

University of Wisconsin-Madison

History 223/Religious Studies 400
THE MAKING OF MODERN CHRISTIANITY, 1650-1870

Fall 2013

MWF, 9:55-10:45 a.m., 4281 Helen C. White

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Office hours: Mon, 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.; Wed, 12:30-1:30 p.m.; and by appointment

In the just over two centuries this course focuses on, the Christian religion underwent a series of major changes that significantly altered its global profile. Originally a Mediterranean religion, Christianity had its center in the Middle East, Africa, and Asia for the first millennium of its existence. By the Middle Ages, that center had shifted to Europe and would remain there (and, later, North America) through the nineteenth century. But changes within Europe and in its relationship to the rest of the world between 1650 (the end of the continent's "religious wars") and 1870 (the First Vatican Council) inevitably impacted the Christian religion, too. In Europe and its colonies, churches faced grave new challenges, including political revolutions and the rise of secular thought and values that questioned the basic assumptions on which Christianity's cultural authority had long rested. The same period also spawned movements of spiritual renewal and reform that touched people from all social classes and played a crucial role in spreading the faith to other parts of the globe. Non-Europeans who adopted Christianity, however, were never simply passive recipients of Western forms of religion but actively reshaped the faith in keeping with their own cultural norms and practices. This course will equip you to think critically and historically about these big changes within the globe's largest religious tradition, changes that not only affected adherents of Christianity but that in key ways continue to shape the world we live in.

Course Requirements

1. Attend and participate in class meetings. Some sessions will consist mostly of lecture, others mostly of discussion, but most meetings will include some of both. In opting to take this course you are committing yourself to attend all meetings and to participate actively in our discussions. If an illness or emergency requires you to miss a class, please email me in advance. A pattern of unexcused absences will lower your final grade in the course.

2. Read all assigned texts closely and thoughtfully *before* the class session in which they will be discussed. Come ready to voice your insights, to engage with those of your classmates, and to raise questions about what you find in the readings. To help focus your thinking, I will sometimes give you particular questions to think about as you read. At other times you will be asked to devise your own discussion questions or complete other exercises to prepare for class. Be sure to bring a copy of the relevant texts, including those from the course reader, to each meeting. Attendance and class participation, including preparatory exercises, count for 20% of your final grade.

3. Write three analytical papers of 1500-1700 words (4-5 pages) each, due in both hard and electronic copy at the beginning of class on September 30, October 28, and November 25, respectively. Each paper

will respond to a question, distributed one week before the due date, that will allow you to synthesize your thoughts and make an argument about a theme and set of texts we will have discussed in class. Late papers will be lowered one grade for each day they are late (e.g., a B paper becomes a BC the next day, a C the following day, etc.). The first two papers are worth 15% each of your final grade; the third is worth 20%. Graduate students will substitute the three analytical papers with a 20-25-page term paper on a topic worked out in consultation with me.

5. Write a take-home final exam of 2400-2600 words (6-7 pages), due in the Learn@UW dropbox by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, December 19. The exam questions will be handed out during the last week of class. Makes up 30% of your final grade.

Communication and Office Hours

I enjoy teaching and I enjoy talking with students. If you have questions related to any aspect of the course or if you just want to explore an idea, please don't hesitate to come to office hours, which I hold on Mondays, 11-12 and Wednesdays, 12:30-1:30. If you have a scheduling conflict during those times, let me know and we can arrange another time to meet. Generally the best way to reach me is via email (ewcarlss@wisc.edu). I check email regularly and will try to respond within 24 hours. Often I can reply sooner than that, but on weekends response time may be up to 48 hours.

Classroom Conduct

Please arrive to our class meetings on time and silence any cell phones and computers before the session begins. Once class has started, please give your full attention to matters at hand. No texting allowed. You may use a laptop or tablet to take notes. You may not use it to check email or Facebook, play games, or for other purposes unrelated to class. You are encouraged to ask questions and make relevant comments during lecture. As noted above, you are expected to participate actively in class discussions.

Plagiarism and Academic Integrity

In this course, as in all your UW courses, you must do your own work and cite sources carefully. Plagiarism—representing somebody else's work, including material found on the internet—as your own is a serious ethical violation. If you have specific questions about what plagiarism is and how to avoid it, please speak with me or consult http://www.wisc.edu/writing/Handbook/QPA_plagiarism.html. Penalties for plagiarism, unauthorized collaboration, and other forms of cheating range from failing an assignment or a course to being expelled from the university. For university policies on academic misconduct, see <http://students.wisc.edu/saja/misconduct/UWS14.html>.

Disabilities and McBurney Students

If you are a McBurney student or have a disability that requires special accommodations, please let me know at the beginning of the semester.

Course Readings

The following required books are available for purchase at local and online bookstores. A copy of each text has also been placed on reserve at College Library.

David Hempton, *The Church in the Long Eighteenth Century* (London: I.B. Tauris, 2011)
Philip Jacob Spener, *Pia Desideria* (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1964)
Jon F. Sensbach, *Rebecca's Revival: Creating Black Christianity in the Atlantic World* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2005)

Many of our texts will come from the required course reader, which is available for purchase at the Humanities Copy Center, 1650 Mosse Humanities Building. A brief title of each selection is given in the course schedule below. You will find full bibliographical information for each text in the reader's table of contents. An electronic version of each text in the reader is also available on our course webpage on Learn@UW.

COURSE SCHEDULE

All assigned readings must be completed *before* the class meetings in which they will be discussed. All texts other than Hempton, Spener, and Sensbach are in the course reader.

I. INTRODUCTION

- W Sep 4 Course Introduction
- F Sep 6 Thinking Historically about Religion
Sam Wineburg, "Historical Thinking and Other Unnatural Acts"
Andrew F. Walls, "Culture and Coherence in Christian History"
- M Sep 9 World Christianity to 1650: A Bird's-Eye View
Dana L. Robert, *Christian Mission*, 7-52

II. RENEWAL AND EXPANSION

A. Heart Religion: Moving Inward and Moving Outward

- W Sep 11 Confessional Europe
David Hempton, *The Church in the Long Eighteenth Century*, xvii-xxi, 3-33
- F Sep 13 Catholic Renewal and Mission I
David Hempton, *The Church in the Long Eighteenth Century*, 35-40
- M Sep 16 Catholic Renewal and Mission II
Natalie Zemon Davis, "Marie de l'Incarnation: New Worlds"
- W Sep 18 The Rise of German Pietism
David Hempton, *The Church in the Long Eighteenth Century*, 40-5, 141-9
- F Sep 20 The Experiment at Herrnhut
Philipp Jakob Spener, *Pia Desideria*
Nikolaus Ludwig, Count von Zinzendorf, "Thoughts for the . . . Students of Truth" and
"Brotherly Union and Agreement at Herrnhut"

- M Sep 23 Evangelicalism Emerges in Britain
 David Hempton, *The Church in the Long Eighteenth Century*, 149-67
 George Whitefield, "The Nature and Necessity of Our New Birth in Jesus Christ"
 John Wesley, "Free Grace"
- W Sep 25 Awakening in America
 Jonathan Edwards, "A Faithful Narrative of the Surprising Work of God"
 Timothy Cutler, Letter to the Bishop of London
- F Sep 27 Protestant "Spiritual Cartography"
 David Hempton, *The Church in the Long Eighteenth Century*, 45-55
 William Carey, "An Enquiry into the Obligations of Christians, to Use Means for the
 Conversion of the Heathens"

B. Beyond the West: Soundings in World Christianity

- M Sep 30 Catholicism in Latin America: An Overview
 Ondina E. González and Justo L. González, *Christianity in Latin America*, 64-118
 PAPER #1 DUE
- W Oct 2 Jesuit Missions
 David Hempton, *The Church in the Long Eighteenth Century*, 57-67
 Primary Sources on the Reductions
- Th Oct 3 Viewing of *The Mission*, 7:00 p.m.
- F Oct 4 Indian Responses and Adaptations
 Ondina E. González and Justo L. González, *Christianity in Latin America*, 118-30
 Primary Sources: "Indian and Mestizo Voices"
- M Oct 7 Christianity in Africa I Guest lecture by Paul Grant
 Lamin Sanneh, "Christianity in Africa"
- W Oct 9 Christianity in Africa II Guest lecture by Paul Grant
- F Oct 11 Origins African-American Christianity I
 Jon F. Sensbach, *Rebecca's Revival*, 1-161
- M Oct 14 Origins of African-American Christianity II
 Jon F. Sensbach, *Rebecca's Revival*, 162-247
- W Oct 16 Jesuit Missions in China
 David Hempton, *The Church in the Long Eighteenth Century*, 67-75
- F Oct 18 Christianity in India Guest lecture by Chandra Mallampalli
 Chandra Mallampalli, "South Asian Christianity"

M Oct 21 Case Study: The Tranquebar Mission
David Hempton, *The Church in the Long Eighteenth Century*, 75-82
Documents on the Tranquebar Mission

W Oct 23 The Orthodox Church in Russia I
David Hempton, *The Church in the Long Eighteenth Century*, 184-9
Philip Walters, "Eastern Europe since the Fifteenth Century"

F Oct 25 The Orthodox Church in Russia II

III. CHRISTENDOM TRANSFORMED

A. The Problem and Promise of Enlightenment

M Oct 28 Enlightenment and Toleration
David Hempton, *The Church in the Long Eighteenth Century*, 107-27
John Locke, *A Letter Concerning Toleration*
PAPER #2 DUE

W Oct 30 Critiques of Christianity
Margaret C. Jacob, "The Enlightenment Critique of Christianity"
François-Marie Arouet de Voltaire, selections

F Nov 1 Protestant Enlightenment
David Sorkin, "Reclaiming Theology for the Enlightenment"

M Nov 4 Catholic Enlightenment
Ulrich Lehner, *Enlightened Monks*, 1-26, 204-25

B. Religion and Revolution, Church and State, Rights and Liberty: America and France

W Nov 6 Sacred Cause of Liberty?
Mark A. Noll, "The American Revolution and Protestant Evangelicalism"

F Nov 8 Disestablishment in America
Thomas S. Kidd, *God of Liberty*, 167-86, 209-27

M Nov 11 Human Rights, Slavery, and Abolition
Christopher Leslie Brown, "Christianity and the Campaign against Slavery and the Slave Trade"
Thomas Clarkson, "An Essay on the Slavery and Commerce of the Human Species"
Hannah More, "Thoughts on the Importance of the Manners of the Great to General Society"
Olaudah Equiano, "The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano"

W Nov 13 Slavery and the Bible: The Civil War as a Theological Crisis
Mark A. Noll, *America's God*, 386-421

- F Nov 15 Church and State in Pre-Revolutionary Europe
David Hempton, *The Church in the Long Eighteenth Century*, 169-83
- M Nov 18 The Church and the Early French Revolution
David Hempton, *The Church in the Long Eighteenth Century*, 189-94
Timothy Tackett, "The French Revolution and Religion to 1794"
Documents on the Civil Constitution of the Clergy
- W Nov 20 Dechristianization and Civil Religion
Nigel Aston, *Christianity and Revolutionary Europe*, 211-8
Documents on Dechristianization and the Festival of the Supreme Being
- F Nov 22 Revolutionary Results
Suzanne Desan, "The French Revolution and Religion, 1795-1815"

C. Renewal, Secularization, and Challenges of Modern Thought

- M Nov 25 International Protestant Revivalism
Frances Knight, *The Church in the Nineteenth Century*, 127-38
PAPER #3 DUE
- M Dec 2 Catholic and Anglo-Catholic Renewal
Frances Knight, *The Church in the Nineteenth Century*, 138-48
John Henry Newman, selections from *University Sermons, An Essay in Aid of Grammar of Assent*, and *An Essay on the Development of Christian Doctrine*
- W Dec 4 New Directions in Theology
Friedrich Schleiermacher, selections from *On Religion* and *The Christian Faith*
Søren Kierkegaard, selections from *Philosophical Fragments*
- F Dec 6 The Bible in the Dock
David Friedrich Strauss, selections from *The Life of Jesus*
Benjamin Jowett, "On the Interpretation of Scripture"
- M Dec 9 Politics and Secularization
Frances Knight, *The Church in the Nineteenth Century*, 149-68
- W Dec 11 Catholicism and Modernity
Pius IX, Syllabus of Errors
- F Dec 13 Retrospect and Prospect
David Hempton, *The Church in the Long Eighteenth Century*, 195-9
- F Dec 19 Take-home final exam due in Learn@UW dropbox at 5:00 p.m.