Mission Statement:
Our mission is to serve as a leading center of Christian thought and action providing an excellent education from a biblical perspective and global context in pivotal professions to equip Christian leaders to change the world.

COURSE SYLLABUS

REGENT UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF GLOBAL LEADERSHIP & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Mission Statement:
The mission of the School of Global Leadership & Entrepreneurship (GLE) is to prepare today's leaders -- emphasizing innovation, excellence and the impact of biblical principles in today's world, using graduate degree programs in business and leadership that promote extensive learning of those theories and dynamics to drive effective business, management and organizational leadership.

LMSF 623
RELIGIONISTS AND FUTURISTS
SEMESTER: SPRING 2012
COURSE LOCATION: ONLINE

All students are required to read and have a thorough understanding of the syllabus. Any questions or concerns need to be addressed to the instructor.
SECTION 1 - OVERVIEW

YOUR INSTRUCTOR FOR THIS COURSE:

Instructors:
Jay E. Gary, PhD

Please see Blackboard “Your Instructors” section for contact details and best times and methods for contacting professors.

PERSONAL GREETING FROM THE INSTRUCTOR

Welcome to this elective that examines how religionists and futurists have related to each other. Together we will explore how faith has developed as a forward view, both affirming and critiquing human action to improve the future. The course format is multifaceted, including archived lectures, online discussion and feedback, design practice, and peer and faculty consultation. The goal of this course is to empower students to speak and write intelligently on how faith relates to the future.

Dr. Jay Gary

SHORT BIO

Short bios and credentials of instructors are provided in Blackboard under the “Your Instructor” section.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Traces the cultural history of various schools of futurism, whether revelation, progressivism, historicism, science fiction or social science. Students identify these various threads in past literature and examine their assumptions at work in popular culture today. Contemporary issues among futurists and religionists are also examined, such as prophecy, open theism, the science-religion dialogue or integral theory, with the aim of understanding how Reformation faith has both affirmed and critiqued Enlightenment based futures, and vice versa. Prerequisite: LMSF602

Theme Scripture:
Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen. Ephesians 3:20-21

PROGRAM GOALS

The Master of Arts in Strategic Foresight (MSF) is a 33-credit graduate degree (semester hours). This course is part of its selection of electives.

At the conclusion of the Masters program:

1. MSF students will be able to design an environmental scanning system, enabling an organization’s strategic leaders to track patterns of systemic change across trends, events and issues.
2. MSF students will be able to create a baseline forecast of trends for an organization which contains alternative futures, uncertainties, and wildcards relating to the next decade.
3. MSF students will be able to lead a departmental team to develop strategic plans, which includes mission, vision, and goals, appropriately matched to the near-term competitive, customer and industry environment.
4. MSF students will be able to lead a scenario learning process for a leadership team that tests their strategy against a range of possible future developments.
5. MSF students will be able to present their professional specialization, foresight practices, and their Christian faith in appropriate media such as, but not limited to a career portfolio, popular press articles, lectures, and conferences.

LMSF 623 helps students master the skills needed to meet program objective 5 above.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The learning outcomes of this course are based on the MSF program goals above and will develop the following student competencies:

1. Futures: Debate the extent to which the field of secular futurology contradicts or compliments Christian eschatology (O1).

2. Rhetoric: Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of millennial, utopian or progressive rhetoric to humanity's future (O2).

3. Research: Evaluate the futurist writings of a religious leader and weigh their contribution to their audience and the field of social foresight (O3).

4. Integral: Explain how the modern age differentiated science from religion and how an integral approach seeks to integrate them (O4).

The LMSF 623 course assignments are as follows:

- 1 minor projects: m3.1
- 1 major project: M9.1

The table below maps the course outcomes to its assessments:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>O1</th>
<th>O2</th>
<th>O3</th>
<th>O4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>F1A</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F1B</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F2A</td>
<td></td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F2B</td>
<td></td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F3A</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F3B</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F4A</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F4B</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>m3.1</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M9.1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SECTION 2 – COURSE REQUIREMENTS

COURSE MATERIALS

Students are responsible for acquiring the following required books and materials for this course by the time the course begins:


Regent University has partnered with the Regent Bookstore to have textbooks available for purchase for all students, including distance students. Items may be ordered using the secured online catalog found at [http://www.cbamatthews.com/regent/](http://www.cbamatthews.com/regent/). Other sources, including online or local booksellers, might serve your needs as well. Any links to sources are provided facilitate learning and are available in Blackboard. Regent University and this department and faculty do not endorse or recommend any listed non-university sources.

Other required resources will be available online from the Regent University Library [full-text journal databases](http://www.cbamatthews.com/regent/) or the World Wide Web. Certain resources will also be available through Blackboard, such as:


The following required resources were used in a prior course.

- *The Bible* - New Revised Standard Version (NRSV), Revised Standard Version (RSV), New King James Version (NKJV), American Standard Version (ASV), New American Standard Bible (NASB), or other literal English translation.

**Recommended Resources**

Should you wish to study further, recommended resources provide additional depth or breadth to the course content. The following are listed as a starting point to help build reasoning skills and content meaning-making within the course.


**Supplemental Resources**

The following resources are supplemental resources that further define the human futures conversation.


**Historical Resources**

The following resources are supplemental/historical references that have addressed some aspect of the human futures conversation. These represent a wide variety of perspectives and should be read critically, in keeping with meaning-making within this course.


**SECTION 3 – SCHEDULE AND EVALUATION**

**COURSE SCHEDULE AND METHOD OF EVALUATION**

**Estimated Time Commitment**

The course is 12-weeks of interaction that follows the Regent University guidelines. The average weekly time commitment is 10 hours for a three-credit course, resulting in a total of 120 hours for the entire course.

Note: Coursework is scheduled over a seven-day week to provide structure for students residing on six continents. The weekly schedule begins on Monday at 12:01AM US ET (USA Eastern Time), and ends on Sunday at 11:59PM US ET. The program neither suggests nor encourages that students work seven days per week. Rather, in respect for the various traditions to honor a given day during the week, all seven days are included in the schedule so students may elect which days they will participate. See the [GLE Calendar](http://www.regent.edu/acad/global/bb_calendar/home.shtml) for Period and Week dates.

**Course Schedule**

See important course dates, related to add / drop dates, mid-semester breaks and holidays at: [http://www.regent.edu/acad/global/bb_calendar/home.shtml](http://www.regent.edu/acad/global/bb_calendar/home.shtml)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Est. hrs.</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Due date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One (Weeks 1-3) (Jan 3 – 22)</td>
<td>Futures Reading/Viewing/Listening</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>Continuous through 01/22/12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Forum 1A</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>01/22/12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Forum 1B</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>01/22/12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3.1 Futures Essay</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>01/22/12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two (Weeks 4-6) (Jan 23 - Feb 12)</td>
<td>Rhetoric Reading/Viewing/Listening</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>Continuous through 02/12/12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Forum 2A</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>02/12/12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Forum 2B</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>02/12/12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three</td>
<td>Research</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Weeks 7-9)</td>
<td>Reading/Viewing/Listening</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>Continuous through 03/11/12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Feb 13 - Mar 11)</td>
<td>Forum 3A</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>03/11/12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Forum 3B</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>03/11/12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9.1: Religious Futurist (Major)</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>03/11/12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Four (Weeks 10-12)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Integral</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Mar 12 – Apr 1)</td>
<td>Reading/Viewing/Listening</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>--</td>
<td>Continuous through 04/01/12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Forum 4A</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>04/01/12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Forum 4B</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>04/01/12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>Total estimated hours based upon 10 hours per week for 12 weeks</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>04/01/12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This syllabus is subject to change without notice up until the first day of the semester.

Last updated: July 25, 2011

Regent University, School of Global Leadership & Entrepreneurship
1333 Regent University Drive, Virginia Beach, VA, 23464
© 2012 Regent University, All Rights Reserved.