

Class Information		Instructor Information		First day of classes:	Wed., Jan. 6, 2016
Days:	January 15-16 February 26-27 March 18-19	Instructor:	Mark Buchanan, BFA, MCS	Last day to add/ drop/change to audit:	Sun., Jan. 17, 2016
Time:	Fridays, 6:30- 9:30 Saturdays, 9:00- 4:00	Email:	Mbuchanan@ambrose. edu	Last day to request revised exam:	Mon., Feb. 29, 2016
Room:	TBA	Phone:	403-410-2000, ext. 7907	Last day to withdraw from course:	Fri., Mar 18, 2016
Lab/Tut:	NA	Office:	L2071	Last day to apply for time extension for coursework:	Mon., Mar. 28, 2016
Final Exam: NA		Office Hrs:	By appointment	Last day of classes:	Wed., April 13, 2016

Textbook: Miroslav Volf, *Exclusion & Embrace*; Andy Crouch, *Playing God*.

Course Description: Christians are reconciled reconcilers: recipients of God's reconciling action, and agents of God's reconciling mission. Reconciliation is foundational to our salvation, central to our mission, and indispensable to our theology. This course probes the theme of reconciliation biblically, theologically, and practically, examining its meaning and application at personal, interpersonal, corporate, and societal levels.

Course Objectives:

Upon the successful completion of this course, students should be able to...

- a) Understand and be able to articulate the biblical and theological concept and basis of reconciliation, both divine and human, and how it works at personal, interpersonal, corporate and societal levels.
- b) Understand and be able to engage in a variety of strategies for reconciliation at personal, interpersonal, corporate and societal levels.
- c) Understand his or her role as an ambassador of reconciliation and an agent of peace.

Course Schedule:

First weekend - Theological Foundations: Justice, Forgiveness, Reconciliation & Shalom

Second weekend - Theological Foundations II & Practices for Personal & Interpersonal Healing

Third Week - Practices for Corporate and Societal Healing

Requirements:

Note Well: All assignments must demonstrate engagement with readings and lectures.

1. Assignment 1: Paper or Sermon (All options except “f” are 1,000 words)

Choose *one* of the following:

- a. Study a conflicted situation in Scripture - i.e., Joseph & his brothers, David & Saul, Jews & Samaritans, the widows in Acts 6:1-10, the Jerusalem council (and subsequent fight between Paul & Barnabas) in Acts 15, etc. – and write a paper analyzing its roots, dynamics, and resolution (or lack thereof).
- b. Describe, reflect on and write up a personal journey - your own or another’s - of reconciliation.
- c. Choose one of the core biblical texts used from the course and do a close reading & exposition of it with an eye toward ways of embodying it.
- d. Watch 3 of the recommended movies and write a summary & response.
- e. Read two of the *recommended* (not from the required list) books and write a summary & response.
- f. Write (and, if possible, deliver) a sermon on reconciliation (appropriate length).

Due submitted to Moodle in a Word Doc only by 11:55 pm (MT) on Thursday, February 25, 2016

2. Assignment #2: Case Study (1,500)

Choose *one* of the following:

- a. Study a church that’s gone through a season of conflict and healing. Interview key players. Summarize, analyze, and respond.
- b. Interview someone who has personally experienced large-scale conflict (i.e., a Rwandese who lived through the 1994 Genocide, someone who lived through the Croatian/Serbian conflict, someone from Ireland - north or south - who lived through all or part of “the troubles,” etc.). Summarize, analyze, and respond.
- c. Study and report on Canada’s Truth & Reconciliation Commission and reflect on its implications

for Christians and churches.

- d. Study a “conflicted” recent or current world situation – South Africa before and after apartheid, First Nations in Canada &/or the US, Aborigines in Australia, the Rwandese or Congolese (etc.) Genocide, the Syrian crisis, the Roma in Europe, FN in Canada, etc.. Summarize, analyze and report, mindful of the church’s role in both cause and healing.
- e. Interview a First Nations person or person’s on their response to Canada’s Truth and Reconciliation Commission. Summarize, analyze, and report, with an eye to what next steps might be taken. [SEP]

Due submitted to Moodle in a Word Doc only by 11:55 pm (MT) Thursday, March 17, 2016.

3. Assignment #3: Application (All options except for “b” and “c” are 2,500 words) [SEP]

Choose one of the following:

- a. Explore and report on how the church might embody the message & ministry of reconciliation with people from whom we have been historically alienated – the LGBT community, First Nations people, Muslims, Jews, etc.
- b. Design (and, if possible, lead) a reconciliation workshop for churches. No word limit.
- c. Design a reconciliation toolkit for churches. No word limit.
- d. Undertake an initiative of reconciliation in your family, church, community, etc. Summarize and critique. [SEP]

Due submitted to Moodle in a Word Doc only by 11:55 pm (PST) on Thursday, May 12, 2016

4. Reading:

All students are to read Andy Crouch’s *Playing God*. and Crouch and Miroslav Volf’s *Exclusion and Embrace*, and 200 more pages from the recommended readings. Attention to these readings should be shown in the assignments. Must submit a Reading Log (provided).

Due submitted to Moodle in a Word Doc only by 11:55 pm (PST) on Thursday, May 12, 2016

Attendance:

Attendance and participation count for 10% of the final grade. Because of the intricate and cumulative nature of the course material, the student should make every effort to attend all sessions. As well, all papers require integration of readings and lectures.

Grade Summary:

The available letters for course grades are as follows:

<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Description</u>
A+	
A	Excellent
A-	
B+	
B	Good
B-	
C+	
C	Satisfactory
C-	
D+	
D	Minimal Pass
F	Failure

Because of the nature of the Alpha 4.00 system, there can be no uniform College-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.

Other

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.

Exam Scheduling

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.

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 college. 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.