



**NT 604 *The Johannine Literature* (3)
Winter Module 2006
Instructor: Kenneth A. Fox**

Contacting the Instructor

Office Phone: 416 679 8080 (Toronto)

Class Times:

Tuesday 10 AM – 12 noon 1:00 – 4:30 PM
Wednesday 8:30 AM – 12 noon 1:00 – 4:30 PM
Thursday 8:30 AM – 12 noon 1:00 – 4:30 PM
Friday 8:30 AM – 12 noon 1:00 – 4:30 PM
Saturday 8:30 AM – 12 noon 1:00 – 4:30 PM

Class Location: TBA

Email Address: kfox@auc-nuc.ca

Course Description

A reading of and reflection upon the Gospel, Letters, and Revelation of John, noting their literary form, historical context, and theological content. Particular attention is given to those topics and themes that constitute a unique and profound contribution to the New Testament and to the Christian faith.

Course Objectives

At the successful completion of this course in New Testament, students are expected to have achieved competence in the following areas:

- 1 Insight into ways in which they can know and appreciate their vocation and identity in Christ as his disciples
- 2 Knowledge of (1) the reasons why the Gospel of John, the letters of John, and the Book of Revelation were written, (2) the major theological ideas

- found in each book, and (3) the literary and argumentative structure of each book
- 3 Ability to exegete and interpret the Gospel of John, the letters of John, and the Book of Revelation according to a clearly articulated hermeneutic
 - 4 Facility to apply the teaching of the Gospel of John, the letters of John, and the Book of Revelation in solving problems faced in Christian life and the world today

Required Texts

Booth, Wayne C., Gregory G. Colomb, and Joseph M. Williams. *The Craft of Research*. Second edition. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2003.

Keener, Craig S. *Revelation*. NIV Application Commentary. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2000.

Course Schedule

Tuesday Feb 21	John 1-6
Wednesday Feb 22	John 7-12
Thursday Feb 23	John 13-17
Friday Feb 24	John 18-21
Saturday Feb 25	1-3 John

Course Requirements

Discussion groups (40%)

Each group will arrange to meet twice for three hours on their own, to discuss the entire content of the Book of Revelation and the course textbook, *Revelation*, by Craig S. Keener. These discussions have six purposes:

- 1 to challenge students to develop their critical, thinking skills
- 2 to enable students to improve their skills in developing and expressing theological arguments in a group context

- 3 to empower students to foster ability in leading fellow students in discussion
- 4 to have students take responsibility for their fellow students' education by mutually supporting one another
- 5 to encourage students to listen respectfully to views not their own
- 6 to nurture community, which is always the best context in which to do theological reflection and training

Sometime during the one-week module, students will be divided into groups of five. They will assign themselves the discussion for which they will be responsible for leading. They will also discuss together what they think will make for a successful discussion in each class.

Responsibilities of the student as leader. The group leader has two responsibilities during their thirty-minute discussion:

- 1 During the group discussion, the leader's responsibility is to guide the discussion and keep it on track. *The group leader should not prepare a mini-lecture.* For the discussion, the leader may choose to use some of the teacher's questions distributed in the first class and/or develop their own
- 2 After the discussion, the leader will assign a participation grade for each member of the group and submit the grade to the teacher at the end of the class (grade from zero to four, with four being highest). Base the grade on the following criteria:
 - If the student's comments during the discussion reflected an informed reading of assigned material, allocate a higher grade
 - If the student has contributed their fair share (not too much, not too little), allocate a higher grade
 - Consider a grade of four if the individual has excelled with respect to the above two criteria
 - Consider giving a grade of three if the individual has contributed capably with respect to the above two criteria
 - If the student has dominated discussion in inappropriate ways, reduce their grade
 - If the student has not contributed or contributed only minimally, reduce their grade

- If a student has contributed but their contributions were not informed by a careful reading of the material, reduce their grade
- *Has the discussion led to a better understanding of the textbook and to a critical interaction with it?* If not, reduce the grade
- The average grade should be between 2.5-3.3. Only if the student has excelled, give a 'four'. If the student's contribution is less than adequate, give a grade of 'two' or below
- All grades are confidential (leaders may give fraction grades)

Responsibilities of the student as group participant. Students should come to each class having read the assigned materials carefully. Since the group leader may use some questions distributed in the first class, it may be wise to think about those questions for each discussion. In addition, students should come with their own questions and comments based on the readings.

Discussion #1

- Group #1: *Revelation*, pages 15-65
- Group #2: *Revelation*, pages 66-113
- Group #3: *Revelation*, pages 114-167
- Group #4: *Revelation*, pages 168-216
- Group #5: *Revelation*, pages 217-278

Assigned to:

Due Date: Monday, March 20

Discussion #2

- Group #1: *Revelation*, pages 279-333
- Group #2: *Revelation*, pages 334-366
- Group #3: *Revelation*, pages 367-419
- Group #4: *Revelation*, pages 420-461
- Group #5: *Revelation*, pages 462-522

Assigned to:

Due date: Monday, April 10

Exegetical/Thematic papers (60%)

Students are to submit two short papers (maximum ten pages each, double-spaced). Students are free to prepare exegetical papers and/or thematic papers.

A couple pages of the total amount should consider ways by which you might apply your exegetical research today. Guidelines will be provided in class for researching and writing. These, together with *The Craft of Research*, must be followed closely in order to achieve a grade higher than a B.

Due date paper #1: Monday, March 27

Due date paper #2: Wednesday, April 26

Course Grade

Discussion groups	40%
Exegetical/Thematic paper #1	30%
Exegetical/Thematic paper #2	30%

Important Notes

Registration and payment in full is due for this modular class by 10am on the first day of class, Tuesday, February 21

Students may withdraw from this modular class and receive a full refund only prior to the second class session (i.e., before 1.00 pm on Tuesday, on the first day of class). No tuition refund will be issued after this deadline

Students may voluntarily withdraw or change their registration from credit to audit, without academic penalty, only prior to completing 70% of the course (i.e., before 1 pm on Friday, or the fourth day of class). Students who withdraw from a course after this deadline will receive a grade of "F"

All Registration changes must be made through the Registrar's Office by completing a Registration Revision Form. Forms are available in the Registrar's Office or can be downloaded from www.auc-nuc.ca.

Craft of Research Seminar. This seminar, though not required, will be useful for researching, writing, and revising the two papers for this course. Bring your copy of the book *Craft of Research* and a hi-liter to the seminar, which will take place Saturday afternoon at 3 PM

Submit all written work electronically to the professor

Policy on extensions. All coursework requirements and due dates are clearly stated in the course syllabus. Coursework submitted after the due date, without prior approval by the Registrar and Academic Dean of a formal "Request for an Extension to coursework" will receive a grade of "F." Requests for an extension will be considered only in the following circumstances:

- the quality of prior coursework has been satisfactory; AND
- circumstances beyond the student's control, such as an extended illness or death of a family member, make it impossible for the student to complete the coursework on time; AND
- the student submits a "Request for an Extension to coursework" application to the Registrar on or before April 26

Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty Policy. The seminary maintains a zero tolerance policy on plagiarism and academic dishonesty. Plagiarism and academic dishonesty can result in a failing grade for an assignment, for the course, or immediate dismissal from the seminary. Even unintentional plagiarism is to be avoided at all costs. Students are expected to be familiar with the policy statements in the current academic calendar and the student handbook that deal with plagiarism, academic dishonesty (cheating), and the penalties and procedures for dealing with these matters. All cases of academic dishonesty are reported to the Academic Dean

Protection of Personal Information: Personal information, that is information about an individual that may be used to identify that individual, may be collected as a requirement 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@auc-nuc.ca.