

Course Description

Course Number: HT 222W

Course Title: Postcolonial Reflections: Christianity in the Age of Empire

Name of Instructor: Man-Hei Yip

Semester and Year: Spring 2022

Postcolonial Reflections: Christianity in the Age of Empire is a 1 credit, letter grade or credit/no credit, elective course. This course is open to all Synchronous and Asynchronous (minimum of 3 for asynchronous section) learners. No prerequisites are required to take this course.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course takes an interdisciplinary approach to the investigation of the role coloniality of power and empire played in the rise of Christianity, as well as the development of the Christian faith in church and the world. The course addresses specific themes or issues weekly. With the aids of historical studies, biblical and theological reflections, and postcolonial critique, participants will reflect on the Christian faith, including its beliefs and practices, and envision a more equitable and inclusive world in the contemporary contexts of empire and globalization.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- I. Demonstrate knowledge of postcolonial theory that relates to our understanding of the rise of Christianity and the development of Christian beliefs and practices. (Practice of Complex Analysis).
- II. Demonstrate competence in critical analysis of biblical and theological reflections on contemporary contexts of empire and globalization. (Practice of Biblical and Theological Wisdom).
- III. Respect the distinctive theological themes and emphases advocated by culturally diverse communities (Practice of Engagement with Cross-Cultural and Global Dimensions).
- IV. Develop a critical awareness of assumptions and biases by recognizing cultural, political, and religious influences that shape Christian theology and everyday practices of faith (Practice of Personal Faith and Integrity).

PROCEDURE:

The course will meet for one hour a week. It puts an emphasis on student participation through interactive discussion with instructor and one another.

EVALUATION:

- I. Class participation. II. Demonstration of engagement in weekly assigned readings. III. Reflection paper that helps develop one's critical perspective on the subject.

BIBLIOGRAPHY (indicates required texts):**

****Pui-Lan Kwok**, *Postcolonial Imagination and Feminist Theology*, 2005.

Ada Maria Isasi-Diaz, *Decolonizing Epistemologies: Latina/o Theology and Philosophy*, 2011.

Kwok, Compier, and Rieger, *Empire and the Christian Tradition: New Readings of Classical Theologians*, 2007.

R.S. Sugirtharajah, *Exploring Postcolonial Biblical Criticism: History, Method, Practice*, 2011.

Patrick S. Cheng, *From Sin to Amazing Grace: Discovering the Queer Christ*, 2012.