

World's End: Millennialism in the Modern World

End-time preachers, apparitions of the Virgin Mary, cargo cultists, would-be messiahs, wagers of racial holy war, and people waiting for UFOs to land or for the Temple to be rebuilt : these are millennialists, expecting an imminent apocalypse which will usher in a Golden Age of peace, material plenty and spiritual pursuits. This course examines how such movements emerge and how they continue even after the End fails to come.