

IBS: CHRISTIAN WORLD VIEW & ETHICS (2 Units)

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Office hours: I am available by phone anytime before or during the duration of the class and by appointment during September 9th-13th.

DESCRIPTION: Following Jesus in our contemporary context is complex. We face decisions and questions that require thoughtful reflection, Scriptural study, and concrete action in our personal, ecclesial, and public lives. As people involved with Cru, we also care about presenting the good news of the gospel as some of these same questions press in on our culture. Does Christian faith have anything meaningful to offer cultural questions about race, sexuality, politics, environmental concerns, human trafficking, economic justice, etc.?

This is a foundational course in Christian world view and ethics that is designed to help us follow Christ faithfully and develop as Christian ministers. In this course we will study different methods of ethical reasoning, authority of Scripture, moral formation, and moral norms; and we apply these principles to contemporary issues of economic, racial, and ecological justice; as well as sanctity of life, sexual faithfulness, and politics, with a special attention to global and pluralistic contexts of Christian ministry today.

LEARNING OUTCOMES: Students will demonstrate that they (1) understand core Christian moral convictions, vision, values, virtues that are central to the Christian world view; (2) have learned the basic skills of critical moral description, analysis, and ethical reasoning; (3) understand and can assess different ethical views and assumptions besides their own; (4) have gained competence in teaching Christian ethics in their own particular social contexts and in articulating their moral convictions in the public realm in conversations with others; (5) have learned how to identify and apply core Christian vision, values, and virtues to major contemporary ethical issues; (6) have begun to construct a ministerial ethic for their vocational calling to serve with Cru.

COURSE FORMAT: This class meets in person from September 9th, 2019-September 13th, 2019 for four hours per day. This totals 20 hours of classroom lecture and discussion. You are required to do some pre-reading and finish all assigned reading by September 27th (Midnight PST).

REQUIRED READING: Approximately 425 pp. of required reading. The more reading that you can do prior to class, the more beneficial class will be. *You are required to read Bonhoeffer's Black Jesus and write a précis on the book by the start of class on September 9th, 2019 (see précis assignment below). During the dates of September 8th-September 12th you will have nightly short articles assigned and will be required to write a short quiz on the assigned reading the next day at the beginning of each class (see reading schedule and quiz assignment below).* You may read these articles ahead of class if you want to prepare early.

The books that need to be purchased: Williams, Reggie: *Bonhoeffer's Black Jesus*; Hays, Richard: *The Moral Vision of the New Testament*; and Hunter, James: *To Change the World*. The rest of the reading will be provided electronically.

I have negotiated a discount with Baylor University Press for *Bonhoeffer's Black Jesus*. If you purchase it from their website <https://www.baylorpress.com>, input the code: **BTXT** for a 25% discount.

Hays, Richard. *The Moral Vision of the New Testament: Community, Cross, New Creation, A Contemporary Introduction to New Testament Ethics*. Harper Collins, 1996. ISBN: 978-0060637965, Pub. Price \$26.99 [104 pp. assigned]. **Read Introduction, Ch.1, 9, 10, 11, 13, 16, 17.**

Park, Andrew Sung. *Racial Conflict and Healing: An Asian American Theological Perspective*. Wipf and Stock, 2009. ISBN: 978-1608990498, Pub. Price \$25.00 [31 pp. assigned]. Available electronically. **Read Chs. 1,2 found at this link:**
<https://books.google.com/books?id=-FZMAwAAQBAJ&printsec=frontcover&dq=racial+conflict+and+healing.&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwiIrYmMn9zbAhU-HTQIHV9fC4gQ6AEIjzAA-v=onepage&q=racial+conflict+and+healing.&f=false>

Pei, Adrien. *The Minority Experience: Navigating Emotional and Organizational Realities*, Ch. 2. Intervarsity, 2108. ISBN: 978-0830845844, Pub. Price \$15.30 [31 pp. assigned]

Sanders, Ron: "Genesis and Abundant Life." [18 pp. assigned]. Available electronically.

Sprinkle, Preston. "A Biblical Conversation About Transgender Identities." The Center for Faith, Sexuality, and Gender. You can find the article here:
<https://www.centerforfaith.com/resources/pastoral-papers/a-biblical-conversation-about-transgender-identities>
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Stassen, Glen. "The Fourteen Triads of the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5:21-7:12). *Journal of Biblical Literature*. Vol. 122, No. 2 (Summer, 2003), pp. 267-308. Available electronically.

Williams, Reggie. *Bonhoeffer's Black Jesus: Harlem Renaissance Theology and an Ethic of Resistance*. Baylor, 2014. ISBN: 978-1602588059, Pub. Price \$39.95 [140 pp. assigned].

Hunter, James Davidson. *To Change the World: The Irony, Tragedy, and Possibility of Christianity in the Late Modern World*. Oxford University Press, 2010. ISBN: 978-0199730803, Pub. Price \$27.95 [196 pp. assigned]. **Read the Introduction, Essay I, & Essay II.**

RECOMMENDED READING: Recommended reading will be given during the course of the lectures.

ASSIGNMENTS AND ASSESSMENT:

1. Class attendance and participation (10%). [This assignment is related to learning outcomes #1, #2].
2. Journal reflections each day based on reading schedule and lecture (10%). [This assignment is related to learning outcomes #1, #2, #3].
3. Précis on *Bonhoeffer's Black Jesus* (30%). [This assignment is related to learning outcome #5].
4. Final project or paper. The final project/paper is the signature assignment for CWVE. (50%). [This assignment is related to learning outcome #4, #5, #6].

PREREQUISITES: None.

RELATIONSHIP TO CURRICULUM:

FINAL EXAMINATION: None.

READING AND ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE

June-September 7th:

Due the compressed nature of this course, it is important that you finish the majority of the reading before you arrive. You won't have the margin to complete the reading during the week.

Required Reading Before Class

Williams, *Bonhoeffer's Black Jesus*

A rough draft of your precis assignment: *Bonhoeffer's Black Jesus* is due on Monday, September 9th, 2019 (first day of class). Don't worry about getting everything right for your rough draft, it will be a project over the course of our week together in class.

Suggested Reading Before Class

Hays, pgs. 1-15; 187-205; 207-214; 291-312;

Hunter, pgs. 3-98

Required Reading During the Week of Class

September 8th: Sanders, "Genesis and the Gospel of Life;" Stassen, "Fourteen Triads of the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5:21-7:12)"

September 9th: Hays, (Ch. 18; pgs. 444-461)

**Journal Reflection on Sanders and Stassen at the beginning of class

September 10th: Park, (Chs. 1,2; pgs. 9-40), Pei, (Ch. 2 pgs. 31-68).

**Journal Reflection on Hays at the beginning of class

September 11th: Hays, Ch. 16 (pgs. 379-406), Sprinkle (article)

**Journal Reflection on Park and Pei at the beginning of class

September 12th: Hunter, (pgs. 99-110; 167-193)

**Journal Reflection on Hays & Sprinkle at the beginning of class

September 13th: Last Day of Class

**Journal Reflection on Hunter at the beginning of class

September 16th: **Precis Assignment (Final Draft due by Midnight on Monday, September 16th)**

September 17th-September 27th: Finish final project—**Final Project due by midnight (PST) on Friday, September 27th, 2019.**

In-class quizzes journal reflections are due each designated class period. You will be asked one question: "How much of the assigned reading have you completed on

This ECD is a reliable guide to the course design but is subject to modification.

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time?" You enter a percentage of the assigned reading that you completed on time. Then you will be required to write a short 10-minute reflection on your reading and/or the previous day's lectures (like a journal; not a summary of the argument of the reading). Your quiz grade will be based on the percentage of reading you completed on time.

Précis Assignment: A précis is a concise summary of the author's argument. The student is to write a three-page summary of the *Bonhoeffer's Black Jesus*. The précis is to be double-spaced with one-inch margins (the title page is not included in the total number of pages). Use 12-point Times New Roman or 12-point Cambria as your font. You can footnote quotations in the body of the text. (E.g., A Quotation from the book can be referenced in the body of the text like this (BBJ, 212). A paper over 3 pages will not be accepted. You will be graded on your ability to capture the essence of the author's argument in the limited space and your writing quality. A rough draft of your précis is due at the beginning of class on September 9th. The final draft is due by midnight on September 16th. The précis should be submitted via email to rs48@stanford.edu

Final Project: The final project is to design an outreach, discipleship curriculum, mission project, or cross-cultural learning experience (or any other idea that fits within the general parameters of the assignment) that can be applied in your current ministry context. Some examples of projects: (1) You can write a curriculum for cross-cultural training in your ministry context; (2) You can write a weekly-meeting talk or retreat seminar on sexuality; (3) You can write an evangelistic talk on the good news in a polarized political climate, et.... The project must demonstrate an interaction with some of the material discussed in this course. You may also substitute a 8-10 pg. research paper in lieu of a project. The requirements for the research paper is to take one of the ideas discussed in class and develop it further. It must reflect graduate level research with footnotes and a bibliography. The final project is due by midnight on September 27th (PST) and should be submitted via email to rs48@stanford.edu.

5. GRADING SCALE

| <i>A</i> | <i>A-</i> | <i>B+</i> | <i>B</i> | <i>B-</i> | <i>C+</i> | <i>C</i> | <i>C-</i> | <i>D</i> | <i>F</i> |
|----------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| 94-100 | 92-93 | 90-91 | 84-89 | 82-83 | 80-81 | 74-79 | 72-73 | 65-71 | 0-65 |

Note:

A grade of C- or better is required to apply this course toward your IBS requirements.