

# SYLLABUS

Religion 200<sup>60</sup>

## Contemporary Issues in Christianity

Chaminade University of Honolulu Spring, 1999 Pearl Harbor Fridays 1645-2045  
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### Catalog Description:

Examines the contemporary social issues which confront the Christian community, the relevant Biblical and theological assumptions that Christianity brings to the debate on these issues, and the methods to bring about social change within the context of the Christian community.

**Text:** *Moral Issues and Christian Response*, Jersild, Johnson, Jung and Jung, eds. Sixth Ed.

### Course Requirements:

Social ethics require that all students contribute to the common project of learning, so everyone must keep up on readings, participate in class discussions by offering their opinions and insight, and maintain the process itself by creating an environment of mutual respect and engagement. Students will be expected to complete assigned reading, participate in class discussions, and complete a 5-10 page position paper on a particular issue. In addition, there will be a comprehensive final exam.

### Grading criteria:

Evaluation will be based on class participation (25%), the position paper (40%), and the final exam (35%). Students who miss more than one session can expect to have their final grade negatively impacted.

**Schedule:** Readings to be assigned in a timely fashion.

April 9 Introduction Registration ends.

April 12: Last Day to add/drop/change.

April 16 Taking a Stand: Social Issues and Theology

April 23 Sexual Ethics

April 30 Prejudice and Oppression: Race

May 7 Prejudice and Oppression: Gender

May 14 The Nation: Immigration and the Environment

May 21 The Nation: War and the Death Penalty

May 28 Economics: Capitalism and Christianity

Position Paper Due

June 4 Reproduction, or not

June 12 Euthanasia, Final exam.

Last day of term June 14