

HOUSTON GRADUATE SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY
NT 761 Revelation and Related Apocalyptic Literature

Spring 2014, Jan.-May Tuesday 9-11:30 a.m.

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The mission of Houston Graduate School of Theology is empowering spiritual leadership through the intellectual, spiritual, and vocational development of men and women in order to advance the gospel of Jesus Christ throughout the world.

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

A study of the Book of Revelation, related portions of the NT such as Jesus' Olivet Discourse and eschatological passages from Pauline Epistles, antecedent in pre-Christian and contemporary Judaism, and the continuation in such works as the Shepherd of Hermas and Apocryphal apocalypses.

II. COURSE OBJECTIVES: The student will:

- A. Describe an overview of the gospel of Revelation of John (2nd Paper).
- B. Explain how description and prescription are appropriately arrived at in apocalyptic literature such as the Revelation of John (Both Papers).
- C. Interact with the issues in the above course description (Both Papers).
- D. Explore at greater depth both a passage and a theme of her choosing that is sensitive to the contexts (Both Papers).

III. TEXTS

- B Beale, G.K. *The Book of Revelation*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1999. 0-85364-851-4
- C Collins, John. *The Apocalyptic Imagination*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1998. 0-80284371-9
- P Pate, C. Marvin. *Four Views on the Book of Revelation*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1998. 0-310-21080-1
- P&K Pate, C. Marvin & Kennard, Douglas, *Deliverance Now and Not Yet: The New Testament and the Great Tribulation*. New York: Peter Lang, 2003 and 2005-On reserve.
- K Kennard, Douglas. *Messiah Jesus: Christology in His Day and Ours*. New York: Peter Lang, 2008, chapter 10 "[Messianic Prophet](#)." Also available online at HGST webpage, faculty, Doug Kennard web page where the chapter is hyperlinked.

IV. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- A. The student will read assignments in text according to schedule. When texts are mentioned also read in the commentaries on those verses. Report on the final paper. Read also the Biblical passages that accompany the sections of the book. 20% of final grade.
- B. The student will complete two papers (approximately 3000 words each) wherein one paper examines a passage for its meaning and the other paper examines a theme from the perspective of John's thought.
1. The paper on the passage needs to evidence why you describe what is going on in the passage. The passage considered should fit the parameters of the commentary unless the student explains good reasons to do otherwise.
 2. The paper on the theme needs to explain if there is anything of prescriptive value from this theme, and why it is ethically binding, and for whom.
 3. The final paper should contain a one page summary including author and emphasis for each epistle.
 4. Each paper is worth 40% of the final grade.
- Begin with a thesis statement identifying what topic and breadth of study you are intending to cover in the paper. Make sure any references to Biblical text are sensitive to what the texts say in the original context. Also, eliminate flaws from your arguments. Discuss alternative views with ramifications and defend your view from Biblical contexts and good reasoning. Submit each paper through **turnitin.com** to **class Id # 7107234, Password: Revelation** . This research paper requires five periodical sources found at the following data bases:

ATLASerials through HGST or Houston Public or Harris County Public Libraries
JSTOR through Houston public Library
NIV Dictionary of the Later NT & Its Developments
You might also find these internet sources helpful:
[International Standard Bible Encyclopedia](#)
[Christian Classics Ethereal Library](#) for Study Bible commentaries and Church Fathers

Do not cite Wikipaedia but you may use it. Only cite internet sites of JSTOR or ATLA journals or .org sites where some evidence of peer review occurs.

- C. Any late papers will have the grade deducted at a rate of 3% per calendar day, so include the date on which you turned in the late paper, or the date on which Kennard finds it will be assigned to it.
- D. Attendance is expected at all classes. Students are only excused for official, college-sponsored activities. If you must miss class, be sure and get notes from another student.

E. Criteria for grading:

A	90-100	
B	80-89	2 Papers 40% each
C	70-79	Reading 20%
D	60-69	

V. Seminary Policies

A. Seminary Plagiarism Policy:

Plagiarism is presenting the work of another person as one's own without giving proper credit for the use of the information. Students must not quote books, articles, essays, or Internet sites without giving proper credit to the author(s). Students should guard against plagiarism by crediting the original author through use of proper citations. Internet plagiarism is a particularly easy and tempting form of intellectual theft. Cutting and pasting sentences and paragraphs from the Internet without citations is plagiarism. Failure to cite Internet sources is plagiarism. Any student who is found guilty of plagiarism is subject to a range of consequences as outlined below.

1. If a faculty member suspects plagiarism, the instructor will investigate. If suspicions are confirmed, the faculty member will present the evidence to the appropriate Associate Dean as a record of the offense. If the Associate Dean concurs with the allegations, the following procedures should be implemented as applicable:
 - a. The faculty member may discuss the offense with the student following consultation with the Associate Dean, but the student will meet with the Associate Dean.
 - b. For a first offense, the faculty member, in consultation with the Associate Dean, may give opportunity for a rewrite of the assignment or may assign a grade of zero for the plagiarized assignment.
 - c. For a particularly egregious case of plagiarism on a major assignment, the consequences could result in automatic failure of the course.
2. The student may appeal the above-mentioned decisions of the faculty member in writing to the Dean of the Faculty.
3. The second confirmed offense will result in expulsion from school. The student will be notified by a letter from the Dean of the Faculty. His or her only opportunity for appeal will be to the President in writing. The President's decision will be final.

B. Electronic Equipment Usage in Classrooms

It is expected that students will use technology (cell phones, laptop computers, iPads, etc.) during classes only for the purposes of class work. Therefore, students should turn off cell phones and refrain from texting and using laptop computers during classes except for the purposes of taking notes or doing research specifically authorized by the course instructor. Students who have emergency needs not covered by this policy must ask for an exception from the course instructor.

C. EXTERNAL LIBRARY SERVICES

A student's ability to get the most out of library resources will enhance the possibility of earning a high grade in this class. Therefore, students should consider using, in addition

to the HGST library, [Search HGST Library Holdings](http://66.196.218.34/common/servlet/presenthomeform.do?l2m=Home&tm=Home&l2m=Home) (<http://66.196.218.34/common/servlet/presenthomeform.do?l2m=Home&tm=Home&l2m=Home>), one or more of the following libraries.

Your ability to get the most out of library resources will enhance the possibility of your earning a high grade in this class. Therefore you should consider using, in addition to the HGST library, one or more of the following libraries.

Houston Public Library— Any resident of Texas can obtain a free Houston Public Library card. Library cardholders have access to all of the books in the library system as well as the use of free interlibrary loans, meaning that HPL cardholders can borrow almost any book available. Cardholders can use the library's website, www.houstonlibrary.org, to search electronic research tools which include the "religion and philosophy database" by Ebsco, and JSTOR. They can also search the catalog and manage interlibrary loans. The website also contains links to WorldCat and other online databases that will enhance your research. The HPL location that is closest to HGST, the Collier Regional Branch (832.393.1740), is located at 6200 Pinemont, which is less than three miles from campus. A better option would be the newly expanded and renovated Central Library (832.393.1313), which is located downtown at 500 McKinney. In addition, HPL has many other locations. The HGST library can give you an application for an HPL library card, or you can print the application form from their website. (For more information, please visit www.hpl.lib.tx.us).

Fondren Library at Rice University— The Fondren Library (713.348.5113) is located at 6100 Main. For more information, please visit www.rice.edu/fondren. The procedure for borrowing books at the Fondren Library is, first, go to the online catalog [www.rice.edu/fondren] to search for available books; second, go to the HGST library and fill out a form, signed by HGST library personnel, to take with you to the Fondren Library for each book; third, retrieve the book(s) yourself; fourth, take the book(s) and the signed form to the circulation desk to complete checkout (return the yellow copy to the HGST library; when the book(s) are returned to the Fondren Library, they will indicate so on the pink and gold copies; return the pink copy to the HGST Library and keep the gold copy for your records).

Cardinal Beran Library at St Mary's Seminary—the home of an extensive theological library, St Mary's Seminary (713.686.4345) is located at 9845 Memorial Drive, only 4.6 miles from HGST. For more information, please visit <http://beran.stthom.edu>. The Doherty Library on the main campus of University of St Thomas is also an option.

Library of the Presbytery of the New Covenant – as an HGST student you have borrowing privileges at this library located at 1110 Lovett Blvd, Houston. To search their online catalogue, go to <http://www.pbyofnewcovenant.org/cgi-bin/rqm/rqm.cgi>.

Other options include Harris County Public Library (www.hcpl.net), where cardholders may use electronic research tools including the "religion and philosophy database" by Ebsco. Also available are the libraries at the University of Houston and Houston Baptist University.

D. HGST Policy on Incompletes

In cases of extenuating circumstances, and at the discretion of the instructor, a student may request and apply for an extension on all required assignments that are not completed by the end of the semester or term, subject to a half-letter grade reduction on the final grade. If an extension is granted, the instructor will record a grade of "I" (Incomplete) and set an extension of time, not to exceed thirty calendar days from the end of the class, within which to complete the work. Additional extensions may be granted only by the Dean of the Faculty and only after a student has petitioned the Dean in writing. If the course work is not completed within the extended time allotment, the grade of "I" will be converted to the grade earned by the student up to that point. The student is responsible to ensure that all necessary paperwork is submitted to the registrar's office by the deadline published in the school calendar.

VI. CLASS SCHEDULE: When assignments are due.

Jan.	21	Syllabus
	28	C
Feb.	4	K ch 10; P & K ch. 1-3, 12-13
	11	P; B, pp. 1-178
	18	Rev. 1-2 remember this means B also from here on out.
	25	3-5
Mar.	4	6-7; P & K ch 15
.	11	8-9
	25	10-11; First Paper Due
Apr.	1	12-13
	8	14-15
	15	16-17
	22	18-19
	29	20-21
May	6	22; Second Paper Due