

EMMANUEL BIBLE COLLEGE
DIVISION OF BIBLICAL & THEOLOGICAL STUDIES
BN112AAX and BN112AZ
New Testament 2

Winter 2010
Thursdays 1:30–4:15pm

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College Mission Statement:

Emmanuel Bible College provides post secondary Christian education equipping women and men to think, live and serve and lead as mature Christians in the Church and in the world.

Required Reading:

The Bible – Romans to the end of Revelation

Elwell, Walter A. and Robert W. Yarbrough. *Encountering the New Testament: A Historical and Theological Survey*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2005. ISBN 080102806X

Course Description:

An introduction to and analysis of the Pauline and General Epistles, as well as the book of Revelation, with emphasis on their central teachings, dominant themes and primary message for both ancient recipients and modern readers.

Course Objectives:

1. Increase awareness of the teaching and ministry of Paul and the Early Church as recorded in the NT letters and Revelation.
2. Understand the background of each NT letter and the book of Revelation.
3. Understand the major themes and emphases of each NT letter and the book of Revelation.
4. Gain additional exegetical tools and skills for personal discipleship, Christian service and further biblical studies.
5. Appreciate the significance of the message of the NT letters and the book of Revelation for both ancient recipients and modern readers.
6. Relate the content of the NT letters and the book of Revelation to your personal identity, ethics, and behavior.
7. Continue to gain confidence for accurate interpretation of the NT for life and ministry.

Course Requirements:

Textbook Study	14%
Bible Reading Updates	14%
Short Research Paper	24%
Mid-term Exam	24%
Final Exam	24%
Class Attendance and Participation	-
TOTAL	100%

***General Guidelines for the Submission of Written Work**

All written assignments should be typed, double-spaced and follow appropriate formatting guidelines. For this course, use **Times New Roman** font only, use *italics* rather than underlining (including in the footnotes and bibliography), and use **footnotes** only, not endnotes. Failure to follow these simple guidelines warrants a grade reduction. Late papers will receive a grade reduction of 5% for each weekday (or part thereof) that the paper is late. **No assignments will be accepted after the final exam.**

-Newer students at EBC: follow the “Chicago Style” of formatting described in *Cite it Right*.

-For students returning to EBC: you may choose to follow the above or to follow the “Traditional Style” of formatting (**Green** section in *The Essayist’s Companion*).

1. Textbook Study – 14%

In preparation for class discussions and exams, students are required to read pages 253-394 of the textbook, following the course schedule (below). Students can choose one of two options for textbook study:

Option A (Individual Study Reports)

* Due **28 Jan, 18 Feb, 18 Mar** and **8 Apr** at the **start of class**

You will submit four reading reports during the semester. Update 1 will require you to have read chapters 17-18, update 2 chapters 19-20, update 3 chapters 21-22, and update 4 chapter 23, 24 and the Epilogue. In order to receive a grade for the assignment, you must include **two parts**:

- 1) Write a one-sentence statement indicating how much of the required reading you have finished (please indicate the percentage).
- 2) Answer selected study questions found at the end of each chapter in the textbook (I will specify the questions). In order to show that you have understood the material, do not copy the textbook but rather answer the questions in your own words. Your notes can be in point form or paragraph form. The length of your notes will depend on the questions. Students may not copy one another’s notes.

Option B (Group Study Discussions)

* Due **8 Apr** at the **start of class**

Students may choose to participate in a textbook study group **outside of class time** during which you will respond to selected study questions (provided by the professor) found at the end of each chapter in the textbook. Groups will meet *four times* during the semester.

Discussion 1 will cover chapters 17-18, discussion 2 chapters 19-20, discussion 3 chapters 21-22, and discussion 4 chapters 23, 24 and the Epilogue. Discussion notes will *not* be

graded; however, a secretary will be responsible to provide a copy of the notes to the group for study purposes. It is the *responsibility of your group* to arrange the times that you will meet as well as when people will serve as secretary (you do not have to take turns if you do not want to). Groups must consist of 3-5 people only (no less, no more). Groups will remain the same throughout the semester. Each discussion should be a minimum of 30 minutes. Your grade for this assignment will be determined at the end of the semester by peer and self-evaluation. This evaluation will be based on your contribution to the group and on the percentage of the reading that you completed. See the end of the syllabus for the evaluations.

2. Bible Reading Updates – 14% * Due **11 Feb, 11 Mar** and **8 Apr** at the **start of class**

During the semester you will read through all of the NT letters and Revelation. Your knowledge of the biblical materials will be put to test during the mid-term and final examinations. You may choose your translation from the Good News Bible, Contemporary English Version, New Living Translation, New International Version, Today's New International Version, New American Standard Bible, the New Revised Standard Version, or the English Standard Version (*not* the Message). Students are encouraged to make this assignment part of their regular devotions, though this is not required. Three times during the semester you will be required to submit a one-sentence statement indicating whether or not you have finished the required reading. If you have remained on schedule you will receive full marks, if not you will receive only partial marks. Please indicate the percentage you have read as well as how far you have read. Update 1 will require you to have read from Romans 1 up to the end of 2 Corinthians, update 2 to the end of Hebrews 11, and update 3 to the end of Revelation.

3. Short Research Paper – 24% *Due **4 Feb** at the **start of class**

This research paper will be a minimum and maximum of 1200-1500 words (= approximately 4-5 pages). Use the **NT letters** and/or the book of **Revelation** as your primary sources. Use a **minimum of 6 scholarly sources**. Include a bibliography. Please record the **word count** for your papers after your conclusion. Please note the submission guidelines below as well as the document "So you have to write a research paper for Andrew Gabriel?..." Failure to follow these simple guidelines warrants a grade reduction. Choose one of the paper options listed below. However, these are *not* paper titles and the questions given after the topics are *not* outlines for your paper and would likely be poor outlines. As always, I welcome the opportunity to discuss your paper with you.

Paper Options:

-Exegesis Paper: Choose a short passage (about 5-10 verses) and provide an interpretation of the passage based upon clues inside the passage as well as the context surrounding it (both the verses around that passage as well as the cultural context). Commentaries will be most helpful here. Your thesis statement should assert the meaning of the passage.

-Contextualization Paper: Write a paper that addresses a particular issue/struggle you have encountered in a local church. Determine *one passage* (from the letters or Revelation) where the NT addresses the issue (or one that is similar) and come up with a healthy solution for a contemporary local church. Care should be taken to insure the biblical passage's context remains intact while addressing the contemporary issue. Your research and writing should focus primarily on determining the meaning of the NT passage, but your paper will also include a section where you apply the principles from that passage to the contemporary church. Be sure to explain clearly the contemporary situation that you are speaking about.

Also, you need to explain clearly what the principles are in the passage and how they apply to the situation you have described. Please be specific.

-Apocalypticism: What are the major elements of apocalyptic thought? What does the literary genre of apocalypse usually include and entail? What makes them apocalyptic? What is the apocalyptic vision or message of these books? What is the social context of these books? What problems, questions, or traumatic events are the books trying to explain, answer, or address? How do they explain, answer, or address them? What people or situations are discussed? Lastly, how does understanding the apocalyptic genre guide your interpretation of the book of Revelation?

-Women and Gender Issues: What kinds of roles did women have in the earliest Christian churches, especially as reflected in the Pauline letters? Did they have leadership positions? Were they treated as equals to men by Paul or in the churches? Were there restrictions placed on women that were not placed on men? What were women's and men's roles in marriage? What do the women in these texts do? What are they prevented from doing? Can you trace different trajectories in the Pauline traditions about women and marriage?

-Martyrdom and Persecution: Which texts from the NT letters and Revelation deal with the suffering and persecution of Christians? Who is persecuting them? How? Why? How do the communities of these texts deal with their persecution? What do the authors of these texts tell their readers to do about their persecution and suffering? What kind of religious meaning do these authors give to suffering?

-Paul's Use of the Old Testament: How does Paul quote and allude to the Old Testament? What interpretive techniques does he use? What are his aims in doing this?, etc.

-The Delay of Christ's Return: Focus on either the Pauline letters or general epistles.

-The Superiority of Christ in the book of Hebrews

-Justification by Faith in Paul's Letters

-Human Sinfulness in Paul's Letters

-The Example of Abraham in the NT Letters

4. Mid-Term and Final Exams – 24% + 24%

Both examinations will be based upon all the material covered in class and the required reading (from both the Bible and *Encountering the New Testament*). You will be given a study guide to help you prepare for each exam. There will also be scripture memorization required for each exam.

5. Class Attendance and Participation

No marks are given for attendance, but marks will be deducted from your final grade if you skip classes. A student may miss one full class, or the equivalent, without academic penalty. Beyond this, an academic penalty of 6% per class missed (or 3% per half class missed) will be applied. A student must be present for the full duration of a class (you should not leave early and should not be late!) in order to be registered as present for the full class period. Students missing more than three classes, or the equivalent, (regardless of reason) will automatically fail the course. Students wishing to be exempted from this policy due to extenuating circumstances must meet with the Academic Dean to document and verify those circumstances. If you are going to miss a class, you are responsible to arrange to get any missed notes/handouts from another student, rather than from the instructor.

Notes on Citing Biblical Text

When quoting from, or alluding to, the Bible, **integrate the references directly into your paper** (instead of using footnotes or endnotes), and abbreviate the titles when you place the reference within parentheses — e.g. “Paul, in Romans 9-11, struggles with the role of the Jews after the coming of Jesus”; “Paul sometimes struggles (most notably in Rom 9-11) with the role of the Jews after the coming of Jesus”; “John’s Gospel opens with the famous phrase, ‘In the beginning was the Word’ (Jn 1:1).” Please note the following abbreviations of biblical books, which are now common in scholarship: Matt (or Mt), Mark (or Mk), Luke (or Lk), John (or Jn), Acts, Rom, 1 Cor, 2 Cor, Gal, Eph, Phil, Col, 1 Thes, 2 Thes, 1 Tim, 2 Tim, Titus (or Tit), Phlm, Heb, Jas, 1 Pet, 2 Pet, 1 John (or Jn), 2 John, 3 John, Jude, Rev.

Bibliography: See the NT1 Syllabus.

TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE

- This schedule is tentative. Depending on the topic, sometimes we will lag behind and at other times we will leap ahead. Dates concerning assignments and the final exam are firm.
- Additional handouts may be required.

Date	Topics Assignments Due	Chapter Reading	Bible Reading
14 Jan	Intro to the Course (Optional NT1 Final Exam Review after class)	<i>-none-</i>	<i>-none-</i>
21 Jan	The Apostle Paul	ch 17 (20 pp.)	Rom 1-10
28 Jan	Romans Textbook Study Report 1	ch 18 (14 pp.)	Rom 11-1 Cor 6
4 Feb	1 & 2 Corinthians Short Research Paper	<i>-none-</i>	1 Cor 7-16
11 Feb	Galatians & Ephesians Bible Reading Update 1	ch 19 (20 pp.)	2 Cor (all)
18 Feb	Phil, Col, & Phlm Textbook Study Report 2	ch 20 (20 pp.)	Gal & Eph
25 Feb	<i>– Reading Break – No Class –</i>		Phil, Col, 1 Thes
4 Mar	Mid-term Exam	<i>-none-</i>	2 Thes; 1, 2 Tim, Tit
11 Mar	1, 2 Thes & 1, 2 Tim Bible Reading Update 2	ch 21 (20pp.)	Phlm & Heb 1-11
18 Mar	Titus, Hebrews, James Textbook Study Report 3	ch 22 (14 pp.)	Heb 12-13, Jas, 1 Pet
25 Mar	1, 2 Pet & 1, 2, 3 John	ch 23 (14 pp.)	2 Pet; 1, 2, 3 Jn, Jude
1 Apr	Jude, Apocalyptic Literature Revelation	ch 24 (12 pp.)	Rev 1-13
8 Apr	Revelation, cont'd. Textbook Study Report 4 Group Study Evaluation Forms Bible Reading Update 3	Epilogue (7 pp.)	Rev 14-22
Exam week	Final Exam (tentatively, Thurs, 15 April, 1:30pm)		

Your Group: _____

GROUP PEER AND SELF-EVALUATION

<p>My Name:</p>	<p>How many group sessions did you attend:</p> <p>1 2 3 4</p> <p>On average, what percentage of the assigned reading did you complete before the group sessions? _____%</p> <p>I contributed to answering the assigned questions:</p> <p>Always Mostly Seldom Never</p> <p>In light of the above, I feel my grade should be approximately:</p> <p>A B C D F</p>
<p>Group Member Name:</p>	<p>This group member attended this many sessions:</p> <p>1 2 3 4</p> <p>It seemed that this person had completed the reading before our group discussion:</p> <p>Always Mostly Seldom Never</p> <p>This group member contributed to answering the assigned questions:</p> <p>Always Mostly Seldom Never</p> <p>In light of the above, I feel this person's grade should be approximately:</p> <p>A B C D F</p>
<p>Group Member Name:</p>	<p>This group member attended this many sessions:</p> <p>1 2 3 4</p> <p>It seemed that this person had completed the reading before our group discussion:</p> <p>Always Mostly Seldom Never</p> <p>This group member contributed to answering the assigned questions:</p> <p>Always Mostly Seldom Never</p> <p>In light of the above, I feel this person's grade should be approximately:</p> <p>A B C D F</p>

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