

Conrad Grebel University College  
University of Waterloo  
TS 732: Theologies from the Global South  
Spring 2024

**Class Time:** May 9-10; 13-17, 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

**Location:** CGR 2201 (May 9-10;13-15) CGR 1301 (May 16-17)

**Instructor:** Dr. Rev. Hyung Jin (Pablo) Kim Sun (he/him)

**Email:** hjkimsun@uwaterloo.ca

### Course Description:

Introduction to the richly diverse theologies emerging in the Global South (Asia, Latin America, and Africa) and among the racialized and marginalized in the Global North. Exposure to some of the multiple theological discourses and methodologies that started to emerge around the second half of the twentieth century up to today, and which articulate the theological concerns of the various ethnocultural communities from the majority world. Special attention is given to central historical events, key figures, and important themes. The focus of this course is to gain insight into the main ideas, specific methodologies, and key authors involved in the development and proliferation of these diverse currents, and their relevance for the task of theology

### Learning Goals:

#### In respect to the understanding of the content of one or more theological disciplines

1. Recall, name, describe, analyze and evaluate key theological thinkers and features while discussing aspects of the relationship between the sociopolitical context, theological task and the pastoral dimension, with special attention to the conditioning role of culture in the theological task.

#### In respect to personal and spiritual formation

2. Develop and employ intercultural competency in personal practices and spirituality in the engagement of theological ideas from other cultural backgrounds

#### In respect to ministerial and public leadership

3. Practice and apply intercultural skills and sensibilities in the reading, learning from and critically interacting with and reflecting upon the theologies from the Global South in oral and written forms.

## Religious Faith and Heritage

4. Identify and respect the diversity of theological viewpoints and practices within the richly diverse Christian tradition, with particular attention to context and cultural dimension.

## Culture and Context

5. Identify and employ diverse methods of contextual analysis in theological reflection, including liberative, gender and cultural perspectives.
6. Give evidence of critical self-awareness with regard to their own cultural tradition and social location and that of others in relation to faith perspectives and practices.

## Spiritual / Vocational Formation

7. Display capacity for self-reflexive and spiritual practices within the richly ethnoculturally diverse communities of faith.

## Ministerial and Public Leadership

8. Show ability to integrate theory and practice in conversation with multiple cultural contexts and theological traditions.

## Required Reading Materials:

### Texts:

Ateek, Naim Stifan. *A Palestinian theology of Liberation: The Bible, Justice, and the Palestine-Israel Conflict*. Maryknoll: Orbis Books, 2017.

Kärkkäinen, Veli-Matti. *Spirit in the World: Emerging Pentecostal Theologies in Global Contexts*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2009.

Pears, Angie. *Doing Contextual Theology*. New York: Routledge, 2010.

### Articles:

Althaus-Reid, Marcella. *Indecent Theology: Theological Perversion in Sex, Gender and Politics*. New York: Routledge, 2000. Chapters 3-4

Caro, Olga Consuelo Vélez. "Toward a Feminist Intercultural Theology," in *Feminist Intercultural Theology: Latina Explorations for a Just World*, edited by María Pilar Aquino and María José Rosado-Nunes, 248-264. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 2007.

Copeland, Shawn. *Enfleshing Freedom: Body, Race, and Being*. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Minneapolis, MN: Fortress Press, 2023. Introduction to Chapter 2.

Fuk-tsang, Ying. "Mainland China," in *Christianities in Asia*, edited by Peter Phan, 149-170. Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell, 2011.

García-Johnson, Oscar. "The Postcolonial/Decolonial Option in Theology," in *Emerging Theologies from the Global South*, edited by Mitri Raheb and Mark Lamport, 34-44. Eugene, OR: Cascade Books, 2023.

Gebara, Ivone. "A Feminist Theology of Liberation: A Latin American Perspective with a View toward the Future," in *Hope Abundant: Third World and Indigenous Women's Theology*, edited by Kwok Pui-lan, 40-52. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis, 2010.

Hinga, Teresia. *African, Christian, Feminist: The Enduring Search for What Matters*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 2017. Chapters 10-11.

Hyung Jin Kim Sun. "Intercultural Global Theology." *Vision: A Journal for Church and Theology*, 19, no. 2 (Fall 2018): 81-89.

Kairos Palestine Document: <https://www.kairospalestine.ps/index.php/about-kairos/kairos-palestine-document>

Kanyoro, Musimbi. "Engendered Communal Theology: African Women's Contribution to Theology in the Twenty-first Century," in *Hope Abundant: Third World and Indigenous Women's Theology*, edited by Kwok Pui-lan, 19-29. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis, 2010.

Kim, Andrew Eungi. "South Korea," in *Christianities in Asia*, edited by Peter Phan, 217-230. Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell, 2011.

Koepping, Elizabeth. "India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Burma/Myanmar," in *Christianities in Asia*, edited by Peter Phan, 9-42. Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell, 2011.

Maluleke, Tinyiko Sam. "African Theology." In *The Modern Theologians: An Introduction to Christian Theology Since 1918*, edited by Rachel Muers and David Ford, 485-501. 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishing, 2005.

Melanchthon, Monica Jyotsna. "Dalit Women and the Bible: Hermeneutical and Methodological Reflections," in *Hope Abundant: Third World and Indigenous Women's Theology*, edited by Kwok Pui-lan, 72-84. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis, 2010.

Oduyoye, Mercy Amba. *Beads and Strands: Reflections of an African Woman on Christianity in Africa*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 2004. Chapters 1-4.

Phan, Peter. "Method in Liberation Theologies." *Theological Studies* 61 (2000): 40-63.

Schaab, Gloria. "Feminist Theological Methodology: Toward a Kaleidoscopic Model." *Theological Studies* 62 (2001): 341-365.

Segovia, Fernando. "Theologizing from the Global South: A Critical Reflection," in *Emerging*

*Theologies from the Global South*, edited by Mitri Raheb and Mark Lamport, 23-34. Eugene, OR: Cascade Books, 2023.

Smith, Andrea. "Decolonizing Theology." *Union Seminary Quarterly Review*, 59 no.1-2 (2005): 63-78.

Raheb, Viola. "Middle Eastern Theologies," in *Emerging Theologies from the Global South*, edited by Mitri Raheb and Mark Lamport, 259-270. Eugene, OR: Cascade Books, 2023.

Yanling, Meng. "Women, Faith, Marriage: A Feminist Look at the Challenges for Women," in *Hope Abundant: Third World and Indigenous Women's Theology*, edited by Kwok Pui-lan, 157-164. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis, 2010.

## Evaluations:

Assignment	Weighting	Due Date
Preparation, Participation and Reading	10%	
In-Class Presentation	20%	
A Critical Book Review	30%	
Final Paper	40%	

The final grade for the course will be based on evaluations in the following areas.

### Preparation, Participation and Reading 10%

All students are expected to actively participate in class discussions about the issues and themes that emerge from the required readings and lectures. While the instructor retains the final authority to assign grades, students will be asked to self-assess by assigning themselves a grade and writing a paragraph explaining why they believe they deserve that grade.

### In-Class Presentation 20%

This is a seminar style course and students are required to present / introduce the class to the readings of the day. Each class, one student will take 10-15 minutes to initiate discussion both by broadly discussing the main themes that emerge from the required reading and providing a couple of leading questions to facilitate group discussion. Please feel free to go outside of the required reading for this assignment but make sure you remain within the boundaries of the issues discussed. Students will submit and make available to their peers a 2-page report and outline of the reading and their presentation.

### Book Review 30 % - Due July 12<sup>th</sup>

Each student is required to write a 5-page book review (double-spaced, 12 pt. font, Times New Roman). The review should critically engage with the author's central concerns, highlight the main argument presented by the author(s), and discuss specific strengths and weaknesses in their argument, drawing on knowledge gained from the course. The goal of the book review is

not to merely summarize the book's content, but to critically analyze its contributions and implications for the field of theology. Please upload your completed assignment to LEARN. Refer to the list below for potential books to review.

**READING AHEAD:** This is an intensive course, and it is recommended for students to read ahead as much as they can.

### Final Paper 40% - Due July 31<sup>st</sup>

Submit a research paper, ranging from 15 to 18 pages (double-spaced, 12 pt. Times New Roman font), focusing on the contributions of a theologian of your choice. This assignment provides an opportunity to engage deeply with the theologian's work. Please follow the outline below to structure your paper:

- (a) Selection of Theologian: Choose a theologian who is not the subject of your book review. This should be someone whose work you are interested in exploring thoroughly.
- (b) Biographical Context: Start with a concise biographical section that highlights the key contexts influencing the theologian's perspectives.
- (c) Central Themes: Identify and explore 2-3 major themes that are central to the theologian's work.
- (d) Contemporary Relevance: Analyze how these themes relate to contemporary realities and discuss the insights they provide, particularly how they enhance your own theological understanding in relation to your context.
- (e) Optional Proposal Submission: You are encouraged to submit a preliminary proposal by June 21st for feedback before finalizing your paper.

### Course Schedule:

May 9<sup>th</sup> – The Contextual nature of theologies and Global Reconfigurations

Part A: Understanding Contexts and Cultures

Pears, *Doing Contextual Theology*, 7-49

Part B: Local Changes and Global Reconfigurations

Kärkkäinen, *Spirit in the World: Emerging Pentecostal Theologies in Global Contexts*, xiii-xxiv  
Segovia, "Theologizing from the Global South," 19-33

*Special Feature: Viewing and Discussion of the film, [Romero](#) (1:45:00)*

*\*We can either watch this together or at home and discuss on the next day*

## May 10<sup>th</sup> – Latin America: The Hermeneutical Privilege of the Poor in Liberation & Pentecostal Theologies

### Part A: Liberation Theologies

Gebara, "A Feminist Theology of Liberation," 40-52

Phan, "Method in Liberation Theologies," 40-63

Pears, *Doing Contextual Theology*, 50-78

### Part B: Pentecostal Theologies

Kärkkäinen, *Spirit in the World: Emerging Pentecostal Theologies in Global Contexts*, 53-66; 125-146

## May 13<sup>th</sup> – African theologies and hope in the midst of climate change, war, and poverty

### Part A: Understanding African contexts, challenges, and emerging movements

Maluleke, "African Theology," 485-501

Kärkkäinen, *Spirit in the World: Emerging Pentecostal Theologies in Global Contexts*, 135-153

Kanyoro, "Engendered Communal Theology: African Women's Contribution to Theology in the Twenty-first Century, 19-29

### Part B: Hope, Resistance, and Resilience in the midst of climate change, hunger, and poverty

Oduyoye, *Beads and Strands*, 1-34

Hinga, *African, Christian, Feminist*, 84-99

*Special Feature: Teresia Hinga on being Africa, Christian, Feminist, and More*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SZaRj68bzg8>

## May 14<sup>th</sup> – Middle Eastern: Liberation, justice, reconciliation, and peace

### Part A: Palestine

Ateek, *A Palestinian theology of Liberation*, 15-46; 83-122; 139-152

### Part B: Middle Eastern

Raheb, "Middle Eastern Theologies," 183-190

Kairos Document: <https://www.kairospalestine.ps/index.php/about-kairos/kairos-palestine-document>

*Special Feature: Faith in the Face of Empire, Mitri Raheb (30 min)*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CMJ49iivAfg&t=66s>

## May 15<sup>th</sup> – Asia – Inculturation and Religious Plurality

### Part A: India & South Asia

Phan, *Christianities in Asian*, 9-42

Pui-Lan, *Hope Abundant*, 72-84

### Part B: Korea and East Asia

Phan, *Christianities in Asian*, 149-170; 217-230

Pui-Lan, *Hope Abundant*, 157-164

## May 16<sup>th</sup> – Gender and Body theologies

### Part A: Gender matters: Feminist informed theologies

Pears, *Doing Contextual Theology*, 79-108

Althaus-Reid, *Indecent Theology*, 87-124

### Part B: Body matters: Racialization of Theology

Copeland, *Enfleshing Freedom*, xi-40

*Special Feature: African Americans and the Bible:*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Eo9SBst3kFA&t=192s>

## May 17<sup>th</sup> – Postcolonial, Decolonial, and Intercultural Theologies

### Part A: Postcolonial & decolonial

Garcia-Johnson, "The Postcolonial/Decolonial Option in Theology," 37-51

Pears, *Doing Contextual Theology*, 133-165

Smith, "Decolonizing Theology," 63-78

*Special Feature: Guest lecturer, Adrian Jacobs (Senior Leader for Indigenous Justice and Reconciliation)*

### Part B: Connecting the dots: Intercultural Theologies

Caro, "Toward a Feminist Intercultural Theology," 248-264

Kim Sun, "Intercultural global theology," 81-89

## Suggested Books for Review

For your book reviews, you can choose any one of the required books as well as from the list below. You will need prior approval to review any other book not listed here.

Althaus-Reid, Marcella. *Indecent Theology: Theological Perversion in Sex, Gender and Politics*. London; New York: Routledge.

Aquino, María Pilar. *Our Cry for Life: Feminist Theology from Latin America*. Translated by Dina Livingstone. Oregon: Wipf and Stock Publishers, 2000.

Boff, Leonardo. *Jesus Christ Liberator: A Critical Christology for Our Time*. Translated by Patrick Hughes. New York: Orbis Books, 1984.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Cry of the Poor, Cry of the Earth*. New York: Orbis Books, 1997.

Boesak, Allan. *Black and Reformed: Apartheid, Liberation and the Calvinist Tradition*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 1984.

Bujo, Bénédet. *African Theology in Its Social Context: Christian Leadership in Africa*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 1992.

Chung, Hyun Kyung. *Struggle to Be the Sun Again: Introducing Asian Women's Theology*. Maryknoll, New York: Orbis Books, 1990.

Cone, James. *The Cross and the Lynching Tree*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 2011.

Copeland, Shawn. *Enfleshing Freedom: Body, Race, and Being*. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Minneapolis, MN: Fortress Press.

Deloria, Vine. *God is Red*. New York: Grosset & Dunlap, 1973.

Fernández Albán, Ary, *Decolonizing Theology in Revolution: A Critical Retrieval of Sergio Arce's Theological Thought*. New York: Palgrave MacMillan, 2018. Pages 80-117.

Gebara, Ivone. *Out of the Depths: Women's Experience of Evil and Salvation*. Minneapolis, MN: Fortress, 2002.

Gutiérrez, Gustavo. *The Power of the Poor in History*. Translated by Robert R. Barr. Maryknoll, New York: Orbis, 1983.

Hinga, Teresia. *African, Christian, Feminist: The Enduring Search for What Matters*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 2017.

Isasi-Díaz, Ada María. *En la Lucha / In the Struggle: Elaborating A Mujerista Theology*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1993.

Koyama, Kosuke. *Water Buffalo Theology*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 1999.

Lee, Jung Young. *Marginality: The Key to Multicultural Theology*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1995.

Medina, Néstor. *Christianity, Empire, and the Spirit: (Re)Configuring Faith and the Cultural*. Netherlands: Brill, 2018.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Mestizaje: (Re)Mapping "Race, Culture, and Faith in Latina/o Catholicism*. New York: Orbis Books, 2009.

McFague, Sally. *Life Abundant: Rethinking Theology and Economy for a Planet in Peril*. Minneapolis MN: Fortress Press, 2000.

Mitri Raheb, *Faith in the Face of Empire: The Bible Through Palestinian Eyes*. Maryknoll: Orbis, 2014.

Mosala, Itumeleng J. *Biblical Hermeneutics and Biblical Theology in South Africa*. Grand



Rapids, MI: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1989.

Oduyoye, Mercy Amba. *Beads & Strands: Reflections of an African Woman on Christianity in Africa*. Maryknoll, New York: Orbis Books, 2013.

Oduyoye, Mercy Amba, and Musimbi R. A. Kanyoro, eds. *The Will to Rise: Women, Tradition, and the Church in Africa*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 1992.

Orobator, Agbonkhanmeghe E. *Theology Brewed in an African Pot*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 2008.

Petrella, Ivan. *The Future of Liberation Theology: An Argument and Manifesto*. Burlington, Vermont: Ashgate Publishing Company, 2004.

Phan, Peter C. *Christianity with an Asian Face: Asian-American Theology in the Making*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 2003.

Sobrinho, Jon. *Jesus the Liberator: A Historical-Theological Reading of Jesus of Nazareth*. Translated by Paul Burns and McDonough Francis. New York: Orbis Books, 1993.

Song, Choan-seng. *Third-Eye Theology: Theology in Formation in Asian Settings*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 1979.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Theology from the Womb of Asia*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 1993.

Soong-Chan Rah. *The Next Evangelicalism: Releasing the Church from its Western Cultural Captivity*. Intervarsity Press, 2009.

R.S. Sugirtharajah, ed. *Frontiers in Asian Christian Theology: emerging trends*. Maryknoll: Orbis, 1994.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Voices from the Margin: Interpreting the Bible in the Third World*, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. Maryknoll: Orbis, 2006.

Walls, Andrew. *The Cross-Cultural Process in Christian History* (Maryknoll: Orbis Books, 2002).

## UWaterloo Policies

**Academic Integrity:** In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility.

Arts: [Academic Integrity website](#) University of Waterloo: [Academic Integrity Office](#)

## Notes

### Class Attendance

Being present and participating in class discussion and activities is essential for the pedagogical method of this course. Students are expected to come to class having read the required readings for the day, with readiness to discuss them. If you are unable to make the class, please let the instructor know by email if you will be absent. If you miss two classes, even for unavoidable reasons, an alternative assignment may be assigned at the discretion of the instructor to make up for the missed class time.

### Format, Citations, and Plagiarism

Please double-space your work and submit it as a Word Document (not a pdf). All assignments will be submitted through LEARN. Your sources must be fully documented, according to the *Chicago Manual of Style*, 16<sup>th</sup> edition (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2010). The latest edition is available on-line here: [http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/16/ch14/ch14\\_toc.html](http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/16/ch14/ch14_toc.html). Please use the notes and bibliography system rather than the parenthetical author/date system. Using undocumented quotations from published sources, or submitting work that is not your own will have serious ramifications for your academic career.

### Use of Artificial Intelligence

The use of Generative artificial intelligence (GenAI) like Chat GPT, DALL-E, or GitHub CoPilot to produce your work is not permitted in this class. Unauthorized use in this course, such as using GenAI to complete a course assessment is considered a violation of Policy 71 (plagiarism or unauthorized aids or assistance). Work produced with the assistance of AI tools does not represent the author's original work and is therefore in violation of the fundamental values of academic integrity. If the use of GenAI is suspected, you may be asked for proof that the submitted material is your original work. You should keep your rough notes, including research notes, brainstorming, and drafting notes. You may be asked to submit these notes along with earlier drafts of their work, either through saved drafts or saved versions of a document. Through this process, if you have not sufficiently supported your work, academic misconduct allegations may be brought to the Dean.

### Tardy Assignments

Punctual submission of assignments is expected. Late assignments will be accepted only if you have talked to the instructor ahead of time for an extension. A 5% deduction will be levied for every day an assignment is overdue.

### The Land on Which We Meet:

We acknowledge that we are located on the traditional territory of the Attawandaron (also known as Neutral), Anishinaabe, and the Haudenosaunee peoples. The University of Waterloo and Conrad Grebel University are situated on the Haldimand Tract, the land promised to the Six Nations that includes ten kilometers (six miles) on each side of the Grand River. In our words and in our actions we will strive to

live in right relationship with our Indigenous neighbours. Specifically, in this theological course we will keep the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Call to Action #60 in mind: *TRC Call to Action #60: We call upon leaders of the church parties to the Settlement Agreement and all other faiths, in collaboration with Indigenous spiritual leaders, Survivors, schools of theology, seminaries, and other religious training centres, to develop and teach curriculum for all student clergy, and all clergy and staff who work in Aboriginal communities, on the need to respect Indigenous spirituality in its own right, the history and legacy of residential schools and the roles of the church parties in that system, the history and legacy of religious conflict in Aboriginal families and communities, and the responsibility that churches have to mitigate such conflicts and prevent spiritual violence.*

## Other sources of information for students:

**Mental Health Services** aim is to provide holistic programming and services to help you lead a healthy and balanced life. We strive to provide a secure, supportive environment for students of all orientations and backgrounds. Students suffering from problems with anxiety, depression, problems with sleep, attention, obsession or compulsions, relationship difficulties, severe winter blues, etc., may make an appointment by phone or in person. Appointments are usually available within two days of initial contact with one of our medical doctors. All contacts are completely confidential. Phone 519-888-4567 ext. 32655.

**For students with learning differences:** The [AccessAbility Services \(AAS\)](#) office, located in Needles Hall Room 1132, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the ASS office at the beginning of each academic term.

**Counselling Services:** Counselling Services provides free confidential counselling, in both individual and group sessions, with qualified professionals to help registered students, faculty and staff with personal concerns, educational career decisions, and strategies to studies and exams: [www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infocs](http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infocs), ext. 33528, NH Room 2080.

**The Writing Centre:** Writing Centre staff offer one-on-one support in planning assignments and presentations, using and documenting research, organizing and structuring papers, and revising for clarity and coherence. Make an appointment or drop in at the Library for quick questions or feedback. To book a 50-minute appointment and to see drop-in hours, visit [www.uwaterloo.ca/writing-centre](http://www.uwaterloo.ca/writing-centre)