

<b>Course title:</b> Introduction to Christian Denominations with a Special Regard to Hungary	<b>Credit number:</b> 3
<b>Type of lessons:</b> lecture format <b>Number of seminars:</b> 2 hours per week	
<b>Type of evaluation:</b> essay, 5000 words	
<b>Place in curriculum:</b> spring semester	
<b>Course prerequisites:</b> none	
<b>Course description:</b>	
<p><b>Course content:</b>  The course offers a basic introduction to the colourful world of Christianity as a world religion, with a special regard to the religious context of Central and Eastern Europe and of Hungary. The students are introduced to the changing landscape of world Christianity and to the special context of the life of the churches in Central and Eastern Europe. A detailed introduction is given to the religious situation of Hungary, which is used as case study for the region. The basic teachings of the main Christian denominations are presented by means of comparative study of their teaching about the Sacraments. The course offers an outlook to the question of new/post-modern religiosity, too.</p> <p><b>Learning objectives:</b>  The student will acquire sufficient basic knowledge of the global situation of Christianity and will have a detailed insight to the religious situation of Central and Eastern Europe, with a special regard to Hungary. The student will be able to discern the differences and similarities of the mainline Christian denominations and will be assisted by the acquired knowledge to make responsible and theologically informed decisions in ecumenical contexts.</p>	
<b>Required and optional reading</b> (The 3-5 most important required and optional pieces):	
<p><b>Required reading:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Rhodes, Ron: <i>A Complete Guide to Christian Denominations</i>, Harvest House Publishers, Eugene, Oregon, 2015.</li> <li>2. <i>Together Towards Life. Mission and Evangelism in Changing Landscapes</i> (<a href="https://www.oikoumene.org/en/resources/documents/commissions/mission-and-evangelism/together-towards-life-mission-and-evangelism-in-changing-landscapes">https://www.oikoumene.org/en/resources/documents/commissions/mission-and-evangelism/together-towards-life-mission-and-evangelism-in-changing-landscapes</a>)</li> <li>3. Jenkins, Philip: <i>God's Continent. Christianity, Islam and Europe's Religious Crisis</i>, Oxford University Press, Oxford, 2007.</li> </ol> <p><b>Optional reading:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Johnson, Todd M – Ross, Kenneth R et al. (eds.): <i>Atlas of Global Christianity</i>, Edinburgh University Press, Edinburgh, 2009.</li> <li>2. Jenkins, Philip: <i>The Next Christendom. The Coming of Global Christianity</i>, Oxford University Press, Oxford, 2011. (3rd.ed.)</li> </ol>	
<p><b>Course syllabus:</b></p> <p><b>Week 1</b> - Introduction  <b>Week 2</b> - The Changing Landscape of World Christianity 1 – Facts and Figures  <b>Week 3</b> - The Changing Landscape of World Christianity 2 – Trends and Challenges  <b>Week 4</b> – The Religious Context of Central and Eastern Europe</p>	

**Week 5 - Christianity in Hungary Today**

**Week 6 – Introduction to the Mainline Christian Denominations**

**Week 7 – The Sacrament of Baptism**

**Week 8 - The Sacrament of Confirmation. The Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation**

**Week 9 – The Sacrament of Eucharist**

**Week 10 – The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, The Sacrament of Matrimony**

**Week 11 – The Sacrament of Holy Orders**

**Week 12 – Global Christian Organisations**

**Week 13 – Post-Modern Religiosity and New Religious Movements**

**Course instructor in charge:** Rev. Dr. László Gonda, university associate professor

**Additional course instructor(s):** –