



International College & Graduate School

TH 602 THEOLOGY III (The Church and Eschatology) SYLLABUS & COURSE SCHEDULE Fall 2005, Revision 050829

Kevin James Gilbert, Ph.D.
Interim President; Professor of Theology
Office: 3rd Floor, President's Office
Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday, 1-3p by appointment
Class Hours: Friday, 6-9p, Room #201
Phone: (808) 595-4247, x102 (B); 779-4499 (R)
Email: kgilbert@icgs.edu
Internet: <http://coursesites.blackboard.com>

PART I: SYLLABUS

Course Description

“A study of ecclesiology (the doctrines of the body of Christ and the local church including its organization, ministry, ordinances, government and purpose); and a study of eschatology [the doctrines of future expectation or ‘end times’], including various systems, major themes and problems, the order of predicted events, and the rapture.”

Specific topics to be covered may be found in PART II: COURSE SCHEDULE. As we explore those themes during the semester, my hope is that we will not merely gain a better understanding of the church and its future hope, but also a greater ability to think about the central themes of the course, comment intelligently on them, and emphasize practical temporary applications.

Course Objectives

1. Grow in accomplishment of intelligent and critical reading, marking-up, and responding to scholarly publications addressing the subjects of ecclesiology and eschatology, and related dialogue.
2. Improve skills of theological research and collaboration traditionally and with contemporary information technology.
3. Understand the major structures of biblical ecclesiology and eschatology.
4. Formulate more certain personal views of ecclesiological and eschatological doctrines and contemporary applications by thinking through related sources.

5. (Graduate Students) Evaluate contemporary theological views on the meaning and significance of the present kingdom of God in contrast with the future kingdom of God.

Course Requirements

Each student's grade will be based upon:

1. Active and well-prepared class participation (10%). Each reading assignment should be completed before the class in which its contents will be discussed. Come to class each day with a 1-page discussion abstract on a related reading section of his or her choice, as well as copies of it for each student and professor. Intelligently and critically participate in the **Blackboard.com** discussion forum and check their email **weekly** or grade will be reduced.
2. Two short “thesis” papers (maximum: four pages, undergraduate; six pages graduate; typed, double-spaced) on topics selected by the student. Papers will be due September 23 and October 21 (20% each)
3. A mid-term examination (October 7; 20%) and a final examination (November 18; 30%). Both examinations will be short-response/essay, and review questions will be distributed no later than one week before each test.
4. In lieu of the final exam, graduate students will write a final paper (12 to 15 pages in length).

Attendance

Class attendance is required. You are responsible for all material covered in class. Students receiving VA educational benefits must attend 100% of class sessions (excepted only for documented illness or emergency), and pass their courses to retain their school funding. While there is no formal deduction for each absence, absences can and will affect your class participation grade and your ability to do well on the exams.

Make Up Work & Extra Credit

Exams can be made-up at the professor’s discretion. If you are to miss an exam, let him know at the earliest possible time. No additional work will be accepted for extra credit.

Information Technology

Using personal or library Internet-enabled computers, log in using your username & password to <http://coursesites.blackboard.com>. Usernames, passwords, and email addresses will be distributed/confirmed during the first class session. Check the site & email weekly (minimum).

Students Experiencing Disabilities

It is ICGS’s policy that no otherwise qualified person experiencing disabilities be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any educational

program or activity in this institution. If a student has an impairment that would require additional accommodations by the instructor and/or the institution, then please inform the instructor, or site director, before the start of the first class session.

Coursework Portfolio

ICGS degree-seeking students are strongly encouraged to retain copies of all research papers. To graduate from ICGS, students must complete a comprehensive Exit Examination. The Exit Examination is designed to summarize the student's program and provide an assessment tool to judge institutional effectiveness. Each Exit Examination will be composed of questions gleaned from the student's course examinations and research papers. It is each student's responsibility, not his or her instructors', to retain copies of their research papers, and to submit them at the start of their last semester.

Evaluation & Grades

Late papers will not receive full credit. Papers and exams remain the property of the school; copies of graded papers will be returned to students or made available for pick-up in the office.

Grade	Score	GPA	Grade	Score	GPA	Grade	Score	GPA	Grade	Score	GPA
A	97-100	4.00	B	85-88	3.00	C	73-76	2.00	D	61-64	1.00
A-	93-96	3.67	B-	81-84	2.67	C-	69-72	1.67	D-	60	0.67
B+	89-92	3.33	C+	77-80	2.33	D+	65-68	1.33	F	0-59	0.00

See current catalog for further information on grading.

Required Texts

Grenz, Stanley. *Theology for the Community of God*. Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 1994.
(Required for graduate students only)

Olson, Roger. *The Mosaic of Christian Belief*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 2002.

Ladd, George E. *The Presence of the Future*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1974.

Ferguson, Everett. *The Church of Christ: A Biblical Ecclesiology for Today*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1996.

Books on Library Reserve

The following books, and others to be added later, shall be placed on library reserve. They may not be removed from the library, but you may sign them out from the librarian or her work study assistant to use in the library for up to two hours. You must also sign them back in.

Archer, Gleason L., et al. *Three Views on the Rapture*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1996.

Blaising, Craig & Bock, Darrell. *Progressive Dispensationalism*. Wheaton, IL: BridgePoint, 1993.

Bock, Darrell L., ed. *Three Views on the Millennium and Beyond*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1999.

Boyer, Paul. *When Time Shall Be No More*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard-Belknap, 1992.

Braaten, Carl E. and Robert W. Jenson, eds. *The Ecumenical Future*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2004.

_____. *In One Body*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2003.

Burtchaell, James T. *From Synagogue to Church*. Cambridge, England: Cambridge University Press, 1992.

Clouse, Robert G. ed. *The Meaning of the Millennium*. Downers Grove: Intervarsity, 1977.

Crockett, William, ed. *Four Views on Hell*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1996.

Gentry, Kenneth. *The Beast of Revelation*. Tyler, TX: Institute for Christian Economics, 1989.

Grenz, Stanley. *The Millennial Maze*. Downers Grove: Intervarsity, 1992.

Hicks, John Mark. *Come to the Table*. Siloam Springs, AR: Leafwood, 2002.

Hicks, John Mark and Greg Taylor. *Down in the River to Pray*. Siloam Springs, AR: Leafwood, 2004.

Hinson, E. Glenn. *The Early Church*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1996.

McKim, Donald K. *Westminster Dictionary of Theological Terms*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 1996.

Vander Zee, Leonard J. *Christ, Baptism, and the Lord's Supper*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 2004.

Viviano, Benedict T. *The Kingdom of God in History*. Wilmington, DE: William Glazier, 1988.

Willis, Wendell, ed. *The Kingdom of God in 20th-Century Interpretation*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 1987.

EXTENDED BIBLIOGRAPHY

An extended bibliography related to the course is available from the professor.

DISCLAIMERS

Books and other resources do not necessarily represent the opinions of the instructor or ICGS. Resources are chosen for their educational value, which must include the understanding of marginal views in order to better engage them.

NOTE: Syllabus and class session outlines only represent *plans*, and may need to be changed.

PART II, CLASS SESSION OUTLINE

Date	Time	Learning Objective	Assignment :
Aug 26	6-6:25p	Introduce & Understand the Course	introductions, get books & Handouts ask questions
	6:35-7p	Familiarize with blackboard.com	explore web site & do assignments (Online with ICGS Computers)
	7:10-9p	Begin Directed Reading	before the next class meeting (Sep 9), read and mark <i>at least</i> the first 500 pages of assigned text reading below beginning with Ladd, vii-42.

Date	Time	Learning Objective	Pre-Assignments	:
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PROLEGOMENA (FOREWORD)

Sep 2	No Class	Reading Week	Continue Directed Reading Assignment	
Sep 9	6-6:50p	Grasp a Theological Method for Doing Sound Ecclesiology & Eschatology	Turn in three questions from last week; read Grenz vii-32;	
	7-7:50p	Theological Method: Hermeneutics and the Development of Doctrine	Olson 9-69; Grenz 743-859; Olson, 307-357;	
	8-8:50p	Define and Describe Eschatology	Ladd, 45-101.	
Sep 16	6-6:50p	Survey Eschatology in Tradition	Ladd, 149-261	

UNIT 1: BIBLICAL ESCHATOLOGY

	7-7:50p	Survey Themes of Old Testament Eschatology		
	8-8:50p	Grasp Eschatological Implications of the Person and Teaching of Jesus		
Sep 23	6-6:50p	Survey Themes of New Testament Eschatology		
	7-7:50p	Relate Eschatology and the Book of Revelation		

UNIT 2: ESCHATOLOGY IN CHRISTIAN THOUGHT

	8-8:50p	Compare Personal and Cosmic Eschatology		
Sep 30	6-6:50p	Observe the Presence of the Kingdom In the inter-advent Age	Ladd, 262-330	
	7-7:50p	Examine the second Coming of Jesus		

UNIT 3: FOCUS ISSUES IN EVANGELICAL ESCHATOLOGY

	8-8:50p	Comprehend Distinct Views of Hell I		
Oct 7	6-6:50p	Conduct Mid-Term Examination		

Date	Time	Learning Objective	Pre-Assignments :
	7-7:50p	Contrast Distinct Millennial Views	
UNIT 4: THE NATURE OF THE CHURCH AND ITS WORSHIP			
	8-8:50p	Define and Describe Ecclesiology	
Oct 14	6-6:50p	Relate Covenant and Christ, Kingdom and Community	Ferguson, 1-119
	7-7:50p	Comprehend the <i>Family</i> of God and its Worship of its Father	Ferguson 207-17
	8-8:50p	Struggle with the Church's Attitudes And "Faithfulness in Assembly"	Ferguson 218-77
UNIT 5: THE CHURCH'S ORGANIZATION AND LIFE			
Oct 21	6-6:50p	Comprehend Baptism in the Bible And Christian Tradition	[Hicks & Taylor, <i>Down in the River</i>]
	7-7:50p	Understand the Lord's Supper in the Bible and Christian Tradition	[Hicks, <i>Come to the Table</i>]
	8-8:50p	Answer, "Do Sacraments Need Recovery?"	[Vander Zee]
Oct 28	6-6:50p	Explore Christian Roles	Ferguson, 281-92
	7-7:50p	Relate Shepherd and Shepherds	Ferguson, 298-346
	8-8:50p	Link Ministers and Ministries	Ferguson 290-92; 333-48
Nov 4	No Class	Fall Break	
UNIT 6: ISSUES IN CONTEMPRARY ECCLESIOLOGY			
Nov 11	6-6:50p	Discuss Women in Ministry	Ferguson 337-43;
	7-7:50p	Relate Denomination and Cooperation	Ferguson 344-45; 364-72; 399-410
	8-8:50p	Unite Ethics, Discipline and Liberty	Ferguson 349-63; 373-98
Nov 18	6-6:50p	Summarize: Grasp the Anticipatory Paradigm and the Presence of the Future	
	7-8:50p	Review for & Conduct Final Examination	