

IBS: CHRISTIAN WORLD VIEW & ETHICS (2 Units)

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Office hours: I am available by phone anytime during the duration of the class and in-person during non-class hours January 22<sup>nd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>.

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**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 January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024 -January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024 for a total of 20 hours of classroom instruction for lecture and discussion.

**REQUIRED READING:** Approximately 425 pp. of required reading.

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.

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=0ahUKewilrYmMn9zbAhU-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.

"Compassionate & Faithful: Navigating LGBT+ Questions in Ministry"  
<https://staffweb.cru.org/leadership-development/handbooks-manuals/compassionate-and-faithful.html>  
(16 pp. assigned)

[Oneness in Ethnic and Cultural Diversity: Our Position](https://staffweb.cru.org/onestness-in-diversity/position.html#)  
<https://staffweb.cru.org/onestness-in-diversity/position.html#> (10pp. assigned).

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 (15%). [This assignment is related to learning outcomes #1, #2, #3].
3. Précis on *Bonhoeffer's Black Jesus* (25%). [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

January 1<sup>st</sup> - January 21<sup>st</sup>:

Due to 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.

**Precis Assignment on *Bonhoeffer's Black Jesus* due on January 22<sup>nd</sup> (first day of class). This is a rough draft that will be worked on throughout the week of the class.**

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

Williams, *Bonhoeffer's Black Jesus*

Hunter, pgs. 3-98

**Assignment: Come to class on January 22<sup>nd</sup> with a draft of your précis. We will then work on it throughout the week. Don't worry about getting everything right for your draft, it will be a project over the course of our week together in class.**

January 22<sup>nd</sup>: Stassen, "The Sermon on the Mount." Sanders, "Genesis and the Gospel of Life." (both available online in Canvas)

January 23<sup>rd</sup>: Park, (Chs. 1,2; pgs. 9-40), Pei, (Ch. 2 pgs. 31-68),

\*\*Journal Reflection at the beginning of class

January 24<sup>th</sup>: "Oneness & Diversity"

\*\*Journal Reflection at the beginning of class

January 25<sup>th</sup>: Hays, Ch. 16 (pgs. 379-406), "Compassionate & Faithful"

\*\*Journal Reflection at the beginning of class

January 26<sup>th</sup>: Hunter, (pgs. 99-110; 167-193)

\*\*Journal Reflection at the beginning of class

January 31<sup>st</sup>: Precis Assignment (Final Draft due by Midnight on January 31<sup>st</sup>)

February 1<sup>st</sup> – February 9<sup>th</sup>: Finish final project—due by midnight on February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

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 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 January 22<sup>nd</sup>. The final draft is due by midnight on January 31<sup>st</sup>. The précis should be submitted on Canvas.

**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 February 9<sup>th</sup> (PST) and should be submitted oon Canvas.

## 5. GRADING SCALE

A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D	F
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.