

<b>Course ID:</b>	<b>Course Title:</b>	<b>Spring 2018 ONE WEEK MODULE</b>
<b>NT 609</b>	<b>The Book of Revelation</b>	<b>Prerequisite: NT 501</b>
		<b>Credits: 3</b>

Class Information		Instructor Information		Important Dates	
<b>Days:</b>	Monday—Friday	<b>Instructor:</b>	Paul Spilsbury, PhD	<b>First day of classes:</b>	7 May 2018
<b>Time:</b>	9:00am—4:00pm	<b>Email:</b>	pspilsbury@regent-college.edu	<b>Last day to add/drop, or change to audit:</b>	End of the first day
<b>Room:</b>		<b>Phone:</b>	604-221-3319	<b>Last day to request revised exam:</b>	n/a
<b>Lab/Tutorial:</b>	n/a	<b>Office:</b>	n/a	<b>Last day to withdraw from course:</b>	1 pm on 4 <sup>th</sup> day
		<b>Office Hours:</b>	n/a	<b>Last day to apply for coursework extension:</b>	One month before final due date
<b>Final Exam:</b>	n/a			<b>Last day of classes:</b>	11 May 2018

### Course Description

This course reclaims the powerful message of the Book of Revelation for today. Special attention will be paid to Revelation as a work of early Christian literature deeply influenced by the prophetic witness of the Old Testament, by events and attitudes of the first century world, and by the early Christians' experience of Jesus himself. Students will be introduced to the insights offered by current scholarly engagement with Revelation, and will be given the opportunity to reflect together on the enduring significance of this book for society today.

### Expected Learning Outcomes

Upon the successful completion of this course, students will have gained:

- A deeper understanding of the literary and cultural context in which the Book of Revelation was written.
- A greater appreciation of the language, symbols and images of the Book of Revelation, and of their connection to the Old Testament.
- A fuller insight into the theological themes of the Book of Revelation and their relation to the rest of Scripture.
- A firmer grasp of the relevance of the Book of Revelation for contemporary Christian thought.

- A profounder sense of the personal implications of the Book of Revelation's call to costly discipleship today.

## Textbooks

There are no required texts for this class (but see the Reading List below). Students are expected to bring a Bible to each class session, and those who have studied NT Greek should bring their Greek Testaments to class too.

## Reading List

The following is only a sample of the extensive Revelation holdings in the Ambrose library. The items marked with an asterisk (\*) are of particular importance. For further information on the reading assignment for this class see below.

- \*Aune, D.E. Revelation. 3 vols; Dallas: Word, 1997-1998.
- Barr, David L. Tales of the End: A Narrative Commentary. Polebridge, 1998.
- \*Bauckham, R. Theology of the Book of Revelation, Cambridge, 1993.
- \*Bauckham, R. Climax of Prophecy. T&T Clark, 1993.
- Beale, G.K. The Book of Revelation: A commentary in the Greek Text. Eerdmans, 1999.
- Beasley-Murray, G.R. The Book of Revelation (NCBC), Wm. B. Eerdmans, 1974.
- Boring, M.E. Revelation. (Interpretation) John Knox, 1989.
- Caird, G.B. A Commentary on the Revelation of St. John the Divine. Harper & Row, 1966.
- Campbell, W. Gordon. Reading Revelation: a Thematic Approach. James Clarke and Co., 2012.
- Carter, Warren. What does Revelation Reveal? Abingdon, 2011.
- Chilton, D. The Days of Vengeance. Dominion, 1987.
- \*Collins, Adela Yarbro. Crisis & Catharsis: The power of the Apocalypse. Westminster, 1984.
- \*Collins, J.J. The Apocalyptic Imagination. 2nd ed. Eerdmans, 1998.
- Gregg, Steve. Revelation: Four Views. Thomas Nelson, 2013.
- Hamilton, James . Revelation: the Spirit Speaks to the Churches. Crossway, 2012.
- \*Hays, Richard B. Revelation and the Politics of Apocalyptic Interpretation. Baylor, 2012.
- \*Hemer, C.J. The Letters to the Seven Churches of Asia in their Local Setting. Eerdmans, 2001.
- \*Keener, C.S. Revelation. The NIV Application Commentary; Zondervan, 2000.
- Koester, C.R. Revelation and the End of all Things. Eerdmans, 2001.
- Kraybill, J. Nelson. Apocalypse and Allegiance. Brazos, 2010.
- Labahn, Michael. Imagery in the Book of Revelation. Peeters, 2011.
- Ladd, A Commentary on the Revelation of John. Eerdmans, 1972.
- Malina, B.J. Social-Science Commentary on the Book of Revelation. Fortress, 2000.
- Mangina, Joseph L. Revelation: Brazos Theological Commentary. Brazos, 2010.
- Metzger, Bruce M. Breaking the Code: Understanding the Book of Rev. Abingdon, 1993.
- Mounce, Robert H. The Book of Revelation, rev. ed. Eerdmans, 1998.
- Moyise, Steve. The Old Testament in the Book of Revelation. Sheffield, 1995.
- Osborne, Grant R. Revelation (BECNT). Baker, 2002.
- Pagels, Elaine. Revelations: Visions, Prophecy, and Politics in the Book of Revelation. Viking, 2012.
- Peterson, E.H. Reversed Thunder. Harper & Row, 1988.
- Rotz, Carol. Revelation: a Commentary in the Wesleyan Tradition. Beacon Hill Press, 2012.

Rowland, Christopher. Revelation (Epworth). Epworth, 1993.  
Schüssler Fiorenza, Elisabeth Revelation: Vision of a Just World (Proclamation). Fortress, 1991.  
Smalley, Stephen S. The Revelation to John: A commentary on the Greek text. IVP, 2005  
Spilsbury, P. Throne, the Lamb and the Dragon, IVP, 2002.  
Stevenson, Gregory. A Slaughtered Lamb. ACU Press, 2013  
Sweet, J.P.M. Revelation (WPC). Westminster, 1979.  
Talbert, C.H. The Apocalypse: A Reading of the Revelation of John. John Knox, 19994.  
Thompson, Leonard L. Revelation (ANTC). Abingdon, 1998.  
Wall, R.W. Revelation (NIBC). Hendrickson, 1991.  
Witherington, Ben, III. Revelation and the End Times. Abington, 2010.  
Wright, N.T. Revelation for Everyone. Westminster John Knox, 2011.

## Course Schedule

Day 1 (May 7) Reading Revelation

Day 2 (May 8) The Seven Churches; the Throne and the Scroll

Day 3 (May 9) Judgements; Followers of the Lamb I

Day 4 (May 10) Followers of the Lamb II; Enemies of the Lamb

Day 5 (May 11) The Bride and the Rider; the Millennium; a New Heaven and a New Earth

## Requirements:

There are three assignments in this course. Students must complete all three assignments in order to receive a passing grade. Please note that all assignments for this course are due at midnight (MDT) on 22 June 2018.

### 1. *Reading and Reflection Assignment*

Read a total of 500 pages from different items on the reading list. For each 50 pages (approximately) write a 200-word reflection on a key insight or question that arises from the reading.

### 2. *Research Assignment*

Complete one of the following three options:

- a. Historical Option: The historical situation in which the Book of Revelation was written is a key aspect of an adequate understanding of the book. For this option, write a 10 page research paper on the political, social and religious situation at the time Revelation was written. You should use at least fifteen sources, including journal articles, books, and commentaries.
- b. Literary Option: The literary genre of Revelation is another very important factor for understanding its message. For this option write a 10 page research paper comparing and contrasting Revelation to other ancient apocalyptic texts. In what ways is Revelation the same as, and in what ways different from other examples of ancient apocalyptic literature? You should use at least fifteen resources including journal articles, books, and commentaries.

- c. **Exegetical Option:** One of the biggest challenges for students of Revelation is the meaning of particular images, symbols, or passages. For this option write a 10 page research paper interpreting a particular detail of the book. You may focus on any image, symbol, or short passage of your choice. You should use at least fifteen sources, including journal articles, books, and commentaries.

Submit your paper by uploading it to Moodle. All term papers are automatically subjected to an originality analysis by Turnitin. For more information, see <http://turnitin.com>.

## 2. Reflective Synthesis

Write a 3 page (double-spaced) personal reflection on the message of the Book of Revelation. What are its most important and enduring points for today? In what ways is the book still important for Christian discipleship and theology? In what ways does it speak to you personally?

This assignment should draw on the resources of the whole course, including the lectures and readings.

### Course Grade

1. Reading Assignment: 40%
2. Research Assignment: 50%
3. Reflection Assignment: 10%

### Attendance:

Students are expected to attend all lectures. If you need to be absent for any part of this course, please inform the instructor in advance.

### Grade Scale:

<i>Letter Grade</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>
A+	90 and higher	
A	85-89	Excellent
A-	80-84	
B+	77-79	
B	73-76	Good
B-	70-72	
C+	67-69	
C	63-66	Satisfactory
C-	60-62	
D+	55-59	Poor
D	50-54	Minimal Pass
F	49 and lower	Failure

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

## 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](mailto: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.