

**STEINBACH BIBLE COLLEGE /
CANADIAN MENNONITE UNIVERSITY: GRADUATE SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY AND
MINISTRY
BI 423 – NT Writings: Revelation
3 CREDIT HOURS
COURSE SYLLABUS**

**Semester 2, 2016-2017
Wednesday, 7pm-9:45pm
January 4 – April 19
(No classes: February 15, 22, March 1)**

Professor: Jared Hiebert Ph.D. (ABD)

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

A study of the book of Revelation, with significant attention given to the nature, general content, and principles of interpretation of apocalyptic writings in the Old and New Testaments.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

In the area of thinking and knowing

1. Understand the general characteristics of the apocalyptic genre and how to approach it.
2. Understand the overall message of Revelation.
3. Understand how to correct misunderstandings and misapplications of the book of Revelation.

In the area of appreciation and valuing

1. Develop an appreciation for the overall Biblical story.
2. Develop an appreciation of the work of Christ.
3. Develop an appreciation for the sovereignty of God.

In the area of living and serving

1. Become confident to live out our Christian faith no matter our circumstances.
2. Be wise regarding our times and thus be of great value to the church.
3. Apply the teachings of Revelation in personal discipleship.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

College Level

The Bible, preferably the English Standard Version

Johnson, Dennis. The Triumph of the Lamb: A Commentary on the Book of Revelation. Philipsburg: Presbyterian and Reformed Publishing, 2001.

Poythress, Vern. The Returning King: A Guide to the Book of Revelation. Philipsburg: Presbyterian & Reformed, 2000.

Graduate Level

The Bible, preferably the English Standard Version

Baukham, Richard. The Climax of Prophecy: Studies on the Book of Revelation. Edinburgh: T & T Clark, 1993.

Johnson, Dennis. The Triumph of the Lamb: A Commentary on the Book of Revelation. Philipsburg: Presbyterian and Reformed Publishing, 2001.

Pate, C. Marvin. Ed. Four Views on the Book of Revelation. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1998.

ASSIGNMENTS AND EVALUATIONS

*Assignments that are different for College and Graduate Levels are indicated.

1. Reading of course texts – 10%

The books must be read in their entirety by the due date to receive credit. Report reading in Populi. Late or incomplete readings receive no credit.

There will be opportunities to discuss the readings in class. Please take advantage of these times to gain a better understanding of the reading.

2. Reading of Revelation - General -5%

College Level

Read the book of Revelation in one sitting 3 times during the semester in 3 *different* translations. Submit a one page single spaced personal interaction with the book. Include the date and translation read. Grading will be pass / fail. Late or incomplete readings receive no credit.

Graduate Level

Read the book of Revelation in one sitting 5 times during the semester in 5 *different* translations. Submit a one page single spaced personal interaction with the book. Include the date and translation read. Grading will be pass / fail. Late or incomplete readings receive no credit.

3. Old Testament Comparison (College Only) – 10%

Read Revelation and Zechariah 1-6. List the different images in Zechariah. Note the parallels to Revelation. 2 pages. 10%

4. Research Paper 1 – Introduction to Revelation

Revelation is a difficult and unusual book that is often read badly and misapplied as a result in the church. Knowing what it is will help to read it and apply it better. Write a research paper that deals with the question: **What is the book of Revelation and how should it be read?** Make sure to cover at least the following topics in your work – genre, provenance, authorship, and context (both political and religious).

College Level – (20%)

5-page research paper with a *minimum* of 5 sources. NB: course texts may be used but do not count as a source. This paper must *not* be written in conjunction with another course.

You will be graded for Content, Bibliography, use of sources, format and style and adherence to the SBC Style Guide.

Graduate Level

10-page paper with a *minimum* of 10 sources. NB: course texts may be used but do not count as a source. This paper must *not* be written in conjunction with another course.

5. Research Paper 2 – Exegetical – 30%

College Level

Write a **7-page** paper with a *minimum* of 5 sources on one of the following passages or topics. NB: course texts may be used in the paper, but do not count as a source. This paper must *NOT be written in conjunction with another course* and should *NOT* be of a *multiple view nature*.

1. The relationship of the seals, bowls and trumpets.
2. The 144,000 in Revelation 7.
3. The two witnesses in Revelation 11.
4. The number of the beast in Revelation 13
5. The millennium in Revelation 20

You will be graded for Content, Bibliography, use of sources, format and style and adherence to the SBC Style Guide.

Graduate Level

Write a **15-page** comparative exegesis paper on one of the 4 topics listed below. You must compare and contrast the views of commentaries from differing perspectives. Your paper must engage with both perspectives within the text and your paper must include a decisive exegetical conclusion. This paper must *not* be written in conjunction with another course.

Topic Choices:

- The relationship of the seals, bowls and trumpets.
- The 144,000 in Revelation 7
- The Millennium in Revelation 20
- The Triumph of the Lamb (The nature of God's victory)

6. Final Exam (College Only) – 25%

A 2-hour exam during Exam Week that will consist of short and long answer questions based on the class material and the course texts.

GRADING SUMMARY (College)

Reading – Course Texts	10%
Reading – Revelation	5%
Old Testament Comparison	10%
Research Paper 1 – General	20%
Research Paper 2 – Exegesis	30%
Final Exam	25%
Total	100%

Grading Summary (Graduate)

Reading – Course Texts	15%
Reading – Revelation	10%
Research Paper 1 – General	35%
Research Paper 2 – Exegesis	40%
Total	100%

Course Due Dates

Due Dates

Triumph of the Lamb Reading Schedule

January 11 – chs 1-2

January 18 – chs 3-4

January 25 – ch 5

January 25 – ch 6

February 1 – chs 7-8

February 8 – chs 9-10

March 8 – ch 11

March 15 – ch 12

March 29 – chs 13-14

April 12 – ch 15

Text Reading

College:

January 25 – The Returning King by Vern Poythress

Graduate:

January 25 – Four Views on Revelation edited by C. Marvin Pate

March 8 – The Climax of Prophecy by Richard Baukham

Written

January 25 – Old Testament Comparison

February 8 – Research Paper 1 - General

March 15 – Research Paper 2 - Exegetical

Final Exam (College Only)

April 19

ACADEMIC POLICIES

1. Assignments

Assignments will be submitted to the instructor on the due date by 4:30 pm unless stated otherwise. Assignments submitted late will receive one letter grade deduction per week to a maximum of two weeks. Assignments submitted more than two weeks after the due date will not be accepted. All assignments must be in by the last day of exams at 4:30 p.m. Grades can be anticipated about two weeks after the assignment deadline.

2. Format

All assignments are formatted in **Times New Roman** 12 point and using the SBC Style Guide <http://sbcollege.ca/Writing_Guides.aspx> unless otherwise noted. The college requires the use of inclusive language when referring to people in general. This practice includes both written and oral communication.

3. Populi

The course will require the use of the learner management system called Populi. If you are enrolled in the course you already have access. Populi will provide a place for you to check your grades. You may also be requested to submit assignments electronically. **Please make sure that all electronic submissions are in Microsoft Word format.** Check Populi for further assignment information, discussion forums, reports, tests, etc. To access the class, login at <https://sbcollege.populiweb.com/index.php> and follow the links to your course.

4. Academic Integrity

Academic honesty requires proper documentation of sources. Academic dishonesty involves inadequate documentation, substantial plagiarism without documentation, complete plagiarism or copying, direct quotations and borrowed ideas without citations, cheating on exams, writing a paper for another student, and submitting the same paper for two courses. Consequences for academic dishonesty range from verbal warnings to expulsion from college. See your instructor for details.

5. Attendance

Class attendance is required because learning in a community enhances your college education. Students with five (75 minute) class absences (more than 20% of the course) will be dismissed and fail the course.

6. Technology

Student learning is enhanced when all class participants are engaged in the learning process. Technology that supports the learning environment is encouraged. But technological diversions like mobile phones, text messaging, non-class related web browsing, gaming etc., distracts from classroom learning. Distracting use of technology will result in losing the use of your device.

7. Course Changes

Students may change courses for full refund and without grade penalty until Tuesday, **January 16**. If a student drops the course by Tuesday, a grade of W is issued and 60% of the tuition is refunded. A student may withdraw from the course by Tuesday, with a grade of W and no refund. After that date, a course withdrawal results in a failure.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Other Sources:

For Anabaptist sermons, papers and articles on Revelation:

<https://peacetheology.net/the-book-of-revelation/>

For an extensive bibliography of books on or about the book of Revelation from an Anabaptist:

<http://ljohns.ambs.edu/APJN%20Bibliography.htm>