

COURSE SYLLABUS

New Testament Survey: Epistles and Revelation

Course Lecturer: Craig L. Blomberg, PhD

Course Description

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.

Course Objectives

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.

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:

- Articles in several periodicals, including *The Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society*, *Trinity Journal*, *The Journal for the Study of the New Testament*, and *Themelios*
- 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*

Recommended Reading

Though not required, you may choose to read the textbooks shown below to supplement your learning.

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

Carson, D. A., Moo, Douglas, J., and Morris, Leon. *An Introduction to the New Testament*. 2nd edition. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2005.

Longenecker, Richard N. *The Ministry and Message of Paul*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1971.

Metzger, Bruce M. *Breaking the Code: Understanding the Book of Revelation* (Participant's Book). Nashville: Abingdon, 2006.

Textbooks can be ordered through your local bookstore, various online bookstores, or through your preferred eReader when available.

Course Methods

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

- **Audio-based teaching**
The primary course content will be delivered via audio lectures, including the full transcript of each lecture.
- **Additional Resources**
Lessons may be accompanied by additional readings, images, etc. that you can use to supplement your learning.

Course Requirements

To earn a Certificate of Completion, you must complete the course requirements. Course requirements include:

1. Viewing the following for each lesson:
 - **Lesson Overview:** A brief outline of what the lecturer will cover in the lesson.
 - **Lesson Objectives:** Objectives describe the learning outcomes you should achieve by the end of the lesson.
 - **Lectures:** 45-minute lessons that can be viewed as many times as needed.
2. Earning a 70% or higher score on each lesson Quiz, the Midterm, and the Final Exam. Quizzes and the Final Exam will cover the material presented in the lectures.