

University of the Incarnate Word
College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences
RELS 3381
Christianity and Global Justice
SYLLABUS

Catalogue Description: This course will explore the basic theological foundations of the Christian faith in relation to contemporary ethical concerns related to inequality, poverty, violence and ecological destruction. In an increasingly globalized world, the Christian tradition has to engage with these questions in a world-wide, cross-cultural manner that engages with other religious traditions.

Course Context: Prerequisites: First-level course in RELS.

This course fulfills the upper-level requirement in RELS for the core.

This course may not be repeated for credit.

This course may be offered in a face-to-face format.

Grade Mode: Normal

Course Description: Global realities of injustice in the 21st century increasingly challenge religious traditions both to respond to and to take responsibility for past actions that have contributed to contemporary injustices. Given that just action is necessarily a criterion of authentic Christian theology and practice, this course explores the basic theological foundations of the Christian faith in relation to contemporary ethical concerns related to such things as inequality, poverty, violence and ecological destruction. The offering of this course at the UIW European Study Center in the Summer of 2020 will specifically focus on environmental theology and its response to climate change, pollution and loss of habitats. This class would be of interest to students engaged in a variety of different fields of study, such as, theology, biblical studies, philosophy, ethics, science, business and politics.

Course Outcomes and Assessment

Course outcomes: Upon completion of the course, the student will be able to:	Assessment: The objectives will be assessed by one or more of these means
1. Describe contemporary issues of global justice related to ecology and the environment	Oral presentation, reflection journals and/or written examinations.
2. Analyze this in light of the Christian theological tradition.	Oral presentation, reflection journals and/or written examinations.
3. Reflect on his or her own position in relation to issues related to ecology and the environment	Oral presentation, reflection journals and/or written examinations.
4. Ascertain the working of conscience in the making of ethical decisions.	Oral presentation, written examinations or quizzes, papers.
5. Appraise strategies for responding to these contemporary challenges related to the environment in light of Christian theology.	Oral presentation, reflection journals and/or written examinations.
7. Apply Catholic Social Teachings and an	Oral presentation, written examinations or

Integral Ecology to the problems we face related to Climate change, pollution and loss of habitats.	quizzes, papers.
8. Articulate the UIW mission, know the requirements of community service and comprehend the importance of community service.	Oral presentation, written examinations or quizzes, papers.