

Course ID:	Course Title:	Winter 2017
IND 287	Science and Christian Faith	Prerequisite: REL 105
		Credits: 3

Class Information		Instructor Information		Important Dates	
Days:	Tues/Thurs	Instructor:	Matthew Morris, BRE, BSc, MSc, PhD (ABD)	First day of classes:	Wed., Jan 4, 2017
Time:	2:30-3:45	Email:	Matthew.Morris@ambrose.edu	Last day to add/drop, or change to audit:	Sun, Jan. 15, 2017
Room:	A2212	Phone:	403-410-2000 ext 6932	Last day to request revised exam:	Mon, Mar. 6, 2017
Lab/ Tutorial:	NA	Office:	A2158	Last day to withdraw from course:	Fri, Mar. 17, 2017
		Office Hours:	Tues 10-11 or by appointment	Last day to apply for coursework extension:	Mon, Mar. 29, 2017
Final Exam:	Tues. April 18 9:00 am A2133			Last day of classes:	Tue, April 11, 2017

Course Description

This course explores the complex relationships between science and Christian faith, with a particular focus on evolutionary biology.

Expected Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course, students should be able to:

1. Understand the methods and limitations of scientific investigation.
2. Describe Ian Barbour's four theses of science/religion interactions.
3. Place the current Christian perspectives on science-faith relations in their historical context, including the Christian responses to evolution before 1900, the scientific controversies around evolution, the rise of fundamentalism, and the court cases that have shaped the current discussion.
4. Differentiate between the four contemporary Christian perspectives on evolution (YEC, OEC, ID, TE), comparing and contrasting their beliefs regarding the interpretation of Genesis 1, the age of the Earth, the Fall, the Flood, evolution, and human origins.
5. Develop and critique their own understandings of science-faith relations.

Textbooks

Lamoureux DO, Walton JH, Collins CJ, Barrick WD (2013) *Four Views on the Historical Adam*. Eds. M Barrett, AB Caneday. Zondervan MI.

Other required readings are posted on Moodle.

Course Schedule

The following schedule is tentative and may be subject to change. Course readings can be found on the Moodle page; most classes will have a reading posted the week before the class.

Date	Topic	Assignments Due
January 5	Introduction	
January 10	What is science?	
January 12	New Atheism and religious knowledge	
January 17	Four perspectives on science and Christian faith	Autobiography
January 19	In the beginning	
January 24	The Big Bang	
January 26	Program Day – No Classes	
January 31	<i>The Origin of Species</i>	
February 2	Darwin's religious beliefs	Interview
February 7	Post-Darwinian controversies I	
February 9	Post-Darwinian controversies II	
February 14	Post-Darwinian controversies III	
February 16	Post-Darwinian controversies IV	Topic for paper
February 21	Reading Break – No Classes	
February 23	Reading Break – No Classes	
February 28	Midterm	
March 2	Ages	
March 7	Flood	Book Report
March 9	Dinosaurs	
March 14	Design	
March 16	Mutation	
March 21	Evolution	
March 23	The first humans	
March 28	Sin	Critical study
March 30	Salvation	
April 4	TBA	
April 6	TBA	
April 11	TBA	Final self-assessment

Requirements:

Participation – 15% (all semester)

Self-reflection – 35%

Initial autobiography 5% (Due January 17)

Interview 5% (Due February 2)

Book report 10% (Due March 7)

Critical study on key topic 10% (Due March 28)

Final self-assessment 5% (Due April 11)

Midterm – 20%

Final – 30%

BONUS: Attendance to guest lectures or movie nights outside of class time (TBA)

A discussion forum entitled “Science and Christian Faith Discussion” has been posted on Moodle. This is a place for you to post questions or respond to other students, or post interesting links to videos or news articles that are pertinent to the discussion. Disrespectful posts will not be tolerated and could result in a 0 for the participation component of the course. Please see the full list of rules on the forum. **The forum will be closed after April 11.**

For full participation marks, you are expected to do the following:

1. Post a minimum of **2 questions** throughout the course of the semester on the discussion forum. These questions should be pertinent to the course material.
2. You are expected to engage in dialogue with fellow students on a minimum of **4 posts** that you did not create. See the rules for the discussion board on Moodle for more information.
3. You are expected to provide at least **2 news reports not already posted** on some aspect of science and faith. This should **include a brief description of what the article is about and why it applies to the class content.**
4. You are expected to engage with at least **2 professor-led discussions about course readings.**
5. You are expected to participate in class, and show evidence of having done course readings/homework assignments.

The midterm will take place in class and will occupy the complete 1 hour 15 minute time slot. The final will be cumulative.

Information on the self-reflection will be provided in a separate document.

Attendance:

You are expected to attend all classes. Failure to attend without prior notification will result in a loss of 3% per class, to a total of 15% of your total grade (a final participation mark of 0).

Grade Summary:

The available letters for course grades are as follows:

<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Description</u>
A+	
A	Excellent
A-	
B+	
B	Good
B-	
C+	
C	Satisfactory
C-	
D+	
D	Minimal Pass
F	Failure

Grading scheme:

A+	93.0 – 100%	C+	66.0 – 69.9%
A	86.0 – 92.9%	C	62.0 – 65.9%
A-	82.0 – 85.9%	C-	58.0 – 61.9%
B+	78.0 – 81.9%	D+	54.0 – 57.9%
B	74.0 – 77.9%	D	50.0 – 53.9%
B-	70.0 – 73.9%	F	Below 49.9%

Because of the nature of the Alpha 4.00 system, there can be no uniform College-wide conversion scale. The relationship between raw scores (e.g. percentages) and the resultant letter grade will depend on the nature of the course and the instructor's assessment of the level of each class, compared to similar classes taught previously.

Please note that final grades will be available on student registration system. Printed grade sheets are not mailed out.

Other:

Students are expected to complete all assignments on their own. Please be aware of university plagiarism policies.

This course covers controversial subjects. Students are expected to engage with others they disagree with in the following manner. Failure to do so could result in disciplinary action.

- 1. Students and instructor will understand that they do not have complete knowledge regarding the interpretations of nature or scripture, and so will express their current beliefs with the humility of knowing they could be wrong.*
- 2. Students and instructor will listen to perspectives they disagree with in a respectful manner. This includes hearing the perspective to its conclusion, rather than interrupting, and replying graciously. If the student or instructor is feeling angry or combative, they will refrain from speaking until they are more composed.*
- 3. Students and instructor will not convey to those outside of the class the perspectives of any student taking the class.*
- 4. Students and instructor will not treat those they disagree with as if they were intellectually, morally, or spiritually inferior.*

Ambrose University Academic Policies:

Communication

All students have received an Ambrose e-mail account upon registration. It is the student's responsibility to check this account regularly as the Ambrose email system will be the professor's instrument for notifying students of important matters (cancelled class sessions, extensions, requested appointments, etc.) between class sessions. If students do not wish to use their Ambrose accounts, they will need to forward all messages from the Ambrose account to another personal account.

Registration

During the **Registration Revision Period** students may enter a course without permission, change the designation of any class from credit to audit and /or voluntary withdraw from a course without financial or academic penalty or record. Courses should be added or dropped on the student portal by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. After that date, the original status remains and the student is responsible for related fees.

Students intending to withdraw from a course after the Registration Revision Period must apply to the Office of the Registrar by submitting a "Request to Withdraw from a Course" form or by sending an email to the Registrar's Office by the **Withdrawal Deadline**; please consult the List of Important Dates on the my.ambrose.edu website. Students will not receive a tuition refund for courses from which they withdraw after the Registration Revision period. A grade of "W" will appear on their transcript.

Students wishing to withdraw from a course, but who fail to do so by the applicable date, will receive the grade earned in accordance with the course syllabus. A student obliged to withdraw from a course after the Withdrawal Deadline because of health or other reasons may apply to the Registrar for special consideration.

Exam Scheduling

Students, who find a conflict in their exam schedule must submit a Revised Examination Request form to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. Requests will be considered for the following reasons only: 1) the scheduled final examination slot conflicts with another exam; 2) the student has three final exams within three consecutive exam time blocks; 3) the scheduled final exam slot conflicts with an exam at another institution; 4) extenuating circumstances. Travel is not considered a valid excuse for re-scheduling or missing a final exam.

Electronic Etiquette

Students are expected to treat their instructor, guest speakers, and fellow students with respect. It is disruptive to the learning goals of a course or seminar and disrespectful to fellow students and the instructor to use electronics for purposes unrelated to the course during a class session. Turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices during class. Laptops should be used for class-related purposes only. Do not use iPods, MP3 players, or headphones. Do not text, read, or send personal emails, go on Facebook or other social networks, search the internet, or play computer games during class. Some professors will not allow the use of any electronic devices in class. The professor has the right to disallow the student to use a

laptop in future lectures and/or to ask a student to withdraw from the session if s/he does not comply with this policy. Repeat offenders will be directed to the Dean. If you are expecting communication due to an emergency, please speak with the professor before the class begins.

Academic Policies

It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to academic policies as stated in the Academic Calendar. Personal information (information about an individual that may be used to identify that individual) may be required as part of taking this class. Any information collected will only be used and disclosed for the purpose for which the collection was intended. For further information contact the Privacy Compliance Officer at privacy@ambrose.edu.

Extensions

Although extensions to coursework in the semester are at the discretion of the instructor, students may not turn in coursework for evaluation after the last day of the scheduled final examination period unless they have received permission for a course Extension from the Registrar's Office. Requests for course extensions or alternative examination time must be submitted to the Registrar's Office by the deadline date; please consult the List of Important Dates. Course extensions are only granted for serious issues that arise "due to circumstances beyond the student's control."

Appeal of Grade

An appeal for change of grade on any course work must be made to the course instructor within one week of receiving notification of the grade. An appeal for change of final grade must be submitted to the Registrar's Office in writing and providing the basis for appeal within 30 days of receiving notification of the final grade, providing the basis for appeal. A review fee of \$50.00 must accompany the appeal. If the appeal is sustained, the fee will be refunded.

Academic Integrity

We are committed to fostering personal integrity and will not overlook breaches of integrity such as plagiarism and cheating. Academic dishonesty is taken seriously at Ambrose University as it undermines our academic standards and affects the integrity of each member of our learning community. Any attempt to obtain credit for academic work through fraudulent, deceptive, or dishonest means is academic dishonesty. Plagiarism involves presenting someone else's ideas, words, or work as one's own. Plagiarism is fraud and theft, but plagiarism can also occur by accident when a student fails or forgets to acknowledge to another person's ideas or words. Plagiarism and cheating can result in a failing grade for an assignment, for the course, or immediate dismissal from the university college. Students are expected to be familiar with the policies in the current Academic Calendar that deal with plagiarism, cheating, and the penalties and procedures for dealing with these matters. All cases of academic dishonesty are reported to the Academic Dean and become part of the student's permanent record.

Note: Students are strongly advised to retain this syllabus for their records.