

**ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
SPRINGFIELD CAMPUS
BNTD 641 STUDIES IN NT LITERATURE: REVELATION
(3 credits)**

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Spring Semester, 2009
Thurs. 6:00 – 10:00 PM
Mar 26 – April 23

COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course explores the meaning of the book of Revelation in its historical and social contexts with a view towards developing sound biblical, theological, pastoral and prophetic preaching material. Preaching themes for the 21st century will emerge as a way to enhance this material for preaching. Content will also receive attention along with a survey of a variety of hermeneutical approaches.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

At the end of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Interpret better a New Testament passage, especially apocalyptic genre;
2. Construct a better expository sermon;
3. Reflect a greater knowledge of the content of Revelation, literary and social backgrounds of Revelation, and the theology of Revelation;
4. Evaluate the various interpretive approaches to Revelation;
4. Express a greater appreciation for the New Testament, for teaching preaching ministries, and for personal and professional responsibilities as taught in Revelation.

TEXTBOOKS

Required

Bauckham, Richard. *The Theology of the Book of Revelation*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1993.

Mounce, Robert H. *The Book of Revelation*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1977.

Recommended

Barclay, William. *Letters to the Seven Churches*, Abingdon Press, 1957.

Osborne, Grant R. *Revelation*. ECNT. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 2002.

Pate, C. Marvin, Gen. Ed. *Four Views on the Book of Revelation*, Zondervan Publishing Co.: 1998.

Thompson, Leonard L. *The Book of Revelation*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1990.

COURSE OUTLINE

Because of the nature of the course, we will more than likely not cover all of Revelation's material; so, we will be selective in focus but will provide overviews where necessary. The reading of the material will help to fill in where the class may not be able to cover. It is expected that both textbooks and Revelation in the Bible will be read for and during the course.

Advanced preparation: Read Richard Bauckham, *The Theology of the Book of Revelation* and write a four (4) page review to be handed in the first class meeting. The review should at least contain a brief but good overview of the book, a personal and critical evaluation of the book, including a comparison with other books/positions on Revelation that the student knows about. Read the Introduction to Revelation in Robert H. Mounce, *The Book of Revelation* and his commentary on chapters 1-3. Also study Rev 1-3.

Also, a ten (10) page paper on a theme from Revelation will be due on April 16. It will be a formal paper in nature even though it is only ten (10) pages in length.

Mar 26

Introduction to Apocalyptic and Revelation
Analysis of chapters 1-3
Hand in Book Review of Bauckham' *Theology of Revelation*

Advanced preparation: Read Mounce's commentary on chapters 4-7; read Rev 4-7

April 2

Analysis of chapters 4-7

Advanced preparation: Read Mounce's commentary of Rev 8-11; Read Rev 8-11

April 9

Analysis of chapters 8-11

Advanced preparation: Read Mounce's commentary of Rev 12-16; Read Rev 12-16

April 16

Analysis of chapters 12-16
Paper due

Advanced preparation: Read Mounce's commentary of Rev 17-22; Read Rev 17-22

April 23

Analysis of 17-22 (The first part of class—the exam will be during the last part)

Exam: By following the schedule provided in this syllabus (i.e., course outline), the student will be prepared for the essay exam as the last item during the last class. Study, then, will progress week by week and should reduce greatly any need to cram.

METHODOLOGY

Lecture

Discussion

Writing: a four (4) page book review and a ten (10) page formal paper

Examination

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Class attendance: As per AGTS policy, more than two absences result in failure of a block class. (3 tardies = 1 absence.)

Prepare for each class by being attuned to the advance of the class and noting the course outline.

Class participation.

Writing: 1) a four (4) page book review of Bauckhman's *The Theology of the Book of Revelation* 2) a ten (10) page paper on a theme in Revelation.

Inclusive Language Policy: As per the AGTS Faculty Manual, all written assignments must use language that is non-discriminatory and includes all people equally.

Exam

GRADING PROCEDURE

Exam	100 points
Book Review	35 points
Paper	65 points

Grading Scale:

Averaged number of points from the above values and appropriate percentage:

100-point Percent Scale

98-100 % = A+¹

93-97 = A

90-92 = A-

87-89 = B+

83-86 = B

80-82 = B-

77-79 = C+

73-76 = C

70-72 = C-

¹ As per AGTS policy, an A+ is granted only in the case of publishable work.

67-69	= D+
63-66	= D
<u>60-62</u>	= D-
0-59	= F

NOTE: Late assignments may be penalized.

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

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SPECIFIC DATA

Syllabus prepared by Benny C. Aker, PhD November 2008