



# CH102 History of Christianity II: Six-Continent Christianities (AD 1500 - 2001)

Dr Lai Pak Wah | 3CR

## About the Course

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History of Christianity II is intended as the second of a two course survey (3 credits each) of the history of Christianity over the last 2,000 years.

In CH102, students will be introduced to the important theological, historical and spiritual

movements from 1500-2001. Our journey begins in Europe with the advent of the Protestant Reformation, which will permanently change the face of religion in the Continent and, subsequently, the whole world. This is followed by an analysis of the developments that follow this Reformation - the rise of American and English Protestantism and spirituality, the growth of the evangelical movement, especially in America, and the Catholic Counter Reformation. Attention will also be given to the Enlightenment period, which will significantly influence and also challenge the claims of the Christian faith. Following these, we will turn our attention to the development of Christianity worldwide, with a focus on Christianity in China, in particular, and Asia in general.

### Credits

3CR

### Fees\*

S\$450(Credit)

S\$240 (Audit)

### Class Format

Online

\* Alumni are entitled to 10% discount on audit course(s)

## About the Lecturer

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**Dr Lai Pak Wah** is Lecturer of Church History and Historical Theology at BGST. A graduate from BGST (Grad Dip CS) and Regent College, Vancouver (MCS, ThM), Pak Wah completed his PhD at Durham University, where he specialised in Christianity in Late Antiquity, that is, the history, theology and spirituality of the 2nd - 5th century church fathers (also known as Patristic Studies). Apart from his research on John Chrysostom, Pak Wah is also interested in the interface between history, culture and science. His book on Christian Perspectives of Chinese Medicine is forthcoming. Previously, Pak Wah was a full-time lecturer at the School of Business, Singapore Polytechnic, and engaged in investment promotion work with the Singapore Economic Development Board.



## Course Objectives

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Upon completion of the course, it is hoped that the student will:

- Be familiarised with the historical developments of the Protestant, Catholic, Orthodox and other

Christian traditions from 16th to 20th centuries.

- Gain the ability to read and interact with primary sources from this period. This includes historical, theological and spirituality texts.
- Be able to reflect on the historical, theological and spiritual insights gleaned from these diverse periods, and draw insights for their contemporary contexts.

## Course Outline & Resources

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### VIDEO LECTURES & ACTIVITIES

For each topic, the relevant video lectures can be accessed through the video links provided on the course Moodle site. At the end of each set of video lectures, the necessary lecture activities (lecture MCQ questions and reading reports) should be completed before proceeding to the next topic.

### REQUIRED READING

All required readings are from Gonzalez, Justo L. *The Story of Christianity*. Vol. 1. NY: HarperOne, 2010, and Vol. 2. S.F.: Prince Press, 1994, 1999. Please see the Course Bibliography below for more details. Articles can be downloaded in PDF form from the course Moodle site.

S/N	Lecture Topic	Activities	Required Reading
1	The European Reformations I - Continental Europe	Reading Report 1 (Richard Baxter's <i>The Reformed Pastor</i> )	Gonzalez, Vol. 2, p. 6-69
2	The European Reformations II - Anglican and Scottish Reformations	Reading Report 2 (Matteo Ricci's <i>The True Meaning of the Lord of Heaven</i> )	Gonzalez, Vol. 2, p. 70-109, 132-163
3	The European Reformations III - Catholic Renewal / Counter Reformation	Lecture MCQ Questions 1	Gonzalez, Vol. 1, p. 379-412
4	The Enlightenment and the Disenchantment of Christianity I	Reading Report 3 (Outram's <i>The Rise of Modern Paganism?</i> )	Gonzalez, Vol. 2, p. 110-127
5	The Enlightenment and the Disenchantment of Christianity II	Lecture MCQ Questions 2	Gonzalez, Vol. 2, p. 164-195, 282-293
6	The Rise of Evangelicalism	-	Gonzalez, Vol. 2, p. 196-233
7	Evangelicalism in the 19 <sup>th</sup> Century	Lecture MCQ Questions 3	Gonzalez, Vol. 2, p. 238-281

8	20 <sup>th</sup> Century Christianity in the West I	-	Gonzalez, Vol. 2, p. 294-325
9	20 <sup>th</sup> Century Christianity in the West II	Reading Report 4 ( <i>Documents of Vatican II</i> )	Gonzalez, Vol. 2, p. 330-359
10	American Evangelicalism	Lecture MCQ Questions 4	Gonzalez, Vol. 2, p. 360-397
11	Christianity in Modern China	Reading Report 5 ( <i>Allison's Christ's Return and the Millennium</i> )	-
12	Christianities Worldwide - Eastern Orthodoxy, Asia and Africa	Lecture MCQ Questions 5	-

## Course Requirements

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- Video lecture MCQ questions:** Complete all 5 video lecture MCQ questions.
- Reading reports:** Complete all 5 reading reports. Each report should (a) summarise the gist of a prescribed primary source reading material and (b) provide a short reflection on the contents. Each report should be between 150 - 200 words.
- Book review:** Read Teresa of Avila's *Interior Castle* and write a review paper of 1,200-1,500 words to summarise the key themes of the book and to reflect on the contemporary applications of *Interior Castle's* spiritual insights. With regard to the structure of the paper, it should consist of (a) a short introduction of the title and thesis of the book (5%), (b) a short summary of the book (40%); (c) an evaluation of the strengths / weaknesses and your likes / dislikes of the book (35%); (d) a reflection of the book's contemporary application.
- Essay:** Write an essay on a topic of your choice (2,500-3,000 words). You should take as a basis and point of departure the interpretations proposed in Gonzalez's *The Story of Christianity*. For example, an essay on the spirituality of the English Puritans should take into account the views of Gonzalez, before introducing those of other scholars and yourself. The aim of this essay is to learn how to engage with differing historical interpretations and arrive at your preferred position.

Suggested topics:

- Protestant Reformation.* Specific teachings or spiritual ideals of the Reformers: Martin Luther, John Calvin, Zwingli and so on.
- English and American Evangelicalism:* Theologies or spiritualities of the American or English Puritans (e.g., John Owen, Richard Baxter or Jonathan Edwards). Or the history and teachings of the

Evangelical Awakenings (e.g. those of George Whitefield, John Wesley, etc.). Social Reform movements such as those championed by George Mueller, William Wilberforce and so on.

c) *Catholic Renewal*: Teachings, spirituality or history from AD 1500-2000, such as the Inquisition, spirituality of Teresa of Avila or St John of the Cross, Catholic Missions to China (Matteo Ricci), the significance or impact of Vatican I, the theologies and impact of Vatican II, Spirituality of contemporary Catholics like Mother Teresa, Henri Nouwen or Thomas Merton, the teachings of Pope Benedict XVI and so on.

d) *Christianity and the Enlightenment*: Evaluations of the theology of prominent Enlightenment thinkers and their contemporary theologians, such as Francis Bacon, Rene Descartes, Isaac Newton, William Paley and so on. Evaluate the influence of Enlightenment thinking on Christian exegesis and theology. The rise of Romanticism in Christian Faith, such as teachings of Schleiermacher. The teachings of the so-called 'Neo-Orthodox' theologians (Bonhoeffer, Karl Barth, Emil Brunner, Rudolf Bultmann).

e) *Christianity in Asian and China*: Specific historical developments in these regions, the work of key missionaries and teachers, such as John Sung, Wang Ming Dao, Watchman Nee, Hudson Taylor, Matteo Ricci, the ideology of the Tai Ping Revolution and so on.

## ASSIGNMENTS BREAKDOWN

S/N	Assignments	Grade Percentage
1	Video Lecture MCQ Questions	15%
2	Reading Reports	20%
5	Book Review	25%
6	Essay	40%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

## GUIDELINES FOR ESSAY-WRITING

1. The paper must reflect graduate-level research skills. There must be a minimum of five sources in your bibliography (not including the Bible).
2. The paper must reflect academic integrity in that due credit must be given to every source quoted or used. Footnotes should be used to document the sources. Every source cited should also appear in the bibliography. Please abide by the Turabian or Chicago Style for all your footnoting and bibliography.
3. The paper must reflect a good command of English and organisation of thought. Writing must be concise and clear. Please proof-read your paper before submitting it.
4. The paper must reflect the customary hallmarks of academic writing: treat those who hold different opinions from you with respect, and avoid colloquialisms and slang.

## COURSE ASSIGNMENT POLICIES

1. For **style and formatting** of assignments, please refer to the section on “General Formatting for all Assignments” available on the BGST Online Student Manual.
2. ALL assignments are to be submitted by uploading via Moodle. Alternatively, assignments can be sent via email to [assignments@bgst.edu.sg](mailto:assignments@bgst.edu.sg) without the need to cc. the lecturer (**unless requested by the lecturer**).
3. Students must submit all their assignments **6 months** after the course registration date.

Students are advised that BGST **strongly discourages plagiarism**. For more information on this point (what plagiarism is, how BGST penalises it), please consult the BGST ‘Guidelines for Academic Papers’.

## Course Bibliography

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### REQUIRED READINGS

#### Core Texts

- \*Gonzalez, Justo L. *The Story of Christianity: On Volume Edition (Volume II)*. S.F.: Prince Press, 1994, 1999.
- \*Teresa of Avila and *Dennis Billy C.S. Interior Castle: The Classic Text With a Spiritual Commentary*. Classics with Commentary. Texas: Christian Classics: 2007.

### RECOMMENDED READINGS

Grass, Tim. *Modern Church History* (London: SCM Press, 2008). (Required Text)

Hsia, R. Po-Chia. *The World of Catholic Renewal: 1540-1770 New Approaches to European History*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1998. MacCulloch,

Diarmaid. *The Reformation*. London: Penguin, 2005.

MacCulloch, Diarmaid. *A History of Christianity: the First Three Thousand Years* (London: Allen Lane, 2009) (pp. 404-709).

Moffett, S. H. *A History of Christianity in Asia Volume 2: 1500-1900*. Maryknoll: Orbis Books, 2007.

Noll, Mark A. *The Old Religion in a New World : The History of North American Christianity*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2002.

Noll, Mark A. *The Rise of Evangelicalism : The Age of Edwards, Whitefield and the Wesleys* History of Evangelicalism. Leicester: Apollos, 2004.

#### General Texts

## **General**

Bradley, James E., and Richard A. Mueller. *Church History: An Introduction to Research, Reference Works, and Methods*. Michigan: Eerdmans, 1995.

Rupp, E. Gordon and Philip S. Watson. *The Library of Christian Classics*. Vols. 14-26 (Protestant writings-Primary Sources)

*Classics of Faith and Devotion Series* (for works of Jonathan Edwards, John Owens, William Wilberforce and Blaise Pascal). Edited by James M. Houston.

*Makers of the Modern Theological Mind Series*. Edited by Bob E. Patterson.

Pelikan, Jaroslav. *The Christian Tradition: A History of the Development of Doctrine*. 5 Vols. Chicago & London: University of Chicago Press, 1984. (For theology from Church Fathers to 20th Century)

## **Reformation and Protestantism**

Calvin, John. *Institutes of the Christian Religion*. Edited by John T. McNeill. Translated by Ford Lewis Battles. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 1960.

*Calvin's Selected Works*. 7 Vols. Edited and Translated by Henry Beveridge. Grand Rapids, Michigan: 1983.

Edwards, Jonathan. *The Works of Jonathan Edwards*. 2 Vols. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 2005.

Estep, William Roscoe. *The Anabaptist Story: An Introduction to Sixteenth-Century Anabaptism*. 3rd ed. Grand Rapids, Mich.: William B. Eerdmans Pub., 1996.

Luther, Martin. *Selections from His Writings*. Edited by John Dillenberger. NY: Anchor Books, 1962.

*Works of Martin Luther*. 6 Vols. (Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker Book House, 1982).

Marsden, George M. *Jonathan Edwards : A Life*. New Haven, Conn. ; London: Yale University Press, 2003.

Reeves, Michael. *The Unquenchable Flame: Introducing the Reformation*. Nottingham: IVP, 2009.

## **Evangelicalism**

Finney, Charles G. *The Memoirs of Charles G. Finney: The Complete Restored Text*. Edited by G.M. Rosell and Richard A.G. Dupuis. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan, 1989.

Hankins, Barry. *American Evangelicals: A Contemporary History of a Mainstream Religious Movement* Critical Issues in History. Lanham, Maryland: Rowman & Littlefield, 2008.

Hindmarsh, Bruce. *John Newton and the English Evangelical Tradition*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Eerdmans, 1996.

Marsden, George M. *Understanding Fundamentalism and Evangelicalism*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Eerdmans, 1991.

### ***Catholic Spirituality and Theology***

De Lubac, Henri. *Medieval Exegesis: The Four Senses of Scripture*. 3 Vols. Translated by E.M. Macierowski. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Eerdmans, 1961, 2009. Francis.

*Introduction to the Devout Life*. London: Burns & Oates, 1961.

St. John of the Cross. *The Complete Works of St. John of the Cross*. Translated by Kieran Kavanaugh and Otilio Rodriguez. Washington, D.C: ICS Publications, 1991.

Teresa of Avila. *The Life of Teresa of Jesus: The Autobiography of Teresa of Avila*. Translated and Edited by E. Allison Peers. New York: Image Books, 1991.

*The Collected Works of St. Teresa of Avila*. 2 Vols. Translated by Kieran Kavanaugh and Otilio Rodriguez. Washington, D.C: ICS Publications, 1980. Rahner, Karl.

*Theological Investigations*. 8 Vols. Baltimore, Maryland: Helicon, 1965.

### ***Others: Enlightenment, Neo-Orthodoxy, Asian Christianities***

Barth, Karl, Geoffrey William Bromiley, and Thomas F. Torrance. *Church Dogmatics*. 8 vols. New study ed. London: T & T Clark, 2009.

Moffett, Samuel Hugh. *A History of Christianity in Asia*. 2 Vols. San Francisco: Orbis Books, 1992.

Rowland, Christopher. *The Cambridge Companion to Liberation Theology*. Cambridge: