Africa and Asia
- 2) An introduction of the Jesuits, as an extension of Catholic counter-reformation and the first transnational missionary order, self-financed through the engagement of state-authorized trades.
- 3) Zoom in on East Asia, and take the 16th to 18th century warlord-era Japan and Qing China as examples.

Reading recommendations:

Hosne, Ana Carolina. *The Jesuit Missions to China and Peru, 1570–1610: Expectations and Appraisals of Expansionism*. New York: Routledge, 2013.

Hsia, R. Po-chia. *A Companion to Early Modern Catholic Global Missions*. Edited by R. Po-chia Hsia. Leiden: Brill, 2018.

Maryks, Robert A., and Festo Mkenda. *Encounters Between Jesuits and Protestants in Africa*. Edited by Robert A. Maryks and Festo Mkenda. Leiden: Brill, 2018.

Week 4

Lecture 7: Catholic and Protestant Missions in and from North America (17th-19th century)

- 1) Catholic missions expanded along with the imperialist expansion and reflected the rivalry between states.
- 2) The conversion of Black people, Americanization/Christianization and Indigenous people's responses to the settlers' religion.
- 3) Black missionaries sent overseas.

Reading recommendations:

- Cañizares-Esguerra, Jorge, Robert A. Maryks, and R. Po-chia Hsia. *Encounters Between Jesuits and Protestants in Asia and the Americas*. Edited by Jorge Cañizares-Esguerra, Robert A. Maryks, and R. Po-chia Hsia. Leiden: Brill, 2018.
- Kirk, Stephanie, and Sarah Rivett. *Religious Transformations in the Early Modern Americas*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, Inc, 2014.
- Linda Newson. *Cultural Worlds of the Jesuits in Colonial Latin America*. London: University of London Press, 2020.
- Rubin, Julius H. *Perishing Heathens: Stories of Protestant Missionaries and Christian Indians in Antebellum America*. Lincoln: UNP - Nebraska, 2017.

Lecture 8: Protestant Missions: London Missionary Society (LMS) in Africa and Asia, 18th-20th century

- 1) The different missionary strategies between the Dutch WIC and VOC and British Protestant missionaries, such as the interdenominational and international LMS.
- 2) A general introduction of LMS missionaries in Africa and Asia.
- 3) A zoom in on the LMS's early mission on China in the 19th century, its shifting missionary strategies resulted from the conspicuous failures in Tahiti and South Africa, and the local Chinese religions' adoption of Christianity.

Reading recommendations:

- Cox, Jeffrey. *The British Missionary Enterprise Since 1700*. New York, New York: Routledge, 2008.
- De Gruchy, John W. *The London Missionary Society in Southern Africa: Historical Essays in Celebration of the Bicentenary of the LMS in Southern Africa, 1799-1999*. Cape Town: David Philip Publishers, 1999.
- Hardiman, David. *Healing Bodies, Saving Souls Medical Missions in Asia and Africa*. Amsterdam: Rodopi, 2006.

Week 5

Lecture 9: Christian Mission and Localization (19th – 21th century)

- 1) African and African American theology
- 2) Feminist Theology
- 3) Latin American liberation Theology

Reading recommendations:

- Câmara, Hélder. *Spiral of Violence*. London: Sheed and Ward, 1971.
- Cone, James H. *Risks of Faith: the Emergence of a Black Theology of Liberation, 1968-1998*. Boston, Mass: Beacon Press, 1999.
- Kwok, Pui-lan. *Hope Abundant: Third World and Indigenous Women's Theology*. Maryknoll, N.Y: Orbis Books, 2010.
- Mantero, José María. *Omar Cabezas, Nicaragua, and the Narrative of Liberation: To the Revolution and Beyond*. Lanham: Lexington Books, 2019.
- Oduyoye, Mercy Amba and Musimbi R.A. Kanyoro, eds. *The Will to Arise: Women, Tradition, and the Church in Africa*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 2005.

Lecture 10: Moving Globally and Moving “Back”ward (20th – 21th century)

- 1) Christianity in West Asia and North Africa: Displaced populations and persecution
- 2) Pentecostalism, a highly decentralized and cross-denominational, fastest-growing worldwide movement that traced back to the early 20th century and stimulated by the three-year-long Azusa Street Revival in Los Angeles, California.
- 3) International humanitarian aid and service, and a variety of missionary strategies, such as Business As Mission movement (BAM).
- 4) Korean missions to the globe and Western countries.

Reading recommendations:

- Bednarowski, Mary Farrell. *Twentieth-century Global Christianity*. A People's History of Christianity. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2008.
- Egiguren Iraola, Antton. *True Confucians, Bold Christians: Korean Missionary Experience. A Model for the Third Millennium*. Amsterdam: Brill, 2007.
- Fischer-Tiné, Harald, Stefan Huebner, and Ian R. Tyrrell. *Spreading Protestant Modernity Global Perspectives on the Social Work of the YMCA and YWCA, 1889-1970*. Edited by Harald Fischer-Tiné, Stefan Huebner, and Ian R. Tyrrell. Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press of Hawaii Press, 2021.
- Wilkinson, Michael. *Global Pentecostal Movements Migration, Mission, and Public Religion*. Leiden: Brill, 2012.