

# CH188 “Increased Intercommunion”: Lessons from the Lambeth Conferences Easter 2017

## Description:

To paraphrase Mark Twain, reports of the death of the Anglican Communion have been greatly exaggerated. Following a tumultuous first decade in the twentieth-first century, this global family of 38 autonomous national and regional Churches somehow continues to hold together. Indeed, it might well be that one of the greatest gifts of Anglicanism to the world is the continuance of relationships, shared mission, and common prayer despite significant disagreements. The Communion is, as +Desmond Tutu once said, “messy, but very loveable.”

This course explores the vital role that Lambeth Conferences have played in the life of the Communion, considering both the historical context and practical lessons of these gatherings.

## Learning Outcomes:

- Articulate what it means to be Anglican in today’s world.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the issues and impact of the various Conferences.
- Teach church members about the importance of the centenary of Lambeth 1920.
- Cultivate increased interest in Lambeth 2020 and show practical local implications.

## Schedule:

Jan 30—Introduction: Looking to 2020	Mar 20—War and Peace: 1930-1958
Feb 6—A History of Councils and Synods	Mar 27—Growth & Change: 1968-88 (VBF)
Feb 13—Colenso and Lambeth 1867 (TG)	Apr 3—The ACC and Primates (PF & ID)
Feb 20—A Tradition is Born: 1875-1908	Apr 10—Conflict and Diversity: (PG)
Feb 27—The Deaconess Movement (VBF)	Apr 17— <i>Easter Monday, no class</i>
Mar 6— The Great Conference of 1920	Apr 24—Challenges for Today
Mar 13— <i>Spring break, no class</i>	May 8—A Communion for the Future

## Texts:

Required: *The Study of Anglicanism, revised* (Stephen Sykes, John Booty, Jonathan Knight)

Required: *Lambeth and Reunion: An Interpretation of the Mind of Lambeth Conference of 1920*  
*Students will also engage with primary materials such as Lambeth resolutions..*

## Assignments and percentage of final grade:

Diocesan review of Communion relationships, due Feb 20 – 20%

Recommendations to organizers of Lambeth 2020, due Mar 20 – 20%

Quiz on key issues and figures, due April 10– 10%

Attendance and active class participation – 20%

Final paper: Adult teaching series on significance of Lambeth conferences, due May 15 – 30%

## Instructor:

**The Rev. Canon C. K. Robertson, D.D., Ph.D.** is the Presiding Bishop’s “Canon Secretary of State,” has extensive experience in the Anglican Communion, and was present at Lambeth 1998 and 2008. You can contact him at [crobertson@episcopalchurch.org](mailto:crobertson@episcopalchurch.org) or by cell at 646-578-9549.

**The Rev. Valerie Bailey Fischer**, will assist Dr. Robertson. She is a Th.D. student at General and director of the Episcopal Service Corps New York. Her email is [vbaileyfischer@gts.edu](mailto:vbaileyfischer@gts.edu).

**Further Instructions:**

A student who has a disability that requires modification of class activities or requirements should contact the Registrar before the first class session officially to register the disability. The Registrar will then authorize the instructor to provide any modifications needed.

Students are urged to read *The Academic Regulations* of the seminary, available on the seminary's website, [www.gts.edu](http://www.gts.edu), under "Academics," then "Course Offerings and Registrar." The Policy on Inclusive Language deserves special attention.

There are no prerequisites or corequisites for this course.