

## BN3130P/ 3139P

### The Book of Revelation: Evil, Empire, and Eschatology

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**Semester I:** Classroom-based (BN3130P); Online – not offered in academic year 2019

#### Description

The Book of Revelation is a highly symbolic, political, and justice-oriented text that speaks to a range of ancient and contemporary issues. This unit offers a close exegetical study of the Revelation in its historical and political setting. Particular attention will be given to the visual context of Revelation, noting how the author of Revelation utilizes and critiques ancient statuary, visual rhetoric, and imperial iconography to expose evil and offer an alternate vision of God's reign.

A Greek tutorial stream will be provided for students with Greek.

#### Learning outcomes

Upon successful completion of this unit, it is expected that students will be able to:

1. Summarize the characteristics of Judeo-Christian apocalyptic literature with particular reference to Revelation.
2. Identify and describe the main theological motifs in Revelation.
3. Describe the socio-political setting of Revelation and the use of images in promoting political and religious ideology.
4. Apply exegetical tools to critically interpret Revelation.
5. Apply research skills to articulate and evaluate theological themes in Revelation and their relevance for the contemporary church and/or world.

#### Assessment

Assessment Type	Weighting
Exegetical Essay (1500 words)	40%
Thematic Essay <b>OR</b> Investigation of Material Culture (2000 words)	40%
Tutorial presentation / Online Forum (1000 words equivalent)	20%

**Pre-requisite:** At least 2 units (30 points) of biblical studies or permission of the lecturer

**Lecturer:** Robyn Whitaker

#### Recommended reading

\* = set texts recommended for purchase

Bauckham, Richard, *The Theology of the Book of Revelation* (Cambridge: CUP, 1993).

Carey, Greg, *Ultimate Things: An Introduction to Jewish and Christian Apocalyptic Literature* (St Louis: Chalice Press, 2005).

DeSilva, David, *Seeing Things John's Way: The Rhetoric of the Book of Revelation* (Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2009).

Fiorenza, Elizabeth Schüssler, *Revelation. Vision of a just world* (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1991).

Friesen, Steven J. *Imperial Cults and the Apocalypse of John: Reading Revelation in the Ruins* (Oxford; OUP, 2001).

Howard-Brook, Wes & Gwyther, Anthony *Unveiling Empire. Reading Revelation Then and Now* (Maryknoll: Orbis Books, 1999).

Huber, Lynn R. *Thinking and Seeing with Women in Revelation* (London: Bloomsbury T&T Clark, 2013).

Koester, Craig. *Revelation: A New Translation and Commentary* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2014).

Levine, Amy-Jill, (ed.) *A Feminist Companion to the Apocalypse of John* (London: T. & T. Clarke, 2009).

Maier, Harry, *Apocalypse Recalled: The Book of Revelation after Christendom* (Minneapolis: Fortress, 2002).

Thompson, L. L. *The book of Revelation. Apocalypse and Empire* (NY/Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1990)

## BN9130P/ 9139P

### The Book of Revelation: Evil, Empire, and Eschatology

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**Semester I:** Classroom-based (BN9130P); Online – not offered in academic year 2019

#### Description

The Book of Revelation is a highly symbolic, political, and justice-oriented text that speaks to a range of ancient and contemporary issues. This unit offers a close exegetical study of the Revelation in its historical and political setting. Particular attention will be given to the visual context of Revelation, noting how the author of Revelation utilizes and critiques ancient statuary, visual rhetoric, and imperial iconography to expose evil and offer an alternate vision of God's reign.

A Greek tutorial stream will be provided for students with Greek.

#### Learning outcomes

Upon successful completion of this unit, it is expected that students will be able to:

1. Explain and articulate the characteristics of Judeo-Christian apocalyptic literature with particular reference to Revelation.
2. Identify and describe the main theological motifs in Revelation.
3. Describe the socio-political setting of Revelation and analyse the use of images in promoting political and religious ideology.
4. Apply exegetical tools to critically interpret Revelation.
5. Apply research skills to synthesis and critically evaluate theological themes in Revelation and their relevance for the contemporary church and/or world.

#### Assessment

Assessment Type	Weighting
Exegetical Essay (2500 words)	40%
Thematic Essay <b>OR</b> Investigation of Material Culture (2500 words)	40%
Tutorial presentation / Online Forum (1000 words equivalent)	20%

**Pre-requisite:** At least 2 units (30 points) of biblical studies or permission of the lecturer

**Lecturer:** Robyn Whitaker

#### Recommended reading

\* = set texts recommended for purchase

Bauckham, Richard, *The Theology of the Book of Revelation* (Cambridge: CUP, 1993).

Carey, Greg, *Ultimate Things: An Introduction to Jewish and Christian Apocalyptic Literature* (St Louis: Chalice Press, 2005).

DeSilva, David, *Seeing Things John's Way: The Rhetoric of the Book of Revelation* (Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2009).

Fiorenza, Elizabeth Schüssler, *Revelation. Vision of a just world* (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1991).

Friesen, Steven J. *Imperial Cults and the Apocalypse of John: Reading Revelation in the Ruins* (Oxford; OUP, 2001).

Howard-Brook, Wes & Gwyther, Anthony *Unveiling Empire. Reading Revelation Then and Now* (Maryknoll: Orbis Books, 1999).

Huber, Lynn R. *Thinking and Seeing with Women in Revelation* (London: Bloomsbury T&T Clark, 2013).

Koester, Craig. *Revelation: A New Translation and Commentary* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2014).

Levine, Amy-Jill, (ed.) *A Feminist Companion to the Apocalypse of John* (London: T. & T. Clarke, 2009).

Maier, Harry, *Apocalypse Recalled: The Book of Revelation after Christendom* (Minneapolis: Fortress, 2002).

Thompson, L. L. *The book of Revelation. Apocalypse and Empire* (NY/Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1990).