



<p>NT 650 - CL</p> <p>Gospel according to John</p>			
<p>Course Description:</p> <p>Above 90% of John is not found in its Synoptic counterparts. Apparently, John thought that he could add to many accounts of Jesus by his predecessors. In this course, John's writing will be taken as its own unique portrait of Jesus. His theological concerns and his literary techniques are analyzed afresh. Special focus will be on the structural relationship between the signs and sayings of Jesus. Other important features of the book will be the role of the prologue and epilogue in the light of the rest of the book.</p>		<p>Important Dates:</p>	
<p>Further Course Information:</p> <p>Before learning about John, we will discuss introductory issues related to not only the Gospel according to John, but also how it relates to the other Gospel witnesses. As a result, we shall develop a multidimensional approach to our reading of this Gospel</p> <p>John's distinctive structure will inform both our understanding of his time and ours. As a result, the course will provide spiritual reflection that would not leave the modern student unchallenged.</p> <p>One outstanding issue unique to John is the way he views traditions. The course will try to address the religious traditions in John's day so that the challenging spirit of John will remain with us today.</p>		<p>First day of classes: April 30, 2015</p> <p>Registration revision period: 4:00PM of the first day of classes</p> <p>Last day to request revised examination: March 2, 2015</p> <p>Last day to withdraw from course: 1:00PM of the fourth (4th) day of classes</p> <p>Last day to apply for time extension for coursework: One month before the final assignment is due</p> <p>Last day of classes: May 15, 2014</p>	

Expected Learning Outcomes:	
<p>It is the aim of the course that students acquire the following skills:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Understanding of John's unique place in the Four Gospels. 2. Finding narrative techniques of John to discover his "point". 3. Identifying some of its distinctive characteristics, emphases and theological themes. 4. Becoming aware of major issues of current scholarship in relation to its nature and interpretation. 5. Making use of the results of their study of this Gospel in considering issues of contemporary significance 6. Reflecting on how academic understanding will impact contemporary faith 	

Outline:

- April 30 – Introduction
- May 1 – Introduction and Prologue of John
- May 2 - The Book of Signs
- May 11 – The Book of Signs
- May 12 – The Book of Signs
- May 13 – The Book of Signs
- May 14 – The Book of Preparation
- May 15 – The Book of Passion and Resurrection

Requirements:

The Gospel of John must be read twice with one more reading following the progress of the class. Students must also read required texts followed by a report on the percentage completed by due date. The first paper is a 6-10 page structural analysis of John's Gospel. I shall go through the method and format in the class. The second paper (also 6-10 pages) should talk about the topic of faith within John's Gospel complete with commentary and journal interactions/reflections. All papers should have appropriate footnotes in conformity to the Chicago Manual of Style.

Submission of Assignments:

The student may submit the assignments via email samtsang@hkbt.edu.hk due July 31, 2015. I do not take late assignments unless there're special circumstances.

Attendance:

Given that this is a module course, it is extremely important that you attend all of the class time.

Evaluation:

45% First Paper

45% Second Paper

10% Reading

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

If you will be using percentages, please provide a scale which indicates how percentages in your class will be translated to letter grades. These equivalencies are at the discretion of the instructor, but **MUST** be stated in the syllabus.

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 no longer mailed out.

Textbooks:

Michaels, J. Ramsay, *The Gospel of John* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2010)

Tsang, Sam (in Chinese), *Eternal Word Spoken* (Hong Kong: Logos, 2006)

___ *John* (Hong Kong: Ming Dao, 2008)

Recommended References:

1. Requiring some knowledge of Greek

Beasley-Murray, George R., *John* (Waco: Word, 1999)

2. Scholarly commentaries that can be used without a knowledge of Greek

Raymond E. Brown, *The Gospel According to John* (New Haven: Doubleday, 2006)

Leon Morris, *The Gospel According to John* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1995)

3. At a less technical level

Gary M. Burge, *John* (The NIV Application Commentary), Zondervan, 2000.

Policies:

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, it is highly recommended that they forward all messages from the Ambrose account to the other account.

During the **Registration Revision Period** students may to 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. These courses will not appear on the student's transcript. 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 by the **Withdrawal Deadline**, please consult the List of Important Dates. Withdrawal from courses after the Registration Revision period will not be eligible for tuition refund. A grade of "W" will appear on the student's 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.

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) 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 engage in electronically-enabled activities unrelated to the class during a class session. Please turn off all cell phones and other electronic devices during class. Laptops should be used for class-related purposes only. Please 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. 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, 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@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 Office of the Registrar in writing 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 to review final grades. 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 College 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 give credit 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.

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

Other

Any added features in the syllabus are optional. You may or may not wish to include elements such as a bibliography, reading list, schedule of lectures/topics, or reporting form.