



Exchange programme Vrije Universiteit

Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam - Exchange programme Vrije Universiteit - 2021-2022

History and Theology of Evangelicalism

Course Code	G_BATRSPC211
Credits	6
Period	P5
Course Level	200
Language Of Tuition	English
Faculty	Faculty of Religion and Theology
Course Coordinator	prof. dr. H.A. Bakker
Examiner	prof. dr. H.A. Bakker
Teaching Staff	prof. dr. M. Klaver, prof. dr. H.A. Bakker
Teaching method(s)	Lecture, Seminar

Course Objective

1. A student has a general conception of the history of the evangelical movement from the 16th century to contemporary times.
2. A student can describe both past event and contemporary developments within the evangelical movement against the background of the rise of modern societies.
3. A student is known with the dominant theological debates in the changing landscape of evangelical theology, i.e. experience and affections, free will and sovereign grace, theological fundamentalism, God's hiddenness, and secularism.
4. A student develops a hermeneutical approach to evaluating the characteristics of evangelical typology. He/she learns how to 'weigh', according to facts and findings, the 'amorphous' of evangelical theology and presence.

Course Content

THIS COURSE WILL NOT BE TAUGHT IN 2020-2021

During this course we will discuss the rise, growth and changes within the evangelical movement and theology. Core themes will be religious affections and revivalism, the necessity of proclamation, free grace, fundamentalism, Scripture and science, spiritual ecumenism, politics, pentecostalism and prosperity, and the future of the evangelical movement.

Students must be acquainted with making observations within contexts of lived religion, and must have basic knowledge of the evangelical faith.

Teaching Methods

Students prepare classes by following the reading assignments as listed below. During the class meetings the contents of these reading assignments will be critically engaged.

This course comprises 6 ECTS (= 168 sbu): classes (20 hours), reading assignments (128 hours, 6 pages p/h).

- WEEK 1: REVIVAL, RELIGIOUS AFFECTION, AND CONVERSION
Assignments: read (1) Kidd, *Who Is an Evangelical?*, chap. 1, (2) Abrahamse, "Dumb Dogs That Cannot Bark", (3) John Wesley's sermon "Free Grace" (1740)
- WEEK 2: ACTIVISM, SLAVERY AND MISSION
Assignments: read (1) Kidd, *Who Is an Evangelical?*, chap. 2, (2) Stanley, "Christian Missions and the Enlightenment", (3) William Wilberforce, *A Letter on the Abolition of the Slave Trade* (1807)
- WEEK 3: SCIENCE, SCRIPTURE AND FUNDAMENTALISM
Assignments: read (1) read Kidd, *Who Is an Evangelical?*, chap. 3, (2) Holmes, "Evangelicals, Fundamentalism, and Theology"; (3) James Orr, "The

Holy Scripture and Modern Negations" (1909).

• WEEK 4: NEO-EVANGELICALISM, SECULARISM, AND SPIRITUAL ECUMENISM

Assignments: (1) read Kidd, *Who Is an Evangelical?*, chap. 4, (2) Abrahamse "The Making of Billy Graham" (3) Klaver, et al. "God Changes People: Modes of authentication in evangelical conversion narratives", and (4) watch <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bGHU5IYOr58> and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XWO6e29qtq8> and read "The Lausanne Covenant" (1974)

• WEEK 5: POLITICS, PENTECOSTALISM AND PROSPERITY

Assignments: read (1) Kidd, *Who Is an Evangelical?*, chap. 5+ 6 (2) Bartoş, E. The three waves of spiritual renewal of the pentecostal-charismatic movement. (3) Christerson and Flory chapter 4.

• WEEK 6: IS THERE A FUTURE? + PRESENTATION PAPER PROPOSAL PAPER

Assignments: read (1) Kidd, *Who Is an Evangelical?*, Coda; (2) Bakker, "Finding a Place of Holiness".

Method of Assessment

Students write a critical paper of 2500 words (max.) focusing on a theme discussed in class. The evaluation of this paper will make up 100% of your grade.

Entry Requirements

Every student should be able to prepare for the prescribed assignments.

Literature

Primary Sources:

1. John Wesley, "Free Grace," zie <http://wesley.nnu.edu/john-wesley/the-sermons-of-john-wesley-1872-edition>
2. William Wilberforce, A Letter on the Abolition of the Slave Trade, zie <https://archive.org/details/ASPC0002373800/page/n301/mode/2up>
3. James Orr, "Holy Scripture and Modern Negation," zie <https://archive.org/details/holyscripturemod00orri/mode/2up>
4. "The Lausanne Covenant", zie <https://www.lausanne.org/content/covenant/lausanne-covenant#cov>

Secondary Sources

1. Jan Martijn Abrahamse, "Dumb Dogs That Cannot Bark: The Puritan Origins of Preaching Revival," in *Baptists and Revivals: Papers From the Seventh International Conference on Baptist Studies*, ed. William Pitts (Macon: Mercer University Press, 2018), 288-303.
2. Jan Martijn Abrahamse, "The Making of Billy Graham: Een reportage van de komst van het moderne evangelicalisme in verzuimd Nederland," *Soteria* 34, no. 2 (2018), 62-85.
3. Henk Bakker, "Finding a Place of Holiness: Towards a Typological Characterization of Evangelical Churches in the Netherlands", in *Evangelical Theology in Transition: Essays Under the Auspices of the Center of Evangelical and Reformation Theology (CERT)*, eds. C. van der Kooi, E. van Staalduine-Sulman, A.W. Zwiép (AmSTaR, vol. 1; Amsterdam: VU University Press, 2012), 15-39.
4. Emiel Bartoş. "The three waves of spiritual renewal of the pentecostal-charismatic movement", *Review of Ecumenical Studies Sibiu*, 7(1), 20-42. <https://www.degruyter.com/downloadpdf/j/ress.2015.7.issue-1/ress-2015-00>
5. Brad Christerson and Richard Flory, "The product, supernatural power and social transformation", in *The rise of network Christianity* (Oxford: Oxford University Press 2017), 74-104.
6. Stephen Holmes, "Evangelicals, Fundamentalism, and Theology," in *Evangelicalism and Fundamentalism in the United Kingdom during the Twentieth Century*, eds. David Bebbington, and David Ceri Jones (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013), 348-365.
7. Thomas Kidd, *Who Is an Evangelical?: The History of a Movement in Crisis* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2019), 156 pp.
8. Miranda Klaver, Marten van der Meulen, Remco van Mulligen, Johan Roeland, Hijme Stoffels and Peter Versteeg (2017). "God Changes People: Modes of authentication in evangelical conversion narratives". *Journal of Contemporary Religion* 32(2): 237-251.

9. Brian Stanley, "Christian Missions and the Enlightenment: A Reevaluation," in *Christian Missions and the Enlightenment*, ed. Brian Stanley (Studies in the History of Christian Mission; Grand Rapids/Richmond: Wm. B. Eerdmans/Curzon, 2001), 1-21.

10. Antonie Vos, "John Wesley On Salvation: Necessity and Freedom," *Evangelical Theology in Transition*, eds. in Van der Kooi, Van Staalduine-Sulman, Zwiap (Amsterdam: VU University Press, 2012), 203-222.

Every student is obligated to attend classes having prepared and ready the prescribed assignments.

Target Audience

This course is in particular designed for evangelical students and all students of religion who are interested in history, theology and practices of the evangelical faith.