



AMBROSE  
SEMINARY

FACULTY OF  
THEOLOGY

**NT 604 *The Johannine Literature* (3)  
Winter Semester Module 2008  
Instructor: Ken Fox**

**Contacting the Instructor**

Class Times: Thursday, Jan 10	6:30 — 10:00 PM
Friday, Jan 11	6:30 — 10:00 PM
Saturday, Jan 12	8:30 AM — 5:30 PM
Thursday, March 6	6:30 — 10:00 PM
Friday, March 7	6:30 — 10:00 PM
Saturday, March 8	8:30 AM — 5:30 PM

Class Location: TBA

Email Address: kfox@ambrose.edu

**Course Description**

A reading of and reflection upon the Gospel of John and 1-3 John. We explore their powerful vision and theology of Jesus and how we can use these writings to transform Christian obedience and spiritual wholeness through a deeper encounter with Jesus Christ and his life and ministry.

**Course Objectives**

At the successful completion of this course in New Testament, students are expected to have achieved competence in the following areas:

- 1 Insight into ways in which they can know and appreciate their vocation and identity in Christ as his disciples

- 2 Knowledge of (1) the reasons why the Gospel of John and the letters of John were written, (2) the major theological ideas found in each book, and (3) the literary and argumentative structure of each book
- 3 Ability to exegete and interpret the Gospel of John and letters of John according to a clearly articulated hermeneutic
- 4 Facility to apply the teaching of the Gospel of John and letters of John in solving problems faced in Christian life and the world today

## Required Texts

Axling, William. *Kagawa*. Revised Edition. New York: Harper & Brothers, 1946.  
(on reserve in library)

Booth, Wayne C., Gregory G. Colomb, and Joseph M. Williams. *The Craft of Research*. Second edition. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2003.

Whitacre, Rodney A. *John*. The IVP New Testament Commentary Series.  
Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 1999.

## Course Requirements

### *Textbook reading (25%)*

Before reading the textbook, students will read the Gospel of John in its entirety and write down questions that they would like to have answered, *things they don't know about the Gospel that they would like to find out*. Hopefully as a result of reading the Gospel of John students will generate a list of at least one hundred questions, if not more. Submit all your questions in bullet form with the assignment.

Then students will read the textbook in its entirety, and discuss how Whitacre answers thirty (30) of their questions. The answers must be brief, in point form, and single-spaced. In a sentence, students may reflect on what they think of Whitacre's answer to their question.

Due Date: Monday, February 11, 2008

### *Exegetical/Thematic paper (25%)*

Students are to submit one papers (maximum ten pages, double-spaced) dealing with the content of the Gospel of John and/or letters of John. Students are free to prepare an exegetical and/or thematic paper.

A couple pages of the total amount should consider ways by which you might apply your exegetical research today. Guidelines will be provided in class for researching and writing. Students are expected to work closely with the professor on the selection of topics, research, and writing of the papers.

Due Date: Thursday, March 6, 2008

*Inter-textuality reflection paper (25%)*

This paper pushes students to read the Gospel of John in a creative, new way. The exercise has two parts.

First, students are to read slowly in its entirety the revised 1946 edition of *Kagawa* by William Axling. The book is out of print, and is on reserve in the Ambrose Seminary library. In three pages (double-spaced) maximum, write up how Christ shaped Kagawa's life, what biblical principles and passages of Scripture he lived by, how his reading the Bible shaped his life. Illustrate briefly from his life how he lived out his obedience to Christ.

Secondly, having in a sense entered into the shoes of Kagawa Toyohiko read the Gospel of John as he might read it. This is an exercise in creative imagination. I want you to reflect on how Kagawa might read and apply the Gospel of John, how he might use it to exhort others. Keep this portion of the exercise to three or four pages (double-spaced).

Ideally, students should not undertake this assignment until you have completed all other assignments for the course. The problem is, there is only one copy of the book in the library, and I have asked that it be placed on a three-day loan (so at least students can take the book out of the library and work on the assignment at home).

Also ideally, students might consider doing this assignment as part of a two day spiritual retreat, where they can leisurely and prayerfully and meditatively reflect on Kagawa's life and on the Gospel of John.

Due Date: Wednesday, April 23, 2008

*Final Examination (25%)*

The examination will be based on class lectures and reading of the Gospel and Letters of John. *The professor will tell students all the questions that will appear on the final exam.* The examination will probably consist of short-answer questions. More details will be given in class.

Due Date: Prior to Wednesday, April 23, 2008

## Course Grade

Textbook reading	25%
Exegetical/Thematic paper	25%
Inter-textuality reflection paper	25%
Final Examination	25%

## Important Notes

Registration and payment in full is due for this modular class by 6:30 PM on the first day of class, **Thursday, January 10, 2008**

Students may withdraw from this modular class and receive a full refund only prior to the second class session (i.e., before 7 PM on **Friday, January 11, 2008**). No tuition refund will be issued after this deadline

Students may voluntarily withdraw or change their registration from credit to audit, without academic penalty, only prior to completing 70% of the course (i.e., before 7 pm on **Thursday, March 6**). Students who withdraw from a course after this deadline will receive a grade of "F"

All Registration changes must be made through the Registrar's Office by completing a Registration Revision Form. Forms are available in the Registrar's Office or can be downloaded from [www.auc-nuc.ca](http://www.auc-nuc.ca).

Submit all written work electronically to the professor

*Policy on extensions.* All coursework requirements and due dates are clearly stated in the course syllabus. Coursework submitted after the due date, without prior approval by the Registrar and Academic Dean of a formal "Request for an Extension to coursework" will receive a grade of "F." Requests for an extension will be considered only in the following circumstances:

- the quality of prior coursework has been satisfactory; AND
- circumstances beyond the student's control, such as an extended illness or death of a family member, make it impossible for the student to complete the coursework on time; AND
- the student submits a "Request for an Extension to coursework" application to the Registrar on or before **Thursday, April 23**

*Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty Policy.* The seminary maintains a zero tolerance policy on plagiarism and academic dishonesty. Plagiarism and academic dishonesty can result in a failing grade for an assignment, for the course, or immediate dismissal from the seminary. Even unintentional plagiarism is to be avoided at all costs. Students are expected to be familiar with the policy statements in the current academic calendar and the student handbook that deal with plagiarism, academic dishonesty (cheating), and the penalties and

procedures for dealing with these matters. All cases of academic dishonesty are reported to the Academic Dean

*Protection of Personal Information:* Personal information, that is information about an individual that may be used to identify that individual, may be collected as a requirement 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@auc-nuc.ca](mailto:privacy@auc-nuc.ca).