1. **Title of the module**

RSST6380/RSST6390 (TH638/639) Global Christianities

1. **School or partner institution which will be responsible for management of the module**

School of European Culture and Languages

1. **The level of the module (Level 4, Level 5, Level 6 or Level 7)**

Level 5 (TH638); Level 6 (TH639)

1. **The number of credits and the ECTS value which the module represents**

30 Credits (15 ECTS)

1. **Which term(s) the module is to be taught in (or other teaching pattern)**

Autumn or Spring

1. **Prerequisite and co-requisite modules**

None

1. **The programmes of study to which the module contributes**

Optional for BA Religious Studies (Single and Joint Honours)

Also available as a ‘Wild’ module

1. **The intended subject specific learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module both Level 5 and Level 6 students will be able to:**

8.1 Demonstrate critical understanding of what it means to approach Christianity as a field of anthropological study, and awareness of why the development of the anthropology of Christianity has been a recent development within the discipline of anthropology;

8.2 Demonstrate critical appreciation of the principal theoretical debates in anthropological and sociological study of global Christianities, e.g. globalization and localization, processes of conversion (in terms of individuals and larger social groups), relations between Christianity and modernity;

8.3 Demonstrate the ability to analyse the interrelations between different global forms of Christianity;

8.4 Show critical understanding of representative forms of contemporary global Christianities in their historical, political, and economic contexts;

8.5 Demonstrate critical understanding of the principal empirical methodologies used within anthropological and sociological approaches to global Christianities, and the ethical, political and epistemological implications of these methods;

8.6 Demonstrate detailed knowledge of how to approach the study of global Christianities through phenomenological, hermeneutic and genealogical methods.

**In addition, Level 6 students will be able to:**

8.7 Demonstrate appreciation of the nature of uncertainty and limits of knowledge in relation to social scientific approaches to religion;

8.8 Demonstrate a systematic understanding of the main debates in the discipline, including familiarity with the latest research in the anthropology of Christianity;

8.9 Demonstrate the necessary skills in using contemporary research methodologies at the cutting edge of anthropological, sociological and religious studies disciplines;

8.10 Demonstrate the ability to devise and sustain arguments demonstrating critical analysis of core social scientific texts on global Christianities;

1. **The intended generic learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module both Level 5 and Level 6 students will be able to:**

9.1 Demonstrate an enhanced ability to communicate orally and work collaboratively through class presentations;

9.2 Demonstrate developed writing and organizing skills, and demonstrate the ability to create and construct a short film if they choose this method of assessment;

9.3 Demonstrate competence in the use of appropriate IT resources, including word processing and critical evaluation of online material;

9.4 Analyse theories in terms of their relevance to contemporary contexts and debates;

9.5 Demonstrate the ability to analyse key texts critically (both primary and secondary).

**In addition, Level 6 students will be able to:**

9.6 Demonstrate greater independence in applying the methods and techniques they have learned, for example, by developing and carrying out research projects of their own design;

9.7 Reflect critically on their own academic work;

9.8 Present cogent arguments in both oral and written form that are accessible to both specialist and non-specialist audiences make judgments about how to frame appropriate questions to achieve a solution or identify a range of solutions.

9.9 Demonstrate the ability to make sophisticated use of refereed research in leading journals and other original materials.

1. **A synopsis of the curriculum**

This module will examine the theme ‘Global Christianities’ through the lenses of the anthropology of Christianity and the sociology of religion. We will explore the ways in which we can see Christianity as a cultural product, and how Christianity has shaped different cultures and societies globally, as well as how the religion has been shaped by and through encounters in different local settings. We will look at the history of the globalization of Christianity, and consider the historical, political and economic effects of local missionary encounters. The course will examine the processes of conversion to Christianity in different contexts, both at the level of individual and broader social group, and how these have been understood in relation to concepts of ‘modernity’.

The course will draw attention to the relatively recent emergence of the anthropology of Christianity in relation to the broader disciplines of anthropology as a discrete area of study and how this relates to the study of Christianity as a global phenomenon within sociology. We will consider the ways in which these disciplines have constructed and objectified ‘religion’ as an object of study in ways that have historically occluded the social scientific study of Christianity in different global contexts.

The course will address some of the main debates in the anthropology of Christianity, deepening understanding of global Christianities through exploring studies of Christian cultures in diverse ethnographic contexts. The topics addressed may include: culture and conversion; globalization and localisation; interrelations between Christianity, subjectivity and language; embodied and emotional forms of different Christianities; concepts and experiences of God; mediation, immanence and transcendence; coherence and fragmentation; gender, sexuality and the family. Through engaging with readings on these areas, we will explore the socio-religious power-dynamics of Christianity in relation to both culturally dominant and marginal traditions.

1. **Reading list (Indicative list, current at time of publication. Reading lists will be published annually)**

Coleman, S. (2000). *The Globalisation of Charismatic Christianity: Spreading the Gospel of Prosperity*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Engelke, M. (2007). *A Problem of Presence: Beyond Scripture in an African Church*,Berkeley:University of California Press.

Harding, S.F. (2000). *The Book of Jerry Falwell: Fundamentalist Language and Politics*, Princeton:Princeton University Press.

Keane, W. (2007). *Christian Moderns: Freedom and Fetish in the Mission Encounter*, Berkeley:University of California Press.

Luhrmann, T. (2012). *When God Talks Back: Understanding the American Evangelical Relationship with God*, New York: Vintage.

Marshall, R. (2009). *Political Spiritualities: The Pentecostal Revolution in Nigeria*, Chicago:University of Chicago Press.

Robbins, J. (2004). *Becoming Sinners: Christianity and Moral Torment in a Papua New Guinea Society*, Berkeley: University of California Press.

1. **Learning and teaching methods**

Total Contact Hours: 40

Private Study Hours: 260

Total Study Hours: 300

1. **Assessment methods**
   1. Main assessment methods

* Presentation (10 minutes) – 15%
* Critical Reflection Assignment 1 (1,000 words) – 15%
* Critical Reflection Assignment 2 (1,000 words) – 15%
* Assignment (3,500 words or equivalent depending on chosen format) – 55%

13.2 Reassessment methods

* Reassessment Instrument: 100% Coursework

1. ***Map of module learning outcomes (sections 8 & 9) to learning and teaching methods (section12) and methods of assessment (section 13)***

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Module learning outcome** | *8.1* | *8.2* | *8.3* | *8.4* | *8.5* | *8.6* | *8.7* | *8.8* | *8.9* | *8.10* | *9.1* | *9.2* | *9.3* | *9.4* | *9.5* | *9.6* | *9.7* | *9.8* | *9.9* |
| **Learning/ teaching method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Private Study | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |
| Lecture | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |  |  | **x** |  |  | **x** |  | **x** |  | **x** |  |  |  |  |
| Seminar | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |
| **Assessment method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Presentation | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |  | **x** | **x** | **x** |  |  | **x** | **x** |
| Critical Reflection | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |  | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |
| Assignment | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |  | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** | **x** |

1. **Inclusive module design**

The School recognises and has embedded the expectations of current equality legislation, by ensuring that the module is as accessible as possible by design. Additional alternative arrangements for students with Inclusive Learning Plans (ILPs)/declared disabilities will be made on an individual basis, in consultation with the relevant policies and support services.

The inclusive practices in the guidance (see Annex B Appendix A) have been considered in order to support all students in the following areas:

a) Accessible resources and curriculum

b) Learning, teaching and assessment methods

1. **Campus(es) or centre(s) where module will be delivered**

Canterbury

1. **Internationalisation**

The entire module explores themes and issues in the social scientific study of Christianity from a global and international perspective. As such, it provides the means for considering the methods, approaches and hermeneutic challenges involved in considering Christian religious ideas in a cross-cultural and international context.

**FACULTIES SUPPORT OFFICE USE ONLY**

**Revision record – all revisions must be recorded in the grid and full details of the change retained in the appropriate committee records.**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date approved | Major/minor revision | Start date of delivery of revised version | Section revised | Impacts PLOs (Q6&7 cover sheet) |
| 12/06/2016 | Major | September 2016 | 12, 13 | No |
| 22/01/2019 | Major | January 2020 | 8,10,12,13,17 | No |