

HISTORY OF CHRISTIANITY

1500-PRESENT





DESCRIPTION

This course surveys key moments and issues in the history of Christianity from 1500 to the present. Beginning with the Protestant Reformation, this course focuses on European “discovery” of the New World, the Christianization of Asia, Africa, and the Americas by Catholic and Protestant missionaries in the long colonial era, and traces the development of Christianity globally through to the present moment.

Topics will include the Reformation, missions, colonialism, empire, conversion, syncretism, modernity, Vatican II, the rise of evangelical Christianity, and new forms of Christianity.

Lectures will take place at the scheduled course time over Zoom. A Zoom link will be available on the Announcements page of iLearn.

REQUIRED TEXTS

All readings will be available on iLearn.



EXPECTATIONS

During this course, we will discuss difficult ideas, many of which will be new to you. Part of this class is working to build understanding across diverse cultures and experiences. When you're confronted with something unfamiliar, I ask that you approach the subject with respect and inquiry.

Lectures will take place at the scheduled course time over Zoom. A Zoom link will be available on the Announcements page of iLearn.

OUTCOMES

Understand the changing landscape of Christianity history beginning with the Reformation.

Investigate the connection between Christianity and colonialism, and recognize its lasting impact.

Recognize the diverse expressions of Christianity as a global faith.

Develop an understanding of Christianity's historic connection to political, economic, and social movements.

LATE WORK

Makeup reflections will be allowed in the event of an emergency. I recognize that we're all handling a lot right now. Help me to help you.

Paper proposal and final paper grades will be reduced by a letter grade for every day late.

INTEGRITY

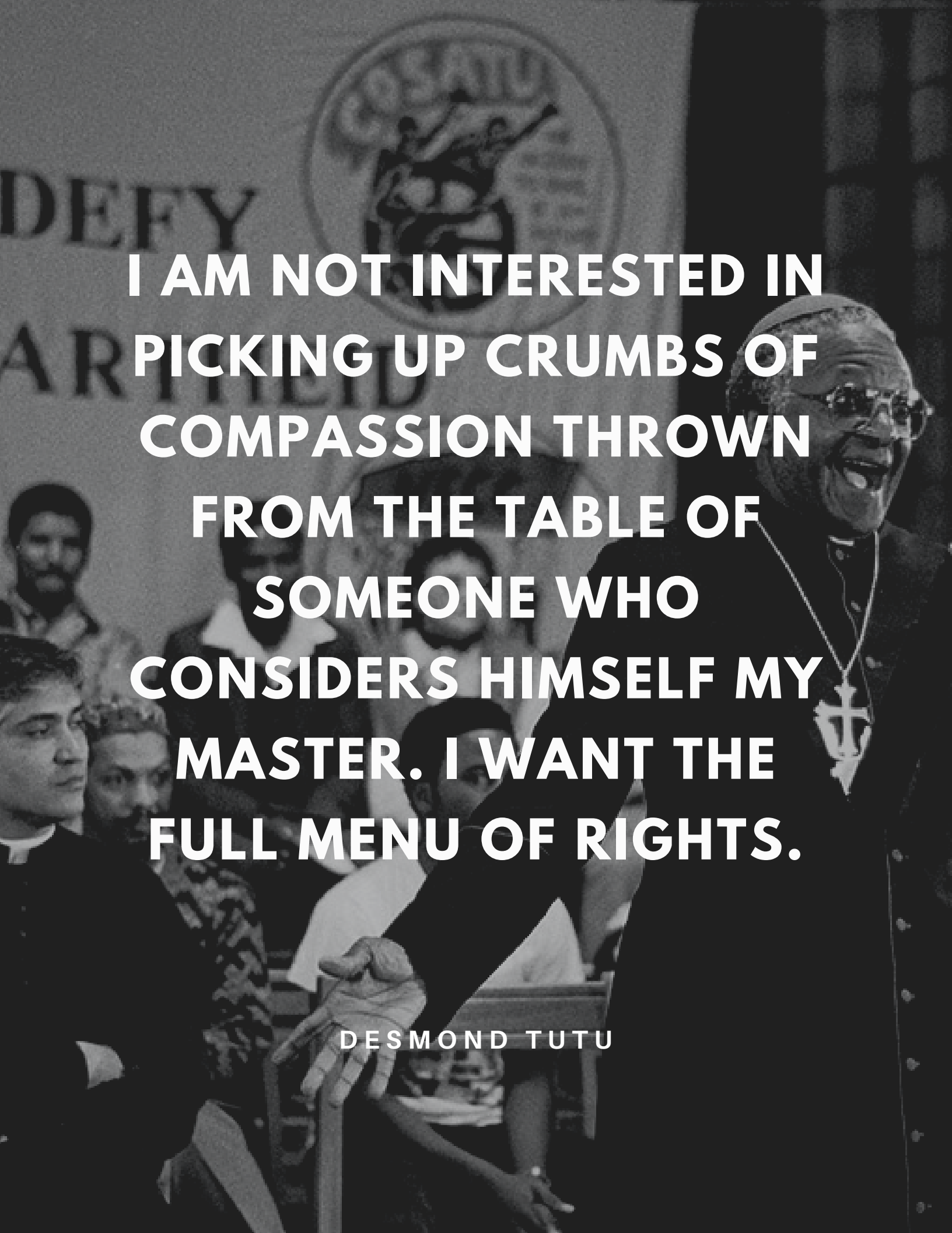
All assignments in this course fall under University of California, Riverside Academic Integrity Policy and Procedures. For more information on these policies, refer to <http://conduct.ucr.edu>. Please, don't cheat. Consequences range from a zero on the assignment to a failing grade in the course. If you have questions about proper citation, please reach out prior to submission.

ACCESSIBILITY

I'm happy to work with you to meet any and all accessibility needs. Please contact Accessibility Services and your Academic Advisor so that we can set whatever provisions you need to succeed in this course.



AMERICAN SKETCHES: A NEGRO CONGREGATION AT WASHINGTON.



**I AM NOT INTERESTED IN
PICKING UP CRUMBS OF
COMPASSION THROWN
FROM THE TABLE OF
SOMEONE WHO
CONSIDERS HIMSELF MY
MASTER. I WANT THE
FULL MENU OF RIGHTS.**

DESMOND TUTU



GRADING RUBRIC

Participation (25%)

Reading Reflections (25%)

Paper Proposal (10%)

Final Research Paper (40%)

A = 94-100 | A- = 90-93

B+ = 87-89 | B = 83-86 | B- = 80-82

C+ = 79-77 | C = 73-76 | C- = 70-72

D+ = 67-69 | D = 73-76 | D- = 60-62

F = 59 and below

ASSIGNMENTS

DISCUSSION SECTION

Attendance and participation in discussion sections is required to pass this course. Show up ready and prepared to discuss the course readings and assignments. Specific requirements for your section will be given by your TA.

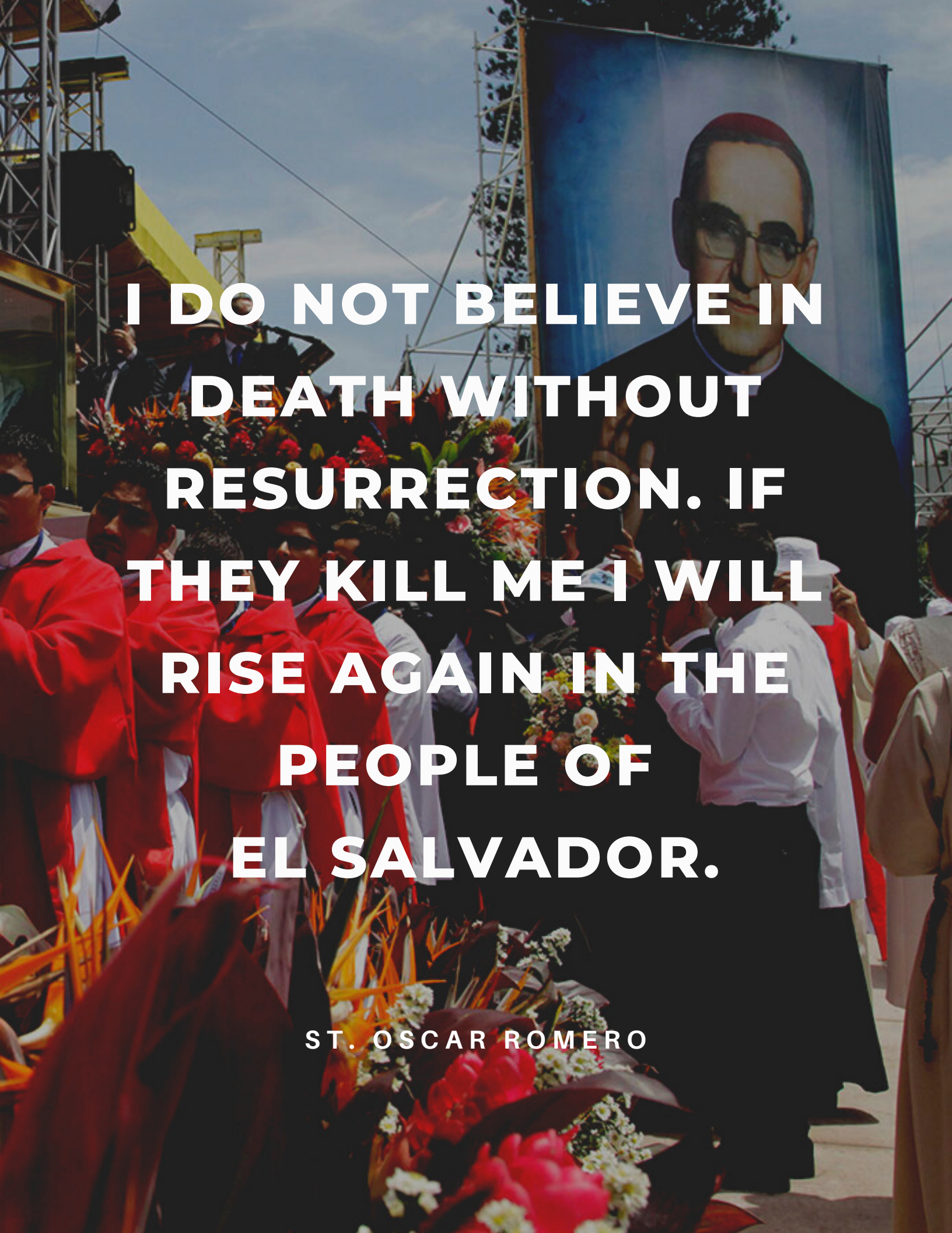
Part of humanities scholarship is learning to actively engage with unfamiliar ideas. Section offers an opportunity to learn how to discuss new and complex ideas in productive and meaningful ways.

READING REFLECTIONS

Each Monday, reading reflection prompts will be posted in the "Assignment" section of the course. Reflections are due by 5pm that Sunday. The reflections will cover the major topics from the week's reading and ask students to reflect on the themes they encountered over the week. These reflections are designed to gauge your engagement with the material, not your memorization skills. Reflections should be at least 100 words per prompt.

If you have never worked with primary sources, you may find some reading assignments challenging. If you need assistance understanding a source, reach out prior to the deadline.



A large crowd of people is gathered for a religious event. In the background, a large blue banner displays a portrait of St. Oscar Romero. The foreground is filled with numerous bouquets of flowers, including red and white blooms. People are dressed in formal attire, with some wearing red and white robes. The scene is set outdoors under a clear sky.

**I DO NOT BELIEVE IN
DEATH WITHOUT
RESURRECTION. IF
THEY KILL ME I WILL
RISE AGAIN IN THE
PEOPLE OF
EL SALVADOR.**

ST. OSCAR ROMERO

ASSIGNMENTS



PAPER PROPOSAL

A paper proposal is designed to help you determine a topic for your final paper and begin compiling the sources needed to complete the assignment.

The paper proposal should include a topic, a working thesis, and an annotated bibliography of at least five academic sources. If you plan to change topics at any point over the course of this class, a new proposal will be required. The proposal is due on May 18 by 5:00pm.

FINAL PAPER

Drawing on the various topics and themes from this course, choose a specific topic from one of the units in this course to write a five-page analysis.

This assignment is designed to allow students to gain an increased understanding of a specific aspect of the course that they find interesting. The paper should include a thesis and use at least five academic sources. The final paper is due the day of the final, June 8 by 5:00pm.

EXTRA CREDIT

For up to 2 percentage points, students have the option to watch *Romero* and write a two-page, double-spaced reflection on film and its relationship to course material. Extra credit assignments are due prior to final's week.

CLASS SCHEDULE

Week 2: Reformation and Counter-Reformation

Reading: Ahlstrom, "The Reformation"

Primary Document: Luther, *95 Theses*

Week 3: Christianity in Europe and Colonialism

Reading: Byrne, "Mission and metamorphosis: Narrating Modern Catholic History" and Moran, "Embodying Hospitality and Paternalism"

Primary Document: Pope Alexander VI, *The Papal bull Inter Caetera*

Week 4: Christianity in Asia

Reading: Cieslik, "The Case of Christovão Ferreira"

Primary Document: Nee, "The Cross of Christ"

Class Screening of *Silence*

Week 5: Christianity in Latin America

Reading: Scheper Hughes, "Objects of Devotion: Intimacy and Material Relations in Mexican Catholicism" and Taylor, "Our Lady in the Kernel of Corn"

Primary Document: Romero, "Fourth Pastoral Letter: The Church's Mission amid the national Crisis"

Week 6 Christianity in Africa

Reading: Isiechi, *The Churches of the Middle Years, c. 1500 to c. 1800* and DeGruchy, "The Church and the Struggle for South Africa"

Primary Document: Tutu, "The Struggle for Social Justice"

Week 7: Theologies of Liberation

Reading: Clark, "Dalit Theology: An Introductory and Interpretive Theological Exposition"

Primary Document: Gutiérrez, "Notes for a Theology of Liberation"

PAPER PROPOSAL DUE ON MAY 13 BY 5PM

Week 8: Christianity in the U.S.

Reading: Hatch, "Storming Heaven by the Back Door" and Glaude, "Of the Black Church and the Making of the Black Public"

Primary Document: Edwards, *Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God*

Week 9: Pentecostalism and Evangelicalism

Reading: Crawley, "Noise" and Eagle, "Historicizing the Megachurch"

Primary Document: Aimee Semple McPherson, "The Foursquare Gospel in the Foursquare Way"

Watch: *Holy Ghost People*

Week 10: Vatican II and New Catholicisms

Reading: Laycock, "Making Sense of the Anomalous and Byrne, "Love and Meta-Catholicism: Founding of the Church of Antioch"

Primary Document: *Sacrosanctum Concilium*, *Unitatis Redintegratio*, and *Nostra Aetate*

Final Papers are due on June 8 by 5pm



Instructor: Dr. Cristina Rosetti

Email: crose005@ucr.edu

Office hours: Fri. 11am-1pm or by
appointment

I am not on campus this quarter. Office
hours will be held over Zoom.

Teaching Assistants:

Andrew Walters: awalt005@ucr.edu