

Course ID:	Course Title:	Winter 2019
IND 287	Science and Christian Faith	Prerequisite: 3 credits in REL
		Credits: 3

Class Information		Instructor Information		Important Dates	
Days:	Wed/Fri	Instructor:	Dr. Matthew Morris, PhD	First day of classes:	Thu, Jan 3
Time:	2:30-3:45	Email:	Matthew.Morris@ambrose.edu	Last day to add/drop, or change to audit:	Sun, Jan 13
Room:	A2133	Phone:	403-410-2000 ext. 6932	Last day to request revised exam:	Mon, Mar 11
Lab/ Tutorial:	NA	Office:	A2158	Last day to withdraw from course:	Fri, Mar 22
	NA	Office Hours:	By appointment	Last day to apply for coursework extension:	Fri, Mar 29
Final Exam:	Monday April 8, 1-4 pm, A2210			Last day of classes:	Fri, Apr 5

Course Description

This course explores the complex relationship between science and Christian faith, with a particular focus on evolutionary biology. Topics include: models of science-faith interactions; science and religion as ways of knowing; and Christian interpretations of evolution. The bulk of the course will be spent on discussing the four main contemporary Christian perspectives: Young Earth Creationism, Old Earth Creationism, Intelligent Design, and Theistic Evolution. These perspectives will be placed in their historic and contemporary contexts, and will be compared and contrasted for their theological understandings of Creation, Fall, Flood, image, and human origins.

Note: This course cannot apply as a senior REL course in any program except biology.

Expected Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

1. Understand the methods and limitations of scientific investigation.
2. Describe Ian Barbour's four theses of science/religion interactions.
3. Place the current Christian perspectives on science-faith relations in their historical context, including the Christian responses to evolution before 1900, the scientific controversies around evolution, the rise of fundamentalism, and the court cases that have shaped the current discussion.

4. Differentiate between the four contemporary Christian perspectives on evolution (YEC, OEC, ID, EC), comparing and contrasting their beliefs regarding the interpretation of Genesis 1, the age of the Earth, the Fall, the Flood, evolution, and human origins.
5. Develop and critique their own understandings of science-faith relations.

Textbooks

Lamoureux DO, Walton JH, Collins CJ, Barrick WD (2013) *Four Views on the Historical Adam*. Eds. M Barrett, AB Caneday. Zondervan MI.

Other required readings are posted on Moodle and are listed in the table below.

Course Schedule

Date	Topic	Reading	Assignments due
Jan 4	Introduction	Barbour (1997)	
Jan 9	A basic guide to recognizing "science"	Benson et al. (2006) Dawkins (2006)	
Jan 11	Realized science	Martin (1991)	
Jan 16	Ways of knowing	Ward (2008)	Autobiography
Jan 18	Natural theology and the rise of evolution	Paley (1802)	
Jan 23	Darwin's risky predictions	Darwin and Wallace (1858)	
Jan 25	Darwin's God	Lamoureux (2013) Hope (1915)	
Jan 30	Darwin on trial	Larson (1997) Scopes Monkey Trial documentary	
Feb 1	The birth of modern Creationisms	Hodge (1874) Morris (2014) Numbers (2006) Whitcomb (2011)	
Feb 6	God on trial	NOVA documentary Wedge Strategy (1998)	
Feb 8	Creationisms today	Websites for: Answers in Genesis, Reasons to Believe, Discovery Institute, BioLogos	
Feb 13	Deep time I – Big Bang		
Feb 15	Midterm		
Feb 20	READING BREAK		
Feb 22	READING BREAK		
Feb 27	Ways of reading Genesis One	Genesis 1 (your version of choice) Enuma Elish	Paper topic
March 1	Ways of reading Genesis One	Genesis 1:1-2:7 (Scofield Study Bible, 1917, including notes) Letham (1999)*	

March 6	Deep time II – Ages	Davidson and Wolgemuth (2018)*	Book report
March 8	Deep time III – Evolution	*	
March 13	Complexity and Fine-tuning	Behe (2005)*	
March 15	Created kinds	*	
March 20	The Flood	Genesis 6:5-9:17*	
March 22	Image	Genesis 2*	Critical study
March 27	ARC – NO CLASSES		
March 29	Fall	Genesis 3* Dickey (1992)	
April 3	Redemption	*	Self-reflection
April 5	Review		

* Asterisk denotes that, although no particular reading is assigned from the Answers in Genesis, Reasons to Believe, or BioLogos websites, students are encouraged to look up articles pertaining to the day’s lecture at these sites and discuss them on the Forum page.

Requirements:

This course will be evaluated as follows:

Participation – 15%

Self-reflection – 35%

 Autobiography 5%

 Book report 10%

 Research paper or interview 15%

 Final self-assessment 5%

Midterm – 20%

Final – 30%

The midterm and final exam will be a combination of multiple choice questions, as well as short and long answer questions. While most questions will be based on lecture material, the assigned readings will absolutely help in the understanding of this material.

Assignments will be handed in at the start of class time. Late assignments will be deducted a letter grade (e.g. A- becomes B-) and will not be accepted past five days late without written documentation from a health care provider.

Any assignments without a name will receive a grade of 0. Assignments submitted electronically must have the student name in the file name for the document and on the first page of the assignment.

A discussion forum entitled “Science and Christian Faith Discussion” has been posted on Moodle. This is a place for you to post questions or respond to other students, or post interesting links to videos or news articles that are pertinent to the discussion. Disrespectful posts will not be tolerated and could result in a 0 for the participation component of the course. The forum **will close March 30, 2019**. See the Participation handout.

The midterm will take place in class and will occupy the complete 1 hour 15 minute time slot. The final will be cumulative.

Attendance:

While attendance at lectures is not mandatory, it will help ensure success on course exams and assignments.

Grade Summary:

The available letters for course grades are as follows:

Grad	Percent	Grade Point Value	Description
A+	96-100	4.00	Outstanding
A	92-96	4.00	Excellent - superior performance, showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter.
A-	88-92	3.70	
B+	83-88	3.30	
B	78-83	3.00	Good-clearly above average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete.
B-	73-78	2.70	
C+	68-73	2.30	
C	64-68	2.00	Satisfactory – basic understanding of the subject matter. Grade point average below 2.00 is not sufficient for promotion.
C-	60-64	1.70	Minimum grade required if needed as a prerequisite course
D+	55-60	1.30	
D	50-55	1.00	Minimal pass – marginal performance; generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
F	<50	0	Fail – unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements.

Because of the nature of the Alpha 4.00 system, there can be no uniform University-wide conversion scale. The relationship between raw scores (e.g. percentages) and the resultant letter grade will depend on the nature of the course and the instructor's assessment of the level of each class, compared to similar classes taught previously.

Please note that final grades will be available on student registration system. Printed grade sheets are not mailed out.

Plagiarism policy

See below for Ambrose's statement defining plagiarism and outlining its consequences. In brief, it is your responsibility as a citizen of Ambrose to be aware of the policies of Ambrose and abide by them. Ignorance is no excuse. Plagiarism will not be tolerated.

Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited, to:

1. Copying an assignment from someone else and submitting it as your own work.
2. Working with a friend and writing down identical answers, whether you understand the content or not.
3. Quoting directly from a source without supplying quotation marks or a citation.
4. Quoting directly from a source without supplying quotation marks, even if it is referenced.
5. Quoting nearly word-for-word from a source, changing only the occasional word, even if it is referenced.
6. Submitting an assignment in which >30% of the content is properly quoted and cited; that is, at least 70% of the words in an assignment need to be your own. A general rule of thumb: for every line quoted, there should be three lines of your own material.
7. Submitting the same or similar assignment for more than one class, or more than one iteration of the same class.
8. Not citing illustrations used in a paper.

A tutorial explaining some of the above can be found at:

<http://library.acadiau.ca/sites/default/files/library/tutorials/plagiarism/>

Penalties for plagiarism

For a first offense in any one of my classes, a zero on the assignment with no chance of rewriting it, and a note in your academic file.

For a second offense in any one of my classes, a zero in the class, and a notice on your transcript.

For a third offense in any one of my classes, recommendation for expulsion from the university.

Note that Ambrose has an appeal process in place if you feel that allegations of plagiarism were unfounded.

Note that my record of a student's past plagiarism does not reset with each semester or class.

Classroom Etiquette:

It is expected that students will take an active role in the learning process. This includes: (a) regular class attendance, (b) reading course material in advance of class, and (c) engaging in discussions during class.

In respect to the professor and to your fellow students, we ask that you:

- a) Turn your phone off during class and that you don't use it for texting during lecture or lab
- b) Not have conversations with the people beside your during lecture – it is very distracting to the people around you
- c) Use your laptops for lecture material and assignments only – that you are not using the internet or facebook during class time.
- d) Arrive to lecture and lab on time
- e) Don't come to class or lab with your ipod or equivalent.

These will help to maximize the learning experience for you and your fellow students (and will keep your professor in a good mood). Failure to abide by these policies could result in the professor asking you to leave the classroom.

This course covers controversial subjects. Students are expected to engage with others they disagree with in the following manner. Failure to do so could result in disciplinary action. In particular:

1. Students and instructor will understand that they do not have complete knowledge regarding the interpretations of nature or scripture, and so will express their current beliefs with the humility of knowing they could be wrong.
2. Students and instructor will listen to perspectives they disagree with in a respectful manner. This includes hearing the perspective to its conclusion, rather than interrupting, and replying graciously. If the student or instructor is feeling angry or combative, they will refrain from speaking until they are more composed.
3. Students and instructor will not convey to those outside of the class the perspectives of any student taking the class.
4. Students and instructor will not treat those they disagree with as if they were intellectually, morally, or spiritually inferior.

Email and Personal Etiquette:

Emails are a formal means of communicating with the course or lab instructor. As such, they should begin with “Dear Dr. _____”. They should be courteous and respectful.

Aggressive, foul, or disrespectful language, whether in person or over email, will not be tolerated and could result in disciplinary action taken by the university.

Do not expect responses on evenings or weekends. Do not expect to have questions pertaining to assignments or exams answered on the day that the assignment is due or the exam is to be written.

Ambrose University Academic Policies:

Communication

All students have received an Ambrose e-mail account upon registration. It is the student's responsibility to check this account regularly as the Ambrose email system will be the professor's instrument for notifying students of important matters (cancelled class sessions, extensions, requested appointments, etc.) between class sessions. If students do not wish to use their Ambrose accounts, they will need to forward all messages from the Ambrose account to another personal account.

Registration

During the **Registration Revision Period** students may enter a course without permission, change the designation of any class from credit to audit and /or voluntary withdraw from a course without financial or academic penalty or record. Courses should be added or dropped on the student portal by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. After that date, the original status remains and the student is responsible for related fees.

Students intending to withdraw from a course after the Registration Revision Period must apply to the Office of the Registrar by submitting a "Request to Withdraw from a Course" form or by sending an email to the Registrar's Office by the **Withdrawal Deadline**; please consult the List of Important Dates on the my.ambrose.edu website. Students will not receive a tuition refund for courses from which they withdraw after the Registration Revision period. A grade of "W" will appear on their transcript.

Students wishing to withdraw from a course, but who fail to do so by the applicable date, will receive the grade earned in accordance with the course syllabus. A student obliged to withdraw from a course after the Withdrawal Deadline because of health or other reasons may apply to the Registrar for special consideration.

Exam Scheduling

Students, who find a conflict in their exam schedule must submit a Revised Examination Request form to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. Requests will be considered for the following reasons only: 1) the scheduled final examination slot conflicts with another exam; 2) the student has three final exams within three consecutive exam time blocks; 3) the scheduled final exam slot conflicts with an exam at another institution; 4) extenuating circumstances. Travel is not considered a valid excuse for re-scheduling or missing a final exam.

Electronic Etiquette

Students are expected to treat their instructor, guest speakers, and fellow students with respect. It is disruptive to the learning goals of a course or seminar and disrespectful to fellow students and the instructor to use electronics for purposes unrelated to the course during a class session. Turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices during class. Laptops should be used for class-related purposes only. Do not use iPods, MP3 players, or headphones. Do not text, read, or send personal emails, go on Facebook or other social networks, search the internet, or play computer games during class. Some professors will not allow the use of any electronic devices in class. The professor has the right to disallow the student to use a

laptop in future lectures and/or to ask a student to withdraw from the session if s/he does not comply with this policy. Repeat offenders will be directed to the Dean. If you are expecting communication due to an emergency, please speak with the professor before the class begins.

Academic Policies

It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to academic policies as stated in the Academic Calendar. Personal information (information about an individual that may be used to identify that individual) may be required as part of taking this class. Any information collected will only be used and disclosed for the purpose for which the collection was intended. For further information contact the Privacy Compliance Officer at privacy@ambrose.edu.

Extensions

Although extensions to coursework in the semester are at the discretion of the instructor, students may not turn in coursework for evaluation after the last day of the scheduled final examination period unless they have received permission for a course Extension from the Registrar's Office. Requests for course extensions or alternative examination time must be submitted to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. Course extensions are only granted for serious issues that arise "due to circumstances beyond the student's control."

Appeal of Grade

An appeal for change of grade on any course work must be made to the course instructor within one week of receiving notification of the grade. An appeal for change of final grade must be submitted to the Registrar's Office in writing and providing the basis for appeal within 30 days of receiving notification of the final grade, providing the basis for appeal. A review fee of \$50.00 must accompany the appeal. If the appeal is sustained, the fee will be refunded.

Academic Integrity

We are committed to fostering personal integrity and will not overlook breaches of integrity such as plagiarism and cheating. Academic dishonesty is taken seriously at Ambrose University as it undermines our academic standards and affects the integrity of each member of our learning community. Any attempt to obtain credit for academic work through fraudulent, deceptive, or dishonest means is academic dishonesty. Plagiarism involves presenting someone else's ideas, words, or work as one's own. Plagiarism is fraud and theft, but plagiarism can also occur by accident when a student fails or forgets to acknowledge to another person's ideas or words. Plagiarism and cheating can result in a failing grade for an assignment, for the course, or immediate dismissal from the university. Students are expected to be familiar with the policies in the current Academic Calendar that deal with plagiarism, cheating, and the penalties and procedures for dealing with these matters. All cases of academic dishonesty are reported to the Academic Dean and become part of the student's permanent record.

Note: Students are strongly advised to retain this syllabus for their records.