

**Chaminade University of Honolulu
Discipline of Religious Studies**

RE 301-01 Christology
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Course Syllabus

Course Description: Examine the person of Jesus Christ as the Son of God and the Son of Mary through the Sacred Scriptures and the Tradition of the Church.. We will see how the Christian community developed high and low theological approaches to their experiences of Christ. Students will study controversies over the person, meaning, and story of Jesus of Nazareth, who is the Christ.

Course Goals and Objectives:

1. To provide the student with an opportunity for in-depth reflection the nature of Jesus of Nazareth.
2. To learn the historical-critical method as it is applied to the New Testament text.
3. To gain exposure to other methods of Gospel study: form and redaction criticism.
4. To become more acquainted with the four Gospels that give insight into the person of Jesus.
5. To understand the identity and mission of Jesus as articulated by the authors of the Christian Scriptures.
6. To provide reflection in the context of interactive, multi-cultural, and inter-faith dialogue.
7. To gain understanding of biblical literature and theology (Christology, Ecclesiology, Soteriology, and Eschatology) regardless of religious persuasion.
8. To provide the student with learning tools to encourage independent and cooperative learning.

Course Textbooks and Materials:

Jesus before Christianity by Albert Noland in 1992 by Orbis Books

An English translation of the bible with critical apparatus. Recommended: New American Bible.

Handouts on specific topics will be distributed through the course.

Course Requirements:

- 1. Assigned readings and class participation.....25%
- 2. Research/Reflection Paper.....25%
- 3. Mid-term Examination.....25%
- 4. Final Examination.....25%

1. Assigned Readings and Class Participation:

The assigned readings from the textbook have been scheduled into the course. All other supplementary reading material will be distributed appropriately. The student is encouraged to follow the reading guide. Class participation is expected. Short tests will be used to assess comprehension and retention.

2. Research Paper:

To cultivate research and analytical skills in order to gain a deeper understanding over a specific area in this vast study. This paper will be part research and part reflection. The student will write a 5-7 page paper. Topic to be negotiated with the instructor.

- 3. **Mid Term Exam:** This examination is 90 minutes and is scheduled for
- Final Exam:** This exam is 90 minutes and is scheduled for

N.B. Exam questions are a compilation of those presented in the textbook as well as those formulated by the instructor. Exam will consist of a.) Objective questions, b.) Short answers, and c.) Essays for synthesis.

4. Class Procedure and Participation:

To facilitate different learning style - general lecture, seminar, and small group dynamics will be employed at different intervals throughout the course. The student is encouraged to actively participate by completing assigned readings prior to class, ready to enter into discussion during small groups, interacting and presenting questions pertinent to the subject matter during general lectures.

5. A total of 11 short tests will be given during the course of the semester. These will help the student to process information, while allowing the student to keep current. The lowest score of the 11 tests will be dropped. No make-up once the tests are turned back to the other students.
6. Grading Scale: A=90-100; B=80-89; C=70-79; D=60-69; F=below 59%

Course Schedule

<u>Week of:</u>	<u>Topic and Text:</u>
Aug. 28	Course Introduction A look and the Hebrew Scriptures/Christian Scriptures
Sept. 4	A Critical Study of the Bible
11	The Nicene Creed/Apostle's Creed
18	Heresies concerning the nature of Jesus Christ
25	Chap. 1, 2, 3 - New Perspective/John the Baptist/the oppressed
Oct. 2	Chap. 4, 5 - Healing and Forgiveness
9	Chap. 6 - The Kingdom of God
16	Chap. 7,8 - Money and Prestige
23	Chap. 9, 10 - Solidarity and Power
30	Chap. 11, 12 - A New Time/ the Coming of the Kingdom
Nov. 6	Chap. 13, 14, 15 - Politics/Incident in the Temple/Violence
13	Chap. 16, 17 - Suffering and Death/ The Man who Emerges
20	Chap. 18, 19 - On Trial/ Faith in Jesus
27	Christological Terms and Concepts
Dec. 4	Research-reflection Papers