Welcome to New Testament Survey: Epistles and Revelation, an online graduate-level course designed to expand your understanding of issues, content, and application of concepts and passages from New Testament writings.

Correct theology is inseparable from correct living. The New Testament epistles reinforce this concept as they demonstrate both the why and how of kingdom living. This course surveys the New Testament epistles and the book of Revelation, examining both the introductory issues and the basic content of each book. You will wrestle with significant and challenging passages by exploring the major issues and then interacting with specific passages through inductive Bible study. The goal of the course is to gain an increased commitment to and capacity for applying these portions of God’s Word to the world and Christian living today.

Upon completion of the course, you should be able to do the following:

- Exhibit an understanding of the contents of the biblical books studied, including identification of each book’s outlines, chronology of events, major teachings, sequence of topics, and most theologically significant chapters.
- Summarize the most important items of historical background for each book studied.
- Understand and evaluate the major critical views concerning introductory questions (i.e., authorship, date, settings, etc.) for each book.
- Appreciate the complexities of the more exegetically and theologically controversial passages surveyed (a) by discussion of the major held views and arguments for each, and (b) by wrestling with one such passage through an inductive Bible study.
- Identify key issues addressed in the epistles to various first-century congregations.
- Be encouraged to persevere in your faith even in light of trials and persecution.
- Look forward to the second coming of Jesus Christ to bring to conclusion His plan for human history.
- Apply these portions of God’s Word in a fair and relevant manner to the world and to Christian living today.
Accessibility

If you have particular accessibility needs, please contact the CUGN Registrar at the beginning of the course. This will allow us to work directly with you to make efforts to accommodate your situation and ensure as full as possible accessibility to the course.

Course Lecturer

Craig L. Blomberg, PhD

Education:
- University of Aberdeen in Scotland, PhD
- Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, MA
- Augustana College, BA

Teaching Career:
- Distinguished Professor of New Testament, specializing in New Testament Studies, Denver Seminary
- Senior Research Fellow, Tyndale House in Cambridge, England
- Professor, Palm Beach Atlantic College
- Visiting professor, St. Petersburg Christian University, Russia; ACTS in Canada; the Seminario Teológico Centroamericano in Guatemala; the Irish Bible Institute in Ireland and at the Wiedenest Bibelschule in Germany
- Special guest lecturer or visiting professor at numerous universities in Australia and New Zealand

Other Career Highlights:
- Ordained Baptist minister, teaching, preaching, and speaking at a variety of churches and educational institutions both at home and abroad
- Helped train church leaders through conferences across the Pacific Rim
- Campus Crusade for Christ
- Active member and regular contributor to the Evangelical Theological Society

Publications:
- Author or editor of several books, including Interpreting the Parables, The Historical Reliability of the Gospels, Jesus and the Gospels: An Introduction and Survey, Making Sense of the New Testament, and From Pentecost to Patmos

Online Professor

Within two weeks of your registration for the course, CUGN will assign one of its faculty members as the online professor. Once your online professor has been assigned, (s)he will be introduced and will guide you through the 8-week study. Your online professor will be available to you by email and can, at set times, be available by video chat or other real-time technology.

The following will be done by the online professor in order to stimulate student involvement and to facilitate effective learning:
• Evaluate and assign grades to all coursework.
• Answer questions that may arise.
• Issue your final grade.

For additional help as you work through this course, please read *Succeeding in Your Online Course*, which is provided at the end of this syllabus.

**Course Texts**

**Required:**

*The New Testament* (in a modern version); e.g., NRSV, NASB, NIV, or NCV (best choice—NIV).


**Recommended, but not required:**


Textbooks can be ordered through our online store at CUGN.org, through your local bookstore, or through your preferred eReader when available.

**Academic Honesty**

At CUGN, we believe all we do is “as unto the Lord” and we thus hold to a high academic standard of honesty; we do not tolerate plagiarism and cheating. Students found guilty of any form of academic dishonesty face consequences ranging from interaction with the Academic Dean to expulsion from CUGN.

Quizzes and Exams: Any student found guilty of cheating on a quiz or exam will automatically receive a score of zero for that quiz or exam. A second offense will result in automatic course failure and possible disciplinary action and/or expulsion from CUGN. Please view the [CUGN Academic Catalog](#) for a full definition and examples of cheating.

Plagiarism: If a student’s work is found to be plagiarized, consequences will vary depending on the nature of the plagiarism.

If an offense is deemed unintentional, the student will have an opportunity to resubmit the work. A second offense will result in an automatic score of zero for that assignment, which may also result in failure of that course.

More serious plagiarism offenses could result in automatic course failure, disciplinary action, or expulsion from CUGN. Please view the [CUGN Academic Catalog](#) for a full definition and examples of plagiarism. If you have questions about plagiarism, or would like to request resources for learning how to avoid plagiarism, please contact our Registrar’s Office at registrar@cugn.org or toll free at (888) 487-5376 ext. 3.
Course Methods

Throughout this course, a number of methods will be used to engage you in learning and processing information, and applying the learning to your life. These methods include the following:

Media/Materials
The course will include media presentations of lectures and supplementary materials to be viewed, listened to and/or read throughout the lessons of the course.

- **Audio-based teaching**
The primary course content will be delivered via audio lectures, including the full transcript of each lecture.

- **Multisensory learning**
Because the primary teaching information is provided in audio and PDF text documents, students can choose the medium (or combination of media) that most closely aligns with their individual learning styles.

- **Readings and other media**
Reading from the required textbooks will be assigned each week.

Interaction
Whether sitting in a traditional classroom or studying from a distance, students benefit from interaction and collaboration with other students. In order to meet this need in distance theological education, CUGN offers structures and resources to encourage effective community interaction in this course.

Discussion Forum
Students are required to respond to questions posted in the course and are encouraged to read and respond to the posts of other students.

Reflection
Through blogging, CUGN provides many opportunities for students to reflect on what they have learned, what they believe, and where they are challenged. The goal of these reflections is personal spiritual growth and transformation.

Course Requirements

This course consists of a mentor relationship, readings, audio lectures, videos, discussion forums, a creative research project, quizzes, and blogging. The information regarding these course components and expectations is as follows:

**Mentor**
This course requires that you seek out a mentor in your community with whom you can communicate by e-mail and/or telephone and with whom you can meet face-to-face at least twice during the course. The purpose of this mentoring relationship is to enable you to assimilate the teaching in this course into your life and ministry. Further definition of the mentor’s role in this course can be
found in the “Mentor Requirements” information available in the Week 1 Assignments section of the course.

**Reading**

Study assignments covered in this course should be read in the context of the lesson in which they are assigned. In addition to the required textbooks, you may be asked to read supplementary materials.

**Audio Lectures**

Each of the lessons in this course features an audio lecture of approximately 45 minutes in length delivered by Dr. Craig L. Blomberg, a leading New Testament scholar. These instructional lectures are required and can be listened to as many times as needed. The written text of the lecture as well as a guided outline to assist in note taking are made available in PDF format. There are 24 lectures in this course; therefore, three lectures will be presented and discussed each week.

**Discussion Forums**

Discussion questions related to each week’s lectures are integrated into the weekly course requirements. You are required to post your own original response to each question in the Discussion Forum. Each response should consist of two to three well-developed paragraphs. In addition, your online professor may comment on your posts, and you should be prepared to respond to those comments.

**Video Presentations**

There are six video presentations related to this course that are required viewing. You will note them in the assignment section in the weeks where they are relevant.

**Creative Research Project**

You will develop a creative research project on a topic of interest related to the subject matter of this course. Upon completion of the project, you will submit a paper describing the project along with any related documentation. More guidance concerning the project will be provided by your online professor during the first week of the course, and you may also find topic ideas and further instructions in the Creative Research Project Instructions document available in the Before You Begin section of the course. The topic for your research project must be submitted to your professor for preapproval prior to beginning your research. Projects may be posted online to be read and commented on by other students. Your Creative Research Project and related writing are due at the end of Week 5. Remember, each week begins on a Monday and ends the following Sunday; therefore, the Creative Research Project is due on the Sunday of Week 5 at 11:59 p.m. EST.

**Quizzes**

You will take a 10-question, multiple choice and/or true/false quiz at the end of each lecture. There is a “remediation” feature built into all quiz questions that allows you to review questions you missed. Once you have reviewed the question again, you can attempt to answer a second time. If you are correct, you will receive half of the normal credit for that question. If you do not attempt to answer the second time, you will not receive credit for that question. You will be given only one attempt to take each quiz. All quizzes are timed (20 minutes) and will be graded automatically.
**Reflection**

You will be required to keep a blog during the 8 weeks of this course, posting *at least once per lesson*. Your blog entries will consist of your response to the Personal Reflection Question found in each lesson’s Class Time. Blog entries can be viewed only by you and CUGN faculty, unless you wish to make them available to anyone else taking the class. The purpose of the blog is to help you reflect on what you are learning, what you believe, and where you may be challenged in your thinking and your life by what is studied in this course. The goal of these reflections is personal spiritual growth.

**Due Dates**

Each week of the course begins on Monday at 12:01 a.m. EST and ends on Sunday at 11:59 p.m. EST. Unless noted otherwise, all assignments are due at 11:59 p.m. EST on the Sunday of the week in which the assignment is due. For example, if an assignment is due during Week 2, you must complete and submit it by 11:59 p.m. EST on Sunday, the last day of Week 2. It is at your online professor’s discretion to penalize late work.

**Course Grading**

All coursework must be completed and turned in to your online professor within five days of the end of Week 8. Please note that it is at your online professor’s discretion to penalize late work.

Your grade for the course will be determined as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage of Course Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Online Participation</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creative Research Project</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lesson Quizzes</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mentor Meetings</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grades will be issued within two weeks of the end of the course.

**Weekly Topics and Assignments**

**Week 1:**

- Listen to the following lectures:
  - #1: *Introduction and Galatians: The Charter of Christian Liberty*
  - #2: *I Thessalonians: Christ is Coming Soon*
  - #3: *I & II Thessalonians: But Not That Soon!*
- Read the following:
  - Carson, Moo, Morris: Chapters 8, 12, and 16
  - Blomberg: Inductive Bible Study Paper
- Participate in the Discussion Forum.
- Complete your blog entries.
• Complete quizzes 1, 2, and 3.
• Identify and contact your mentor.
• Submit topic for Creative Research Project.

Week 2:
• Listen to the following lectures:
  #4: I & II Thessalonians: Application; I Corinthians: Countering Misguided Views about Christian Maturity, Part I
  #5: I Corinthians: Countering Misguided Views about Christian Maturity, Part II
  #6: I Corinthians: The Aftermath of the Letter
• Read the following:
  Carson, Moo, Morris: Chapters 11 and 26
• Participate in the Discussion Forum.
• Complete your blog entries.
• Complete quizzes 4, 5, and 6.
• Have first meeting with your mentor.

Week 3:
• Listen to the following lectures:
  #7: II Corinthians: Countering Misguided Views about Christian Maturity, Part III
  #8: II Corinthians: Paul’s Travels/Introduction to Romans
  #9: Romans: The Most Systematic Exposition of Paul’s Gospel, Part I
• View the videos Romans: The Book that Changed the World, Parts I and III
• Read the following:
  Carson, Moo, Morris: Chapters 9, 10, and 11
• Participate in the Discussion Forum.
• Complete your blog entries.
• Complete quizzes 7, 8, and 9.

Week 4:
• Listen to the following lectures:
  #10: Romans: The Most Systematic Exposition of Paul’s Gospel, Part II
  #11: Philemon and Colossians: Response to Slavery/Christ as Lord
  #12: Ephesians: A Call to Unity in Diversity for All Believers
• View the videos The Land of the Seven Churches: Ephesus and Romans: The Book that Changed the World, Part IV
• Read the following:
  Carson, Moo, Morris: Chapters 13, 15, and 18
• Participate in the Discussion Forum.
• Complete your blog entries.
• Complete quizzes 10, 11, and 12.

Week 5:
• Listen to the following lectures:
  #13: Philippians and Titus: Rejoice in All Circumstances
  #14: Titus and I & II Timothy: A Manual on Church Order/Pastoring a Church
  #15: Gender Roles at Home and Church
• Read the following:
  Carson, Moo, Morris: Chapters 14 and 17
• Participate in the Discussion Forum.
• Complete your blog entries.
• Complete quizzes 13, 14, and 15.
• Submit Creative Research Project.

Week 6:
• Listen to the following lectures:
  #16: James: Faith without Works Is Dead
  #17: Hebrews: The Superiority of Christ, Part I
  #18: Hebrews: The Superiority of Christ, Part II
• Read the following:
  Carson, Moo, Morris: Chapters 19 and 20
• Participate in the Discussion Forum.
• Complete your blog entries.
• Complete quizzes 16, 17, and 18.

Week 7:
• Listen to the following lectures:
  #19: I Peter: Perseverance despite Persecution
  #20: Jude and II Peter: Contend for the Faith/Where Is the Promise of His Coming?
• View the video Peter: A Fragile Stone, Part III
• Read the following from the course texts:
  Carson, Moo, Morris: Chapters 21, 22, and 24
• Participate in the Discussion Forum.
• Complete your blog entries.
• Complete quizzes 19, 20, and 21.
Week 8:

- Listen to the following lectures:
  - #22: II and III John – The Tests of Life, Part II
  - #23: Revelation: God’s Plans for Cosmic History, Part I
  - #24: Revelation: God’s Plans for Cosmic History, Part II
- View the video The Land of the Seven Churches: The Overcomers
- Read the following from the course texts:
  Carson, Moo, Morris: Chapters 23 and 25
- Participate in the Discussion Forum.
- Complete your blog entries.
- Complete quizzes 22, 23, and 24.
- Have final meeting with your mentor.

Week 8 Follow-Up:

- Complete and post all blog entries.
- Complete Discussion Participation, Reading Completion, and Mentor Meetings Validations.
- Complete and submit course evaluation form.

Course Contributors

CUGN utilizes the radio and television teams of Our Daily Bread Ministries to enhance the students’ educational experience. This course uses five videos from the Day of Discovery television program. The expert contributors to these programs are listed as follows:

- Bastian Van Elderen, Th.D. (Pacific School of Religion, The University of California), Professor of New Testament at Calvin Theological Seminary
- Patrick Cate, Ph.D. (Hartford Seminary Foundation), Ambassador at Large and President Emeritus of Christar
- Michael Card, M.A. (Western Kentucky University), Christian author and songwriter
- Mart DeHaan, Litt.D. (Cornerstone University), Senior Advisor of Ministry Content at Our Daily Bread Ministries
- Jimmy DeYoung, Ph.D. (Louisiana Baptist University), Journalist and Conference Speaker
- Meno Kalisher, C.B. (Philadelphia Biblical University), Author and Pastor of Jerusalem Assembly House of Redemption, Israel
- Paul Maier, Ph.D. (University of Basel), Professor of Ancient History at Western Michigan University
• Douglas Moo, Ph.D. (University of Saint Andrews, Scotland), Professor of New Testament at Wheaton College

• Corrado Primavera, Ph.D. (Roma la SaPienza), Director of SEFOVAN Seminary in Italy

Notes Regarding This Syllabus

This syllabus is designed to provide learners with an overview of the course. CUGN will provide specific instructions related to assignments for each lesson, specific discussion question postings, and interactive involvement with all students.

Succeeding in Your Online Course

1. Remember that this is a full semester’s study completed in eight weeks. Therefore, expect that there will be a significant time commitment needed in order to complete all the requirements.

2. If you have any questions about the Moodle learning environment, the course requirements, schedule, or assignments, please contact the online professor who is ready and willing to help you have a successful online learning experience.

3. Technological problems may occur. Be sure to have a back-up plan in case of computer failure or late arrival of textbooks.

4. Before you post a comment or a response to another student’s comment, be sure you have read the material and listened to the lectures related to the topic under discussion.

5. Think about how you can promote additional discussion by the comments you post.

6. When you post, respond directly to the question under consideration and express your points clearly and concisely, making only one main point per post.

7. If you find sources related to the topic being discussed, please share them with the class.

8. Practice good “netiquette”: Disagree respectfully, stay on point, and don’t post anything that is derogatory or inflammatory.

9. Enjoy, learn, challenge, and be challenged!