

Note:

Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.

COURSE SYLLABUS

THEO 630 **ESCHATOLOGY**

COURSE DESCRIPTION

A discussion of several issues challenging the church today in relation to dispensational hermeneutics, the rapture, the tribulation, the millennial kingdom, the future of the church, and the nations, as well as recent attempts to coordinate Bible prophecy with current events.

RATIONALE

The purpose of this course is to examine the doctrines of “last things” as reflected in Scripture and as developed in Christian theology. Two doctrines define a proper Christian worldview—creation and the “blessed hope.” This study brings the story of salvation history from its inception in the Garden of Eden to its consummation in eternity. It is designed for students wishing to secure advanced study in systematic theology in the M.Div or the ThM degrees of the seminary.

I. PREREQUISITE

For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the [Academic Course Catalog](#).

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASE

Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: <http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm>

III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING

- A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
- B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
- C. Microsoft Office

IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Catalog the principal agents and ideas that shape Christian eschatology.
- B. Judge the relative merits of salient views concerning Christian eschatology in regard to Israel, the church and the eschatological kingdom.
- C. Evaluate the theological significance of contemporary evangelical debate concerning the nature and details of the Rapture and the Millennium.
- D. Compose a clear and compelling research question regarding the principle agents and ideas influencing present understandings of biblical eschatology.

- E. Design a research strategy as assigned to critique, interpret, and judge the relative merits of recent arguments concerning a critical issue in biblical eschatology.
- F. Construct an original and persuasive essay to resolve a theological question posed in regard to biblical eschatology.
- G. Correlate the relevance of biblical eschatology with a Christian worldview and ministry.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

- A. Textbook readings and lecture presentations/notes
- B. Course Requirements Checklist
After reading the Syllabus and [Student Expectations](#), the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.
- C. Discussion Board Forums (2)
Discussion boards are collaborative learning experiences. Therefore, the student is required to provide a thread of 400–500 words in response to the provided prompt for each forum. In addition to the thread, the student is required to reply to at least 3 other classmates' threads in at least 250 words each. (MLO: B)
- D. Annotated Bibliography
The student will submit an annotated bibliography comprising of 5 scholarly sources selected through Liberty University Online's Library, "Christian Periodical Index," or "ATLA Database." As with all assignments, this will be written according to current Turabian formatting. (MLO: A, C)
- E. Position Paper
In this assignment, the focus of attention is upon the issues regarding Dispensationalism vs. Progressive Dispensationalism. The student is to prepare a 1,000-word essay on the strengths and/or weaknesses of Dispensationalism as a means of discerning and defining Christian eschatology. (MLO: A, B, C, F)
- F. Research Project
The Research Project will be submitted in 3 stages. In Module/Week 4, the student will submit a thesis statement, a summary of a research topic, a bibliography, and an annotation of the bibliography. In Module/Week 6, the student will submit the outline and introduction in preparation for the final paper. A template will be provided in the Assignment Instructions folder for these 2 portions of the assignment. In Module/Week 7, the student will submit the final submission, which will be 12–15 pages. (MLO: D, E, F)
- G. Reflection Paper
The student will submit a 2–3-page reflection paper in which he/she will reflect on the 3 most important doctrinal issues relating to eschatology as they pertain to ministry and the Christian worldview. (MLO: G)
- H. Exams (2)
Mid-Term Exam: This exam is an objective exam dealing with the principle agents and ideas shaping contemporary discussions in Christian eschatology. (MLO: A)
Final Exam: This exam will include a series of focused objective questions dealing with

the principle agents and ideas shaping contemporary discussions in Christian eschatology as reflected in the assigned readings of Modules/Weeks 6–8. There will also be several short essay questions relating to discussions of the Apocalypse, the Millennium, and the Rapture. (MLO: A, G)

VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

Course Requirements Checklist		10
Discussion Board Forums	(2 at 50 pts ea)	100
Annotated Bibliography		100
Position Paper		50
Research Project:		
Thesis and Summary		50
Outline and Introduction		50
Final Submission		250
Reflection Paper		100
Exams	(2 at 150 pts ea)	300
	Total	1010

B. Scale

A = 940–1010 A- = 920–939 B+ = 900–919 B = 860–899 B- = 840–859
 C+ = 820–839 C = 780–819 C- = 760–779 D+ = 740–759 D = 700–739
 D- = 680–699 F = 0–679

C. Style Guidelines

All assignments for this course are to be formatted in accordance with the [LUSD Writing Guide](#) and the latest edition of the Turabian style manual (*A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*). Discussion assignments and essay examinations may use the parenthetical citation style. All other written assignments should use the footnote citation style. Supplemental writing aids are available via the [Online Writing Center](#).

D. Extra Credit

No additional “for credit” assignments will be permitted beyond those given in the course requirements stated above.

E. Course Changes

Course requirements are subject to change by the administration of the University at any time with appropriate notice.

F. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online’s Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at LUOODAS@liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport.

COURSE SCHEDULE

THEO 630

Textbooks: Blaising, *Progressive Dispensationalism* (2000).
 Horner, *Future Israel* (2004).
 Hultberg, *Three Views on the Rapture* (2010).
 Jones, *Rose Guide to End-Times Prophecy* (2011).
 Lewis, *The Weight of Glory* (1980).

MODULE/ WEEK	READING AND STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
1	Horner: chs. 1–3 Jones: chs. 1–3 4 presentations	Course Requirements Checklist DB Forum 1	10 50
2	Blaising: chs. 1–3 Horner: chs. 4, 6–7 Jones: chs. 4–5 Lewis: chs. 1–5 3 presentations	Annotated Bibliography	100
3	Blaising: chs. 4–6 Horner: ch. 8 Jones: chs. 6–7 2 presentations	Position Paper	50
4	Blaising: ch. 7 Horner: ch. 9 Jones: chs. 8–10 2 presentations	Research Project: Thesis and Summary	50
5	Blaising: ch. 8 Horner: chs. 10–12 Jones: chs. 11–12 2 presentations	Mid-Term Exam	150
6	Hultberg: Intro, ch. 1 Jones: chs. 13–15 2 presentations	DB Forum 2 Research Project: Outline and Introduction	50 50
7	Hultberg: ch. 2 Jones: chs. 16–18 1 presentation	Research Project: Final Submission	250

MODULE/ WEEK	READING AND STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
8	Blaising: ch. 9 Hultberg: ch. 3, Conclusion Jones: chs. 19–20 2 presentations	Reflection Paper Final Exam	100 150
TOTAL			1010

DB = Discussion Board

NOTE: Each course week begins on Monday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Sunday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday.