



REL 3583

World Christianity

Section: RVC

Internet/Fully Online

Fall Term 2026

Course Time Zone | Eastern Time (ET). Course due dates are according to this time zone.

Professor Information

Ernesto Fiocchetto

Roles: Primary Instructor

Email: efiocche@fiu.edu

Response Time: 24-48 Hrs

Phone: NA

Office Hours: By Appointment

Office Location: Virtual Meeting - Zoom

Department or Academic Unit: Department of Religious Studies

Course Prerequisites

Course prerequisites, if any, are listed below.

Course Description

This course provides an interdisciplinary introduction to Christianity from a global perspective. The message of Jesus of Nazareth has traveled across the globe, inspiring the spirituality and religious lives of millions while also influencing social and cultural structures. Christianity has not only undergone significant transformations but has also profoundly shaped the world.

From its origins in the Middle East, Christianity has spread dramatically, becoming a truly global faith tradition. While Christian practice has declined in parts of Europe, it has grown rapidly in regions such as Asia, Latin America, Oceania, and sub-Saharan Africa. Today, Christians can be found on nearly every corner of the globe.

This course is structured in three interconnected parts:

1. Christianity and Globalization

The first part of the course introduces foundational concepts related to world Christianity, emphasizing its role as a long-standing agent of globalization. Rather than focusing solely on doctrinal or ritualistic diversity, we will explore overarching themes and patterns that highlight how Christianity has adapted to respond to diverse spiritual, social, and cultural needs and to varied local contexts and concerns.

2. Christianity in Global Diversity

The second part of the course examines the diverse expressions of Christianity—both historically and in the present—around the world. Students will explore the historical development of Christianity, tracing its journey over more than two thousand years. At the same time, they will delve into the four traditional "streams" of Christianity: the Orthodox tradition, the Catholic tradition, the Protestant tradition, and the Neo Pentecostal tradition. Moreover, students will explore the faith's varied manifestations in Europe, the Middle East, Africa, Asia, Oceania, and the Americas, with the opportunity to choose a specific region to study in greater depth. This section encourages students to reconsider Christianity's diversity and complexity in light of its global reach.

3. Christianity and Contemporary Issues

The final part of the course addresses the dynamic relationship between Christianity and societies in a globalized world. We will delve into topical dimensions such as migration, sexuality, climate change, information and communication technologies (ICTs), and politics. By exploring these issues, we will challenge the notion of Christianity as a monolithic tradition and instead examine it as a diverse umbrella encompassing a wide range of beliefs, practices, and lifestyles.

This course invites students to engage critically with the global impact of Christianity and to appreciate the ways in which it has been shaped by and continues to shape the world.

Student Learning Outcomes/Objectives

Identify and describe the distinctive characteristics, beliefs, and practices of the four major Christian traditions: Orthodox, Catholic, Protestant, and Neo Pentecostal.

Demonstrate foundational knowledge of Christianity's historical development from its Middle Eastern origins to its contemporary global presence across major world regions.

Explain key concepts in world Christianity, including processes of globalization, contextualization, and cultural adaptation across diverse societies.

Analyze how Christianity has both shaped and been shaped by local cultural, social, and political contexts in different global regions.

Evaluate the relationship between Christianity and contemporary global issues such as migration, politics, technology, and social change.

Compare and contrast diverse expressions of Christian belief and practice across different geographical and cultural contexts.

Synthesize research from multiple sources to construct coherent arguments about regional manifestations of Christianity using historical and contemporary evidence.

Apply course concepts to real-world situations by connecting lived Christian experiences with broader themes in world Christianity through interview-based research.

Critically assess Christianity's role as both a globalizing force and a tradition that adapts to local contexts, challenging assumptions about religious uniformity.

Textbook and Course Materials

WORLD'S CHRISTIANS

Subtitle: Who They Are, Where They Are, and How They Got There

Required/Recommended: Required

Authors: Douglas Jacobsen

Publisher: Wiley Blackwell

Publication Date: April 12, 2021

Copyright Date: 2021

ISBN 10: 1119626102

ISBN 13: 978-1119626107

Chapters/Pages: Entire book (all chapters)

Panther Book Pack

Get all required course materials for \$22 per undergrad credit hour through Panther Book Pack. You'll be charged automatically unless you opt out within 3 days after the add/drop deadline.

For more details, to compare costs, and to learn how to access your course materials, visit the [Panther Book Pack information page on FIU OneStop](#).

Readings, Materials, and Open Educational Resources (OER)

In addition to the required book, supplementary materials will be provided to enhance your understanding of the course topics. These materials will be posted on Canvas within the corresponding module for easy access. Be sure to check Canvas regularly for updates and additional readings.

Expectations of this Course

This is a fully online course, which means most (if not all) of the coursework will be conducted online. While performance expectations in an online course are similar to those in a traditional course, it is worth highlighting that online courses require a certain level of self-motivation, self-discipline, and technical skills, which can make these courses more demanding for some students. These are the expectations for this course regarding (1) participation and communication, (2) collaborative learning, and (3) technical requirements and skills.

1. COURSE EXPECTATIONS FOR PARTICIPATION AND COMMUNICATION

Students are expected to:

- **review the getting started** page located in the course modules;
- **introduce yourself to the class** during the first week by posting a self-introduction in the appropriate discussion;
- **take the practice quiz** to ensure that your computer is compatible with the

learning management system, Canvas;

- **interact** online with instructor and peers;
- **review and follow** the course calendar and weekly outlines;
- **log in** to the course **4 times** per week;
- **respond** to discussions by the due date specified. **No late work will be accepted;**
- **submit** assignments by the corresponding deadline. **No late work will be accepted;**
- **respond** to **emails** within **2 business days**;
- **check** official FIU email and Canvas messages and announcements daily.

The instructor will:

- log in to the course **3 times** per week;
- respond to **emails and messages** within **2 business days**;
- grade assignments and/or provide feedback within **7 days** of the assignment deadline.

2. EXPECTATIONS FOR COLLABORATIVE LEARNING

- Instructional materials, assignments, and other resources are listed for each class session in the Schedule. Students are expected to pace their learning according to the posted course assignments.
- It is expected that interactive learning and teaching will enrich the learning experience of all students, and that each student will work in partnership with the professor to create a positive learning experience for all.
- **Student engagement** is a necessary condition for an effective learning experience and includes contributions to debate and discussion, positive interactive learning with others, and an enthusiastic attitude towards inquiry.

- Everyone is expected to be a positive contributor to the class learning community.

3. EXPECTATIONS FOR TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS AND SKILLS

One of the greatest barriers to taking an online course is a lack of basic computer literacy. By computer literacy, we mean being able to manage and organize computer files efficiently and learning to use your computer's operating system and software quickly and easily. Keep in mind that this is not a computer literacy course, but students enrolled in online courses are expected to have moderate proficiency in using a computer. Please go to the [What's Required webpage](#) to find out more information on this subject.

For this course, students are expected to manage the following tools:

- Canvas
- Microsoft
- Adobe
- Google
- YouTube
- Turnitin
- Zoom

Please visit FIU's [Technical Requirements](#) webpage for additional information.

To avoid issues with computers and online assessments, students should carefully read the "Getting Started with Canvas" section available in Module 0 of the course in Canvas. Additionally, it is recommended that they take the "Practice Quiz" on each computer they plan to use for graded quizzes and exams. Students are responsible for ensuring that their computers meet the minimum hardware requirements.

Assessments

Quizzes (10% of final grade)

A time-restricted, multiple-choice quiz will be given on most weeks. The questions in the quizzes will draw from the weekly course content, including audio lectures and assigned readings.

Quiz Availability: Open from Monday, 12:00 PM to Sunday, 11:59 PM. See the course calendar for the weeks that have quizzes posted.

Quiz Duration: Students will have 60 minutes to answer 5 to 10 multiple-choice questions.

Quiz Attempts: Quizzes may be attempted once.

Quiz Resets: Please limit quiz reset requests to instances when technical issues compromised both quiz attempts. Reopening quizzes after the due date has passed will require verifiable documentation.

Quiz Grading: Quizzes will be graded automatically. Students will be able to see their scores immediately after submitting the quiz.

Quiz Answers: The correct answers for quizzes will not be released to students. Students will be able to see submitted answers only. Students should refer to their course materials for the correct answers.

In order to mitigate any issues with your computer and online assessments, it is very important that you take the "Practice Quiz" from each computer you will be using to take your graded quizzes and exams. It is your responsibility to make sure your computer meets the minimum hardware requirements.

All assessments will auto-submit when (1) the timer runs out OR (2) the closing date/time is reached, whichever happens first. For example, if a quiz has a closing time of 5:00 pm but the student begins the exam at 4:55 pm, the student will only have 5 minutes to complete the quiz.

Assessments in this course are not compatible with mobile devices and should not be taken through a mobile phone or a tablet. If you encounter any technical difficulties, please contact the FIU Canvas Help Team. Please ensure you contact support immediately upon the issue occurring.

Discussion Forums (10% of final grade)

There will be four (4) discussions in this course. These discussions are meant to stimulate critical thinking about diverse aspects of Christianity in our global era.

Discussion topics will become available Monday, 12:00 PM to Sunday, 11:59 PM of each week that a discussion topic is posted. See the course calendar for the weeks that have discussion topics posted.

To receive full credit for the discussion assignments, students must post a minimum of 3 discussion threads per discussion topic:

- One post in response to the main discussion topic
- Two responses to other students' posts

Please refer to the rubric for details on what criteria your discussion assignments will be evaluated on. Canvas Tutorial: How do I view the rubric for my graded discussion?

Keep in mind that this is an academic forum; all students in the course will see the discussion posts. When criticizing or agreeing with another student's position on a given topic, please make sure to include supporting facts and specific examples to strengthen your arguments. Contribute links to articles, news stories, and/or other media whenever possible.

Exams (40% of final grade)

- The prompts for Written Exam 1 and Written Exam 2 will become available in the Assessment area during the exam availability time (check the weekly calendar).
- All assignments must be submitted via Canvas in the Assignments content area.

- The written exams include a combination of structured questions and open-ended questions requiring responses of approximately 200–250 words.
- All written assignments will be automatically checked for plagiarism. See section titled Course Policies to learn more about what plagiarism is and how to properly cite your work.
- Structured questions will be graded automatically. Open-ended responses will be graded manually. Students will be able to see their scores within 7 business days of the assignment deadline.
- Please refer to the rubric for details on what criteria your exam essays will be evaluated on.

Research Papers (40% of final grade)

All written assignments will be automatically checked for plagiarism. See the section titled Course Policies to learn more about what plagiarism is and how to properly cite your work.

Students May Not Submit Work From A Previous Semester Or From Another Class For This Assignment Or Any Other Assignment In This Course.

Research Paper 1 | Mapping Christianity

Assignment Details and Instructions:

- Format: MLA Format Required
- Content: Bibliographical research and supplementary research
- Length: 1800-2000 Words, Not Including Your Works Cited Page
- Double –Spaced, 12-Pt Font, Arial Or Times New Roman Font
- Sources: 3 Academic Sources Minimum (in addition to the textbook)

- Works Cited Page required

For this essay, students will focus on one of the nine regions addressed in the course book. The assignment has three main objectives:

1. Summarize how Christianity has historically developed in your chosen region.
2. Identify and describe the main characteristics of Christianity in the region today.
3. Use a specific case study to illustrate how the dynamics discussed in the book are reflected in real life.

Steps to Complete the Assignment:

1. Select a Region: Choose one of the nine regions covered in the course book that you find most interesting or relevant.
2. Conduct Research: Read the chapter in the course book that pertains to your selected region. Conduct additional bibliographical research using academic sources. You must reference at least three credible academic sources (journal articles or books).
3. Develop Your Case Study: Choose a specific example to focus on, such as a particular country, Christian community, or church within your region. Use this case study to demonstrate how the themes and dynamics discussed in the course book are reflected in the region.
4. Structure Your Essay: Your essay should follow this (or a similar) structure:
 - *Introduction*: Introduce the region and case study. Clearly present your thesis statement, outlining the focus and purpose of the essay.
 - *Historical Development and Current Characteristics*: Summarize the historical development of Christianity in the region and describe its current characteristics.
 - *Case Study Analysis*: Provide a detailed analysis of your chosen case

study and explain how it illustrates broader patterns and dynamics in the region.

- *Conclusion*: Summarize your key findings and reflect on the significance of your case study in understanding Christianity in the region.

Citations and Evidence: Support your arguments with evidence from the course book and your additional research. Cite all sources properly in the MLA citation style.

Evaluation Criteria: Your essay will be assessed based on the clarity and depth of your analysis, the relevance and use of evidence, the quality of your case study, and the overall organization and writing quality. Refer to the rubric provided for detailed grading criteria.

Research Paper 2 | Exploring Real-World Christianity: An Interview-Based Analysis

Assignment Details and Instructions:

- Format: MLA Format Required
- Content: Field research (interview) and supplementary research
- Length: 1800-2000 Words, Not Including Your Works Cited Page
- Double –Spaced, 12-Pt Font, Arial Or Times New Roman Font
- Works Cited Page if necessary

For this essay, you will explore how Christianity is experienced and interpreted by a Christian leader, community, or group outside your immediate experience of Christianity. This assignment allows you to connect real-world examples to the themes of world Christianity discussed in this course. The assignment has three main objectives:

1. Gain firsthand insight into the diversity of Christian experiences globally.

2. Analyze how individual or group practices reflect broader themes in world Christianity.
3. Develop research, critical thinking, and writing skills through an interview-based analysis.

Steps to Complete the Assignment:

1. Choose a subject: Select a Christian leader, community, group, or individual committed to a cause that differs from your closest experience of Christianity. (For example, if you are Catholic, consider choosing a Protestant or Orthodox group. If you belong to a conservative tradition, explore a progressive Christian group, or vice versa.) You are encouraged to choose someone or a group in your local city (e.g., Miami or your current location), as this allows you to conduct an in-person interview. However, online interviews with communities in other locations are also acceptable.
2. Conduct the Interview: Interview at least one member of the group or community. Prepare thoughtful questions to explore the following themes:
 - How do they feel incorporated into the larger Christian tradition?
 - How do they engage with diversity within Christianity (e.g., Christians from other traditions or with different perspectives)?
 - In what ways does their community contribute to society?
 - What do they see as the most important challenges facing their community today?
3. Structure Your Essay: Follow the suggested structure provided below:
 - *Introduction*: Present the region, group, or leader, explain why you chose them, and outline your thesis.
 - *Context and Background*: Provide historical, cultural, and religious context for your subject.
 - *Findings from the Interview*: Use your interview to address themes of incorporation, diversity, societal contribution, and challenges.
 - *Case Study Analysis*: Link the interview findings to themes in world

Christianity and analyze how the group reflects broader dynamics in Christianity.

- *Conclusion*: Summarize key insights, reflect on the experience, and discuss its relevance to understanding world Christianity.

Citations and Evidence: While there is no minimum number of required sources, it is highly recommended to explore scholarly materials that can provide deeper insights into your case study. Properly cite all sources, including the interview and any additional research, using MLA citation style.

Evaluation Criteria: Your essay will be evaluated based on the following criteria: the clarity and coherence of your argument, the depth of analysis in connecting the interview findings to broader themes in world Christianity, and the quality of evidence used to support your claims. Proper structure, including a clear introduction, well-organized body paragraphs, and a concise conclusion, is essential. Additionally, your ability to critically engage with the interview and any supplementary research will be assessed. Proper citation of all sources in MLA format and adherence to the word count are also required.

Virtual Coffee Hours

Virtual Coffee Hours are informal, **optional meetings** designed to discuss key points from the modules, answer student questions, and review research paper and exam guidelines. These sessions will be held via Zoom on the dates and times listed in the Course Calendar. For those unable to attend, recordings will be available on Canvas, ensuring everyone can stay informed about what was discussed.

Assignments & Assessments

Quizzes (30% of final grade)

Ten (10) time-restricted, multiple-choice quizzes will be given throughout the semester to assess students' comprehension of key concepts and ensure consistent engagement with weekly course content, including video lectures and

assigned readings.

Quiz Availability: Open from Monday, 12:00 PM to Sunday, 11:59 PM. See the course calendar for the weeks that have quizzes posted.

Quiz Duration: Students will have 60 minutes to answer 5 to 10 multiple-choice questions.

Quiz Attempts: Quizzes may be attempted once.

Quiz Resets: Please limit quiz reset requests to instances when technical issues compromised both quiz attempts. Reopening quizzes after the due date has passed will require verifiable documentation.

Quiz Grading: Quizzes will be graded automatically. Students will be able to see their scores immediately after submitting the quiz.

Quiz Answers: The correct answers for quizzes will not be released to students. Students will be able to see submitted answers only. Students should refer to their course materials for the correct answers.

All assessments will auto-submit when (1) the timer runs out OR (2) the closing date/time is reached, whichever happens first. For example, if a quiz has a closing time of 5:00 pm but the student begins the exam at 4:55 pm, the student will only have 5 minutes to complete the quiz.

Assessments in this course are not compatible with mobile devices and should not be taken through a mobile phone or a tablet. If you encounter any technical difficulties, please contact the FIU Canvas Help Team. Please ensure you contact support immediately upon the issue occurring.

Discussion Forums (10% of final grade)

There will be four (4) discussions in this course designed to engage students in critical thinking about various aspects of Christianity in our global era. Each discussion assignment consists of two components, which means that students must post a minimum of three discussion threads for each topic:

- One post in response to the main discussion topic
- Two responses to other students' posts

The use of AI-generated content is strictly prohibited.

Discussion topics will become available on Mondays at 12:00 PM. There are two important deadlines to keep in mind:

- Responses to the main discussion topic are due on Thursdays by 11:59 PM during each week a discussion topic is posted.
- Responses to other students' posts are due on Sundays by 11:59 PM during each week a discussion topic is posted.

Please refer to the course calendar for the specific weeks when discussion topics will be available.

Keep in mind that this is an academic forum; all students in the course will see the discussion posts. When criticizing or agreeing with another student's position on a given topic, please make sure to include supporting facts and specific examples to strengthen your arguments. Contribute links to articles, news stories, and/or other media whenever possible.

Exams (30% of final grade)

Written Exam 1 (midterm exam) and Written Exam 2 (final exam) are intended to test students' understanding of fundamental concepts and content covered in video lectures and assigned readings.

- The prompts for Written Exam 1 and Written Exam 2 will become available in the Assessment area during the exam availability time (check the weekly calendar).
- All assignments must be submitted via Canvas.
- The written exams include a combination of structured questions and open-

ended questions requiring responses of approximately 200–250 words. The use of AI-generated content is strictly prohibited.

- Structured questions will be graded automatically. Open-ended responses will be graded manually. Students will be able to see their scores within seven (7) business days of the assignment deadline.
- Please refer to the rubric for details on what criteria your exam essays will be evaluated on.

Research Papers (30% of final grade)

Research papers must be original works authored by the students themselves. The use of AI-generated content is strictly prohibited. All written assignments will undergo automatic checks for plagiarism and AI-generated material. For more information, please refer to the Policies & Resources section.

Students will have the opportunity to request feedback on their paper progress. To facilitate this, two optional assignments are provided for each paper. These assignments allow students to submit their progress and ask questions. They are worth 0 points and do not impact the final grade; instead, they serve as tools for consultation and feedback.

Students may not submit work from a previous semester or from another class for this assignment.

Research Paper 1 | Mapping Christianity

Assignment Details and Instructions:

- Format: MLA Format Required
- Content: Bibliographical research and supplementary research
- Length: 1800-2000 Words, Not Including Your Works Cited Page

- Double–Spaced, 12-Point Font, Arial Or Times New Roman Font
- Sources: 3 Academic Sources Minimum (in addition to the textbook)
- Works Cited Page required

For this essay, students will focus on one of the nine regions addressed in the course book. The assignment has three main objectives:

1. Summarize how Christianity has historically developed in your chosen region.
2. Identify and describe the main characteristics of Christianity in the region today.
3. Use a specific case study to illustrate how the dynamics discussed in the book are reflected in real life.

Steps to Complete the Assignment:

1. Select a Region: Choose one of the nine regions covered in the course book that you find most interesting or relevant.
2. Conduct Research: Read the chapter in the course book that pertains to your selected region. Conduct additional bibliographical research using academic sources. You must reference at least three credible academic sources (journal articles or books).
3. Develop Your Case Study: Choose a specific example to focus on, such as a particular country, Christian community, or church within your region. Use this case study to demonstrate how the themes and dynamics discussed in the course book are reflected in the region.
4. Structure Your Essay: Your essay should follow this (or a similar) structure:
 - *Introduction*: Introduce the region and case study. Clearly present your thesis statement, outlining the focus and purpose of the essay.

- *Historical Development and Current Characteristics*: Summarize the historical development of Christianity in the region and describe its current characteristics.
- *Case Study Analysis*: Provide a detailed analysis of your chosen case study and explain how it illustrates broader patterns and dynamics in the region.
- *Conclusion*: Summarize your key findings and reflect on the significance of your case study in understanding Christianity in the region.

Citations and Evidence: Support your arguments with evidence from the course book and your additional research. Cite all sources properly in the MLA citation style.

Evaluation Criteria: Your essay will be assessed based on the clarity and depth of your analysis, the relevance and use of evidence, the quality of your case study, and the overall organization and writing quality. Refer to the rubric provided for detailed grading criteria.

Research Paper 2 | Exploring Real-World Christianity: An Interview-Based Analysis

Assignment Details and Instructions:

- Format: MLA Format Required
- Content: Field research (interview) and supplementary research
- Length: 1800-2000 Words, Not Including Your Works Cited Page
- Double-Spaced, 12-Point Font, Arial Or Times New Roman Font
- Works Cited Page if necessary

For this essay, you will explore how Christianity is experienced and interpreted by

a Christian leader, community, or group outside your immediate experience of Christianity. This assignment allows you to connect real-world examples to the themes of world Christianity discussed in this course. The assignment has three main objectives:

1. Gain firsthand insight into the diversity of Christian experiences globally.
2. Analyze how individual or group practices reflect broader themes in world Christianity.
3. Develop research, critical thinking, and writing skills through an interview-based analysis.

Steps to Complete the Assignment:

1. Choose a subject: Select a Christian leader, community, group, or individual committed to a cause that differs from your closest experience of Christianity. (For example, if you are Catholic, consider choosing a Protestant or Orthodox group. If you belong to a conservative tradition, explore a progressive Christian group, or vice versa.) You are encouraged to choose someone or a group in your local city (e.g., Miami or your current location), as this allows you to conduct an in-person interview. However, online interviews with communities in other locations are also acceptable.
2. Conduct the Interview: Interview at least one member of the group or community. Prepare thoughtful questions to explore the following themes:
 - How do they feel incorporated into the larger Christian tradition?
 - How do they engage with diversity within Christianity (e.g., Christians from other traditions or with different perspectives)?
 - In what ways does their community contribute to society?
 - What do they see as the most important challenges facing their community today?
3. Structure Your Essay: Follow the suggested structure provided below:

- *Introduction*: Present the region, group, or leader, explain why you chose them, and outline your thesis.
- *Context and Background*: Provide historical, cultural, and religious context for your subject.
- *Findings from the Interview*: Use your interview to address themes of incorporation, diversity, societal contribution, and challenges.
- *Case Study Analysis*: Link the interview findings to themes in world Christianity and analyze how the group reflects broader dynamics in Christianity.
- *Conclusion*: Summarize key insights, reflect on the experience, and discuss its relevance to understanding world Christianity.

Citations and Evidence: While there is no minimum number of required sources, it is highly recommended to explore scholarly materials that can provide deeper insights into your case study. Properly cite all sources, including the interview and any additional research, using MLA citation style.

Evaluation Criteria: Your essay will be evaluated based on the following criteria: the clarity and coherence of your argument, the depth of analysis in connecting the interview findings to broader themes in world Christianity, and the quality of evidence used to support your claims. Proper structure, including a clear introduction, well-organized body paragraphs, and a concise conclusion, is essential. Additionally, your ability to critically engage with the interview and any supplementary research will be assessed. Proper citation of all sources in MLA format and adherence to the word count are also required.

Policies & Resources

Make-Up Examinations and Late Assignments Policy

Late assignments and make-up examinations are not accepted under normal circumstances. Students are expected to meet all deadlines as outlined in the course schedule. However, I understand that exceptional situations may arise. If

a student experiences a serious and documented issue that prevents timely submission or attendance, they must contact me **as soon as possible** to discuss the situation. Requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis, and documentation may be required. Extensions or make-up opportunities are not guaranteed.

Student Conduct and Academic Integrity

Students are expected to be honest in all academic work, consistent with the academic integrity policy as outlined in the [Code of Student Conduct](#) and any additional syllabus language. **All work is to be appropriately cited** when it is borrowed, directly or indirectly, from another source. Unauthorized and/or unacknowledged collaboration on any work, or the presentation of someone else's work, is plagiarism.

Since writing, analytical, and critical thinking skills are part of the learning outcomes of this course, all writing assignments should be prepared by the student. Developing strong competencies in this area will prepare students for a competitive workplace. Therefore, **AI-generated submissions are not permitted** and will be treated as plagiarism.

Ethical academic behavior is an important expectation in this course, and plagiarism is a serious offense. If you are unsure about whether something may be plagiarism or another form of academic dishonesty, please reach out to me to discuss it as soon as possible.

FIU Policies and Procedures

Before starting this course, please review the Policies & Resources Page in the "Student Resources" Module in Canvas, which includes comprehensive information on various University and Course Level Policies such as:

- University Policies
- Accessibility and Accommodations

- Online Etiquette
- Technical Requirements and Skills
- Computer & Digital Literacy Skills
- Course Technology Accessibility Statements and Privacy Policies
- Academic Integrity
- Copyright Statement
- Core Principles of This Course
- Nondiscrimination Statement
- Panthers Care & Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)
- Fair Use Policy

In addition, the [FIU Policies and Procedures Library website](#) serves as the official repository for university-wide policies and procedures.

Grading

Late Work

Late submissions will not be accepted, except in cases of genuine and documented emergencies.

Avoid leaving assignment/quiz submissions for the last minute before a deadline. “Heavy user traffic” during this timeframe may cause delays and/or errors, which can lead to students missing crucial deadlines.

The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the syllabus by means of announcements or messages, with ample time allowed for students to respond and adjust appropriately.

Extra Credit

Extra credit opportunities may be offered during the term based on the overall

performance and needs of the class. These opportunities will be announced on Canvas with sufficient notice to allow all students to participate.

Grading System

Course Grades Distribution Table

Course Requirements	Number of Items	Points of Each	Total Points Available	Weight
Quizzes	10	3	30	30%
Discussions	4	2.5	10	10%
Exams	2	15	30	30%
Research Papers	2	15	30	30%
Total	18	N/A	100	100%

Grading Scale

Letter Grade Distribution Table

Letter Grade	Sample Range %
A	95 - 100
A-	90 – 94.99
B+	87 – 89.99
B	83 – 86.99

Letter Grade	Sample Range %
B-	80 – 82.99
C+	77 – 79.99
C	70 – 76.99
D	60 – 69.99
F	0 – 59.99

Course Communication

Communication in this course will take place via the **Canvas Inbox and Announcements**.

Check out the [Canvas Conversations Tutorial](#) or [Canvas Guide](#) to learn how to communicate with your instructor and peers using Announcements, Discussions, and the Inbox.

Schedule of Topics

This syllabus is subject to change; you are responsible for regularly monitoring Canvas Announcements, Conversations/Inbox, and your FIU student email to be aware of any noted changes.

PART I: CHRISTIANITY AND GLOBALIZATION
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Week 1: Aug 24 - 30 (This week's work will remain open until the end of the 2nd week for students who register during ADD/ DROP week.)	Module 0 Getting Started & Module 1 Introduction	Module 0 Getting Started • Course Syllabus • Video: Course Presentation Module 1 Introduction Instructional Materials: • Irvin (2008) "World Christianity: An Introduction" <i>Journal of World Christianity</i> 1(1): 1-26. • Kim and Kim (2016) "Chapter 1: Introduction" In: <i>Christianity as a World Religion: An Introduction</i>. 2nd ed. London and New York: Bloomsbury, 2016: 3-22. • Video: Lecture 01: Introduction to the study of World Christianity. Assignments (Due Sunday, 11:59 PM): • Introduce Yourself • Practice Quiz • Academic Honesty Policy Quiz • Quiz 01
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Week 2: Aug 30 - Sep 06	Module 2 Religion, Globalization, and Christianity	Instructional Materials: • Textbook: "Introduction to World Christianity" (pages xxi-xxiii) • Snyder (2011) "Globalization: Challenges to Christianity" • Herrington (2013) "Globalization and Religion in Historical Perspective: A Paradoxical Relationship" • Wilkinson (2016) "The Prosperity Gospel and the Globalization of American Capitalism" • Video: Lecture 02: Globalization and Christianity Assignments (Due Sunday, 11:59 PM): • Quiz 02 • Discussion 01 <i>Virtual Coffee Hour 01</i> • Zoom link on Canvas
PART II: CHRISTIANITY IN GLOBAL DIVERSITY		
Week 3: Sep 07 - 13	Module 3 The Ancient Tradition	Instructional Materials: • Textbook: Introduction to Part II: How They Got There: A Global History of Christianity • Textbook: Ch. 5: The Ancient Tradition • Video: Lecture 03: The Ancient Tradition Assignments (Due Sunday, 11:59 PM): • Quiz 03

Week 4: Sep 14 - 20	Module 4 The Great Division & The Orthodox Tradition	Instructional Materials: • Textbook: Ch. 6: The Great Division and the Age of the East • Textbook: Ch. 1: The Orthodox Tradition • Video: Lecture 04: The Great Division Assignments (Due Sunday, 11:59 PM): • Quiz 04
Week 5: Sep 21 - 27	Module 5 The Rise of the West & The Catholic Tradition	Instructional Materials: • Textbook: Ch. 7: The Rise of the West and Decline of the East • Textbook: Ch. 2: The Catholic Tradition • Video: Lecture 05: The Rise of the West Assignments (Due Sunday, 11:59 PM): • Quiz 05
Week 6: Sep 28 - Oct 04	Module 6 Christianity in a Global Era & The Protestant and the Pentecostal Traditions	Instructional Materials: • Textbook: Ch. 8: Christianity in a Global Era • Textbook: Ch. 3: The Protestant Tradition • Textbook: Ch. 4: The Pentecostal Tradition • Video: Lecture 06: Christianity in the Global Era Assignments (Due Sunday, 11:59 PM): • Quiz 06 • Discussion 02 • Research Paper 01: Choose the topic <i>Virtual Coffee Hour 02</i> • <i>Zoom link on Canvas</i>

Week 7: Oct 05 - 11	Midterm Exam	Instructional Materials: • Review: All material from Modules 1-6 (See the Midterm Exam Guide) Assignments: • Midterm Exam <i>**Have you started working on your first paper? Research Paper 1: Mapping Christianity is due soon!**</i>
Week 8: Oct 12 - 18	Module 7 Mapping World Christianity I	Instructional Materials: • Textbook: Introduction to Part III: Where They Are: Christianity in Nine World Regions • Video: Lecture 07: Mapping World Christianity Assignments (Due Sunday, 11:59 PM): • Discussion 03 <i>**Have you started working on your first paper? Research Paper 1: Mapping Christianity is due soon!**</i>
Week 9: Oct 19 - 25	Module 8 Mapping World Christianity II	Instructional Materials: • Textbook: Selected Ch. 9 - 17 Assignments (Due Sunday, 11:59 PM): • Research Paper 1 Mapping Christianity
PART III: CHRISTIANITY AND CONTEMPORARY ISSUES		

Week 10: Oct 26 - Nov 01	Module 9 Global Christianity and Migration	Instructional Materials: • Phan (2016) "Christianity as an Institutional Migrant: Historical, Theological, and Ethical Perspectives." • Fiocchetto (2022) "Migration" • Video: Lecture 09: Global Christianity and Migration Complementary Readings: • Barreto et al. (2017) "Part V: World Christianity and Migration" • Krabill (2023) "Introductory Essay: Migration and World Christianity." • Krabill (2023) "Spiritually Dynamic but Ecclesially Deviant: African Immigrant Christianity and New Ecumenical Terrain in the West." • Pertek (2022) "God Helped Us: Resilience, Religion and Experiences of Gender-Based Violence and Trafficking among African Forced Migrant Women." • To and Chan (2023) "Same God but Different: Politico-Religious Dynamics and the New Hong Kong Christian Diaspora in the UK." Assignments (Due Sunday, 11:59 PM): • Quiz 07 - The Human Problem • Research Paper 02: Choose the topic <i>Virtual Coffee Hour 03</i> • <i>TBA on Canvas</i>
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Week 11: Nov 02 - 08	Module 10 Global Christianity and Gender and Sexual Diversity	Instructional Materials: • Robert (2006) "World Christianity as a Women's Movement." • Zurlo (2024) "Gender Gaps in World Christianity: Membership, Participation, and Leadership." • Wilkins et al (2021) "Is LGBT Progress Seen as an Attack on Christians?: Examining Christian Sexual Orientation Zero-Sum Beliefs." • Video: Lecture 10: Global Christianity and Gender and Sexual Diversity Complementary Readings: • Selected Chapters from the <i>Edinburgh Companions to Global Christianity</i> Assignments (Due Sunday, 11:59 PM): • Quiz 08 • Research Paper 02: Prepare and conduct the interview
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Week 12: Nov 09 - 15	Module 11 Global Christianity and Ecology	Instructional Materials: • Pope Francis (2015) <i>Laudato Si'</i> • Conradie (2020) "The Four Tasks of Christian Ecotheology: Revisiting the Current Debate." • Messias (2024) "From Echotheology to Ecospirituality in Laudato Si'." • Video: Is Religion Good for the Environment? (Religion and Environment Story Project - Boston University) • Video: Lecture 11: Global Christianity and Ecology Assignments (Due Sunday, 11:59 PM): • Quiz 09 <i>**Have you started working on your second paper? Research Paper 2: Exploring Real-World Christianity is due soon!**</i>
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Week 13: Nov 16 - 22	Module 12 Global Christianity and Technology	Instructional Materials: • Fiocchetto (2021) "Configuring Christian Identities in Times of ICTs." • Usman (2024) "Pastoring the ICT World: Navigating the Challenges and Opportunities." • Video: Lecture 11: Global Christianity and Technology Complementary Readings: • Helland (2016) "Digital Religion." • Dyikuk (2017) "Christianity and the Digital Age: Sustaining the Online Church." • Amadi-Nche (2021) "ICT: A Coping Strategy by Nigerian Churches amidst Covid-19 Pandemic." • Atuanene and Boaheng (2025) "Understanding the Use of Information Communication Technology from the Church's Missional Perspective." Assignments (Due Sunday, 11:59 PM): • Quiz 10 <i>**Have you started working on your second paper? Research Paper 2: Exploring Real-World Christianity is due soon!**</i>
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Week 14: Nov 23 - 29		Thanksgiving Holiday Break (Wed-Sun, Nov 25-29) Assignments (Due Tuesday, 11:59 PM): • Research Paper 2 Exploring Real-World Christianity
Week 15: Nov 30 - Dec 06	Module 13 Global Christianity and Politics	Instructional Materials: • Cousineau (2024) "Liberation Theology in Latin America." • Tan (2017) "Ecumenical and Inter-Religious Contributions to Asian Liberation Theologies." • Ryman and Alcorn (2025) "Establishment Cause: Separation of Church and State." • Walker (2011) "Top 5 Myths of Separation of Church and State." • PEW (2024) "Religion in Public Life Report." • Kuhrt (2010) "Why Christians should be involved in Politics." • Video: Lecture 12: Global Christianity and Politics Assignments (Due Sunday, 11:59 PM): • Discussion 04 • SPOTS (Course Evaluation) <i>Virtual Coffee Hour 04</i> • <i>TBA on Canvas</i>
Week 16: Dec 07 - 12	Final Exam (Covers materials from Modules 1-13)	Instructional Materials: • Review: All material from Modules 1-13 (See the Final Exam Guide) Assignments: • Final Exam

Proctored Exams

Please note that the information contained in this section applies only if your course requires a proctored exam.

Through a careful examination of this syllabus, it is the student's responsibility to determine whether this online course requires proctored exams. Please visit our [Student Proctored Exam Instructions webpage](#) for important information concerning proctored exams, proctoring centers, and important forms.

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