Special Issue

Accommodating the Other: Negotiating Christianity, Indigenous Practices, and Colonialism in the Jesuit Reductions

Message from the Guest Editor

The Jesuit reductions across the colonial Americas stand as significant and complex sites of cultural encounter between Indigenous peoples and European missionaries. Established primarily during the 17th and 18th centuries, these missions sought to evangelize Indigenous populations, organizing them into selfsustaining communities where Catholicism, European social structures, and Indigenous traditions intersected and, at times, fused. The Jesuit strategy of evangelization was distinct in its effort to protect Indigenous populations from colonial exploitation while encouraging cultural assimilation into Christian life through religion, the sciences, and the arts. We invite scholars to submit proposals for papers that explore the religious, cultural, and social dynamics within the Jesuit reductions throughout the colonial Americas, encompassing regions from the Amazon and the Andes to the Southern Cone and North America. We are particularly interested in contributions that examine the intersections of Christianity and Indigenous practices, as well as the ways in which Indigenous peoples engaged with, adapted, and at times resisted the missionary project.

Guest Editor

Dr. Andres Prieto

Department of Spanish and Portuguese, University of Colorado Boulder, Boulder, CO, USA

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Religions
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
religions@mdpi.com

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Fresh developments in the disciplines that consistently make significant contributions to our understanding of religious personality, authority, devotion, and community - disciplines ranging from psychology, sociology, and anthropology to history, art history, philosophy, literary criticism, and political science – fuel general, as well as scholarly, interest in the world's religions. *Religions* is inviting innovative and comparative contributions. Please consider Religions as an exceptional, exciting enterprise ready to reward your trust, attention, and participation.

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Prof. Dr. Arndt Büssing

Professorship Quality of Life, Spirituality and Coping, Faculty of Health, Witten/Herdecke University, Gerhard-Kienle-Weg 4, 58313 Herdecke, Germany

Prof. Dr. Klaus Baumann

Caritaswissenschaft und Christliche Sozialarbeit, Theologische Fakultät, Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg, Platz der Universität 3, D-79098 Freiburg, Germany

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