

Course Syllabus
DRAFT
HIS/TH6/716
Emerging Theologies: A Global Perspective
Vancouver School of Theology
Fall 2024

Instructor: Hyuk Cho
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Office Hours: Please feel welcome to come and talk with me. To make an appointment, check with me at class or by email to arrange a mutually convenient time.
Class Dates and Times: Tuesdays, 6 pm to 9 pm PST



“The history of Christian mission has been characterized by conceptions of geographical expansion from a Christian centre to the “unreached territories,” to the ends of the earth. But today we are facing a radically changing ecclesial landscape described as ‘world Christianity’ where the majority of Christians either are living or have their origins in the global South and East. Migration has become a worldwide, multi-directional phenomenon which is reshaping the Christian landscape.” – “Together towards Life: Mission and Evangelism in Changing Landscapes” (WCC, 2013).

❖ **Course Description**

This course is a journey into the significance of the changing landscape of world Christianity. With the majority of the world’s Christians now residing in the global South and East, it is crucial to understand and engage with emerging theologies from these regions. This change denotes that people at the margins are claiming their key role as agents of mission and affirming mission as transformation. This course offers students a unique opportunity to critically engage with significant Christian voices from the global South and East and to explore how emerging theologies challenge and enrich the discussion of Christian themes. Special attention is given to theological discourses and methodologies, key historical events, and major theologians in developing theologies.

❖ **Learning outcomes**

After successfully completing this course, students should be able to:

- become acquainted with and learn from emerging theologies of the global South and East.


- gain a comprehensive overview of theology within world Christianity.
- understand the key factors in understanding and evaluating cross, intercultural theological perspectives.
- be able to discuss colonial expansion, decolonization and post-colonial development from a perspective of world Christianity.
- be able to evaluate selected global Christian movements fairly and critically.
- become aware of the theological diversity within the global Pentecostal movements.
- familiarise themselves with resources to facilitate further development.
- develop a global Christian consciousness that honours the contributions of the body of Christ around the world.

❖ Prerequisites

Normally, students have completed at least one graduate course in theology (TH500) or equivalent.

❖ Required Course Texts

- Mitri Raheb and Mark Lamport, ed. *Emerging Theologies from the Global South* (Eugene, OR: Cascade Books, 2023).
- Kowk Pui-lan, ed. *Hope Abundant: Third World and Indigenous Women's Theology* (Maryknoll, NY: Orbis, 2010).
- Naim Stifan Ateek, *A Palestinian Theology of Liberation: The Bible, Justice, and the Palestine-Israel Conflict* (Maryknoll, NY: Orbis, 2017).
- Allen Heaton Anderson, *An Introduction to Pentecostalism: Global Charismatic Christianity*, 2nd ed. (New York, NY: Cambridge University, 2013).
- ◆ Gustavo Gutierrez, *A Theology of Liberation: History, Politics and Salvation*, rev. ed. (Maryknoll, NY: Orbis, 2002), 1-77.
- ◆ Michael Battle, *Reconciliation: The Ubuntu Theology of Desmond Tutu* (Cleveland, Ohio: Pilgrim Press, 1997), 1-82.
- * Indicates the E-Reading Package, available on the Populi site for the course in .pdf format.

 indicates online resources are available.

A few readings and other materials related to the course will be distributed in class.

❖ Course Format

This class meets for three hours a week over 11 weeks. The basic arrangement of class time will be a lecture, class presentation and discussion. Lectures will be offered to introduce, clarify, connect and expand the context and substance of the readings in order to help students integrate the course materials with their own theological understanding. In the class, case studies and problem-solving activities will be given to deepen and enrich theological imaginations and create a transformation in the preparation for ministry.

❖ Course Policies

1. **Reading and assignments:** You are expected to read all required reading before class and complete all assignments outlined in the syllabus within the specified dates of the course and term.
2. **Academic honesty:** You are expected to adhere to VST's requirements for academic honesty as published in the Student Handbook.
3. **Inclusive language:** In speaking and writing, inclusive language is expected when referencing humans and a variety of metaphors are anticipated when referencing God.
4. **Assignments and Course Evaluation**

Course evaluations: At VST combine a letter grade system with a competence model of assessment. Individual assignments within a course are given narrative evaluations, that is, APP (Approved) or INC (Incomplete) or NAPP (Not Approved) with narrative comments, based on the competencies and expectations set for that assignment. No number or letter grades or weights of assignments are calculated for assignments. One re-write is allowed on any assignment which is INC or NAPP within a course. The final evaluation for an assignment can be APP or NAPP after a re-write. The final grade for a course is reported both as a letter grade and as a narrative evaluation on the basis of a student's overall fulfillment of the competencies and expectations of the course, which are stated in the course syllabus.

Late assignments: Submission of assignments on time is a part of academic, professional and pastoral competence and a part of every course at VST. All assignments in courses are due on the dates specified in the syllabus. Failure to submit an assignment on time will be noted in the narrative evaluation of an assignment. Repeated failure to submit assignments on time may affect the final grade for the course.
5. VST is committed to creating a safe space and an inclusive learning environment. If you have a diagnosed or suspected learning disability, chronic condition, mental health concern, or physical requirement that you anticipate may impact your participation in this class, you are encouraged to discuss your needs with the instructor and the Dean within the first week of classes.

❖ Expectations and Assignments

1. **Regular attendance and informed participation** in class is an important part of the learning experience. Because discussion is a key part of the class, nurturing an engagement with course materials, your questions and comments are valued and will be a factor in the overall grade. To this end, you are expected to have done the readings and be prepared to contribute. Careful and critical reading is fundamental to informed participation. **More than three absences may result in a loss of course credit.**

Synchronous students are required to be visible (i.e., in person) at all times during the class; failure to be visible will result in the need to write a précis of the lecture for the parts where not visible.

Students who miss a class are required to write a 2-3 single-spaced précis of the lecture due by the start of the following class. Students late for and needing to leave a class early are required to write a précis of the part of the class missed.

2. **Regular attendance and informed participation** in class is an important part of the learning experience. Because discussion is a key part of the class, nurturing an engagement with course materials, your questions and comments are valued and will be a factor in the overall grade. To this end, it is expected that you will have done the readings and be prepared to contribute. Careful and critical reading is fundamental to informed participation. More than three absences may result in loss of course credit.
3. **Class Presentation:** At a class session, student(s) will initiate discussion by referring to salient points in the week's reading assignments, mainly from the primary sources, raising two or three questions to generate conversation over important issues/themes. The presentation should be approximately 10-15 minutes.

In your presentation, consider the following **guiding questions**. You can use these questions for your reflection papers.

- a. Who is the author and what is the context of the text? What is at stake?
 - b. What is the main issue or problem addressed, what is the argument/thesis and how is it developed?
 - c. What is the 'starting point' and source of authority (consider the Wesleyan Quadrilateral - scripture, tradition, reason and experience)?
 - d. How do you respond, and why?
 - e. Whose voices are missing in the text, and if so, what difference might it make?
4. **Seven (7) reflections:** Students should submit a total of seven reflection papers from week 2 to week 11. The 400-500 word paper on the topic discussed during the class must be submitted by Tuesday at 12 noon PST. This one (1) page paper should be typed in a single space format, Times New Roman, 12pt font and 1-inch margins. Students will read through

and reflect on the reading materials for the class in the syllabus. Not reading this material could seriously impede the student's progress in the course.

5. **One (1) final paper is due on Tuesday, December 17th, 2024.** This paper should focus on a topic or issue germane to the course and investigate, analyze, and appraise its theological implications in the global South and East. The assignment is both integrative and research-oriented; it offers the flexibility to research a topic or issue that interests you, while also requiring you to assess the relevance of your research to some of the materials read/discussed during the course, drawing your own conclusions in the process. The final paper should be typed in double-spaced format, Times New Roman, 12-point font, and with 1-inch margins.

Basic Degree Students (Dip., M.Div., and MA): about 3,000 words (exclusive of footnotes and bibliography) with a research depth of 10-15 entries beyond course texts plus eight (8) reading reflections.

Advanced Degree Students (Th.M.): about 4,000 words (exclusive of footnotes and bibliography) with a research depth of 15-20 entries beyond course texts plus eight (8) reading reflections.

6. **Writing Style:** The school's style guide is The Chicago Manual of Style (17th ed.), available electronically as the Chicago Manual of Style (CMS) through the UBC library as well as in print. The Turabian manual, *A Manual for Writers*, 8th or 9th ed., presents a simplified version of the Chicago style adapted to Master's level students.

❖ Evaluation

The final grade for the course will be based on evaluations in three areas:

1. Informed participation in class discussions and presentation
2. Seven (7) reflection papers
3. Final paper

Grading System: see VST Student Handbook



❖ Course Schedule

Week 1 (September 10): Introduction and Changing Landscapes

- *Emerging Theologies*, 1-33.
- 1.1. * Stephen Bevans, *Models of Contextual Theology*, 3-27.
- 📄 Cho Hyuk, "Never-Ending Mission of God: The Evolution of the Concept of *Missio Dei* in Our Ever-Changing Landscape," *International Review of Mission* 113, no 1 (May 2024).

Recommended Reading

☞ Commission on World Mission and Evangelism (CWME), "Together towards Life: Mission and Evangelism in Changing Landscapes" (Geneva: WCC, 2013).

Devotional: Week 53 of WCC Ecumenical Prayer Circle 2024 (Stateless People)

Week 2 (September 17): Decolonization

- 2.1. * Stuart Hall, "The West and the Rest: Discourse and Power," 142-184.
- 2.2. * Kwok Pui-lan, "Toward a Political Theology of Postcoloniality," 19-38.
- ☞ Cho Hyuk, "Ring the Bells for Peace: Decolonizing Theology in the Midst of Empire," (forthcoming).

Recommended Reading

2.3. Edward Said, *Orientalism* (New York: Vintage Books, 2003/1978), selected.

Devotional: Week 44 of WCC Ecumenical Prayer Circle 2024 (Canada, USA)

Week 3 (September 24): Major Paradigmatic Themes from Emerging Theologies

➤ *Emerging Theologies*, 37-107.

Recommended Reading

☞ [Luma Upolu Vaai, "'We Are Therefore We Live': Pacific Eco-Relational Spirituality and Changing the Climate Change Story," 1-16.](#)

Devotional: Week 39 of WCC Ecumenical Prayer Circle 2024 (Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Peru)

Week 4 (October 1): Korean *Minjung* Theology

- 4.1. * Suh Nam-dong, "Towards a Theology of Han" and "Historical References for Theology of *Minjung*," 55-69 & 155-182.
- 4.2. * Chung Hyun-kyung, *Struggle to be the Sun Again*, 99-114.
- ☞ Cho Hyuk, "A Quest for Intercultural Church: Converging Faith and Culture in *Minjung* Theology," (forthcoming).

Recommended Reading

4.3. Lee Joung Young, ed., *An Emerging Theology in the World Perspective: Commentary on Korean Minjung Theology* (Mystic: Twenty-Third, 1988), selected.

Special Feature: Film, *Chun Tae-il*

Devotional: Week 52 of WCC Ecumenical Prayer Circle 2024 (Japan, North & South Korea)

Week 5 (October 8): Christianity in Asia

- 5.1. * Arvind Nirmal, "Toward a Christian Dalit Theology," in Sugirtharajah, *Frontiers*, 27-40.

- 📖 Lai, Pan-chiu and Jason Lam, eds. *Sino-Christian Theology*, 1-33.
- 📖 Victor R. Aguilan, "Spirituality of Struggle: Resistance, Repentance, Solidarity, and Renewal," *Asia Journal Theology*, 38(1):1-16.

Recommended Reading

- 5.2. K. H. Ting, *No Longer Stranger: Selected Writings of K.H. Ting*, edited with an Introduction by Raymond L. Whitehead (Orbis, 1989), selected.

Devotional: Devotional: Week 19 of WCC Ecumenical Prayer Circle 2024 (India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka)

Week 6 (October 15): Latin American Liberation Theology

- ◆ Gustavo Gutierrez, *A Theology of Liberation*, 1-77.
- Ivone Gebara (Brazil), "Feminist Theology of Liberation," in *Hope Abundant*, 51-71.

Recommended Reading

- 6.1. John Charles Chasteen, *Born in Blood and Fire: A Concise History of Latin America*, 4th ed., Ch. 3.

Special Feature: Film, *Romero*

Devotional: Week 40 of WCC Ecumenical Prayer Circle 2024 (Colombia, Ecuador, Venezuela)

Reading Week (October 21-25)

Week 7 (October 29): Ubuntu Theology

- ◆ Michael Battle, *Reconciliation: The Ubuntu Theology of Desmond Tutu*, 1-82.
- Musimbi Kanyoro (Kenya), "Engendered Communal Theology," in *Hope Abundant*, 19-35.

Recommended Reading

- 7.1. Kevin Shillington, *History of Africa*, 4th ed. Section 9.
- 7.2. Mareike Schomerus, *The Lord's Resistance Army Violence and Peacemaking in Africa*, Ch. 1.

Devotional: Week 23-27 of WCC Ecumenical Prayer Circle 2024 (Eswatini, Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa Botswana, Zimbabwe, Sudan, South Sudan, Uganda)

Week 8 (November 5): Palestinian Liberation Theology

- Naim Stifan Ateek, *A Palestinian Theology of Liberation*, Ch. 2-5, 7-8, 10.
- Zaru (Palestine), "Biblical Teachings and Hard Realities of Life," in *Hope Abundant*, 123-137.

Recommended Reading

- 8.1. Mitri Raheb, *Faith in the Face of Empire: The Bible through Palestinian Eyes* (Maryknoll, N.Y.: Orbis Books, 2014).

Devotional: Week 1 of WCC Ecumenical Prayer Circle 2024 (Middle East)

Week 9 (November 12): Global Pentecostalism I: Historical and Theological Background

- Allen Heaton Anderson, *An Introduction to Pentecostalism*, 2nd ed., Ch. 1, 2, 9-11.

Recommended Reading

- 9.1. Philip Jenkins, *The next Christendom: The Coming of Global Christianity*, Ch. 1.

Devotional: Week 46 of WCC Ecumenical Prayer Circle 2024 (Aotearoa New Zealand, Australia)

Week 10 (November 19): Global Pentecostalism II: Pentecostals in Global South and East

- Allen Heaton Anderson, *An Introduction to Pentecostalism*, 2nd ed., Ch. 4, 6-8.

Recommended Reading

- 10.1. Cho Yonggi, *Salvation, Health and Prosperity* (Altamonte Springs, FL: Creation House, 1987), selected.

Special Feature: Film, *African Christianity Rising* (Ghana)

Devotional: Week 47 of WCC Ecumenical Prayer Circle 2024 (East Timor, Indonesia, Philippines)

Week 11 (November 26): Struggle, Perspective and Hope

- *Emerging Theologies*, 453-510.

Devotional: Week 48 of WCC Ecumenical Prayer Circle 2024 (Myanmar, Thailand)

Final Paper Due: December 17, 2024



❖ Select Bibliography

* Books and articles are used in the course

- * Aguilan, Victor R. "Spirituality of Struggle: Resistance, Repentance, Solidarity, and Renewal." *Asia Journal Theology*, 38(1):1-16.
- * Anderson, Allen Heaton. *An Introduction to Pentecostalism: Global Charismatic Christianity*, 2nd ed. Cambridge, 2013.
- * Ateek, Naim Stifan, *A Palestinian Theology of Liberation: The Bible, Justice, and the Palestine-Israel Conflict*. Orbis, 2017.
- * Battle, Michael. *Reconciliation: The Ubuntu Theology of Desmond Tutu*. Cleveland, Ohio: Pilgrim Press, 1997.
- * Bevans, Stephen B. *An Introduction to Theology in Global Perspective*. Orbis, 2009.
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- * Chasteen, John Charles. *Born in Blood and Fire: A Concise History of Latin America*, 4th ed. (New York: W.W. Norton, 2016).
- * Cho, Hyuk. "Never Ending Mission of God: The Evolution of the Concept of *Missio Dei* in Our Ever-Changing Landscape." *International Review of Mission* (May 2024):
- * Cho, Hyuk. "A Quest for Intercultural Church: Converging Faith and Culture in *Minjung* Theology." (forthcoming)
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- Dowsett, Rose, ed. *Global Mission: Reflections and Case Studies in Local Theology for the Whole Church*. William Carey, 2011.
- Dyrness, William and Veli-Matti Kärkkäinen, eds. *Global Dictionary of Theology*. InterVarsity Press, 2008.
- Fabella, Virginia and R. S. Sugirtharajah, eds. *Dictionary of Third World Theologies*. Orbis, 2000.
- Farhadian, Charles E., ed. *Introducing World Christianity*. John Wiley & Sons/Blackwell, 2012.
- Fernandez, Eleazar S. *Toward Theology of Struggle*. Wipf & Stock, 2009.
- Green, Gene L., Stephen Pardue, K. K. Yeo, eds. *Majority World Theology: Christian Doctrine in Global Context*. InterVarsity Press, 2020.
- Greenman, Jeffrey P. and Gene L. Green, eds. *Global Theology in Evangelical Perspective: Exploring the Contextual Nature of Theology and Mission*. Inter-Varsity Press, 2012.
- * Gutierrez, Gustavo. *A Theology of Liberation: History, Politics and Salvation*, rev. ed. Orbis, 2002.
- Hanciles, Jehu J. *Migration and the Making of Global Christianity*. Eerdmans, 2021.
- Jacobsen, Douglas G. *Global Gospel: An Introduction to Christianity on Five Continents*. Baker, 2015.
- * Jenkins, Philip, *The Next Christendom: The Coming of Global Christianity*, 3rd ed. Oxford, 2011.
- Jenkins, Philip. *The New Faces of Christianity: Believing the Bible in the Global South*, 3rd ed. Oxford, 2011.
- Johnstone, Patrick. *The Future of the Global Church: History, Trends, and Possibilities*. InterVarsity Press, 2011.
- Kärkkäinen, Veli-Matti. *The Spirit in the World: Emerging Pentecostal Theologies in Global Contexts*. Grand Rapids. Mich.: William B. Eerdmans, 2009.
- Keener, Craig and M. Daniel Carroll R., eds. *Global Voices: Reading the Bible in the Majority World*. Hendricksen, 2013.
- Kim, Sebastian and Kirsteen Kim. *Christianity as a World Religion: An Introduction*, 2nd ed. Bloomsbury, 2016.
- Kwok, Pui-lan, Cecilia González-Andrieu, and Dwight N. Hopkins, eds. *Teaching Global Theologies: Power and Praxis*. Baylor University Press, 2015.
- * Kwok, Pui-lan, *Postcolonial Politics and Theology Unraveling Empire for a Global World*. Westminster, 2021.
- * Lai, Pan-chiu, and Jason Lam, eds. *Sino-Christian Theology: A Theological Qua Cultural Movement in Contemporary China*. Peter Lang, 2010.

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- Lewis, Donald M. and Richard V. Pierard, eds. *Global Evangelicalism: Theology, History and Culture in Regional Perspective*. InterVarsity Press, 2014.
- * Macchia, Frank D. 2006. *Baptized in the Spirit: A Global Pentecostal Theology*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Zondervan, 2006.
- Noll, Mark A. *From Every Tribe and Nation: A Historian's Discovery of the Global Christian Story*. Baker, 2014.
- Noll, Mark A. *The New Shape of World Christianity: How American Experience Reflects Global Faiths*. InterVarsity Press, 2009.
- Orobator, Agbonkhanmeghe E. *Theology Brewed in an African Pot*. Orbis, 2008.
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- * Said, Edward. *Orientalism*. New York: Vintage Books, 2003/1978.
- Sanneh, Lamin. *Disciples of All Nations: Pillars of World Christianity*. Oxford, 2008.
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- * Schomerus, Mareike. *The Lord's Resistance Army Violence and Peacemaking in Africa*. Cambridge University, 2021.
- Segundo, Juan Luis. *Liberation of Theology*. Orbis, 1975.
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- * Sugirtharajah, R.S. ed. *Frontiers in Asian Christian Theology: Emerging Trends*. Maryknoll: Orbis, 1994.
- Synan, Vinson. *Global Renewal Christianity: Spirit-Empowered Movements Past, Present, and Future*. Charisma House, 2015.
- Tan, Florence P. L., ed. *Connecting for Christ: Overcoming Challenges Across Cultures*. Singapore: Florence Poh-Lian Tan, 2009.
- Tennent, Timothy C. *Theology in the Context of World Christianity: How the Global Church Is Influencing the Way We Think about and Discuss Theology*. Zondervan, 2007.
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- Vaai, Luma Upolu. "We Are Therefore We Live': Pacific Eco-Relational Spirituality and Changing the Climate Change Story." *Toda Peace Institute Policy Brief 56* (2019): 1-14.

