

Bible and Theology Department

"Shaping Servant-Leaders"

— Course Synopsis —

<p>COURSE NUMBER and TITLE: BTH 922 Special Topics: Biblical Interpretation and Science CREDIT HOURS: 4 SEMESTER: Summer 2021 COURSE DAYS/TIME: June 14-18, 2021 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. LOCATION: AGTS 229</p>	<p>INSTRUCTOR: Donald A Johns, PhD PHONE: (417) 536-1479 OFFICE: N/A OFFICE HOURS: N/A EMAIL: JohnsD@evangel.edu</p>
---	---

Required Texts:

Bishop, Robert C., Larry L Funck, Raymond J. Lewis, Stephen O. Mosher, and John H. Walton. *Understanding Scientific Theories of Origins: Cosmology, Geology, and Biology in Christian Perspective*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2018. ISBN: 978-0830852918 [This will be our basic "textbook."]*

Copan, Paul, Tremper Longman III, Christopher L. Reese, and Michael G Strauss, eds. *Dictionary of Christianity and Science: The Definitive Reference for the Intersection of Christian Faith and Contemporary Science*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2017. ISBN: 978-0310496052 [You should read any article that has a bearing on readings from other books.]*

Barrett, Matthew and Ardel B. Caneday, eds. *Four Views on the Historical Adam*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2013. ISBN: 978-0310499275 (Contributors: Denis Lamoureux, John Walton, C. John Collins, William Barrick; Gregory Boyd, Philip Ryken). [The historical Adam is probably the biggest theological issue arising from the discussion of human origins.

C. John Collins, *Reading Genesis Well: Navigating History, Poetry, Science, and Truth in Genesis 1-11*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2018. ISBN: 978-0310598575 [One of the most comprehensive works from a conservative perspective on the hermeneutics of Genesis 1-11.]*

Rovelli, Carlo. *Seven Brief Lessons on Physics*. Transl. Simon Carnell and Erica Segre. New York: Riverhead Books, 2016. ISBN: 978-0141981727 [A quick introduction to contemporary

physics by a world-class physicist, who is a specialist in quantum gravity and the nature of time.]

Required Reading, but Your Choice*

1. Genetics. Choose one of the following on genetics and/or its relation to faith, hermeneutics, and/or theology. Each of these involve attempts to faithfully interpret Scripture from a perspective that is *not* naturalism or scientism, but one that does not deny current scientific findings. Pay special attention to the hermeneutical strategies used.

Enns, Peter. *The Evolution of Adam: What the Bible Does and Doesn't Say about Human Origins*. Grand Rapids: Brazos Press, 2012. ISBN: 978-1587433253

Lamoureaux, Denis. *I Love Jesus and I Accept Evolution*. Eugene, OR: Wipf & Stock, 2009. ISBN: 978-1556358869

Swamidass, S. Joshua. *The Genealogical Adam and Eve: The Surprising Science of Universal Ancestry*. Downers Grove: IVP Academic, 2019. ISBN: 978-0830852635

Venema, Dennis R. and Scott McKnight. *Adam and the Genome: Reading Scripture after Genetics*. Foreword by Tremper Longman III. Afterword by Daniel Harrell. Grand Rapids: Brazos Press, 2017. ISBN: 978-1587433948

2. Neuroscience. Choose one of the following on the intersection of neuroscience with theology, faith, and/or hermeneutics. This intersection is the most important for our understanding of our own selves as bodily persons and creatures of God.

Gazzaniga, Michael S. *The Consciousness Instinct: Unravelling the Mystery of How the Brain Makes the Mind*. New York: Farrar, Straus, and Giroux, 2018. ISBN: 978-0374538156

Green, Joel B. *Body, Soul, and Human Life: The Nature of Humanity in the Bible*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2008. ISBN: 978-0801035951

Green, Joel B., ed. *What About the Soul? Neuroscience and Christian Anthropology*. Nashville: Abingdon, 2004. ISBN: 978-0687023455

Jeeves, Malcolm, ed. *From Cells to Souls – and Beyond: Changing Portraits of Human Nature*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2004. ISBN: 978-0802809858

* See Summary of Course Requirements, number 1.

Summary of Course Requirements:

1. Pre-class-week: complete the required reading and submission of three book review/interaction/evaluation essays on or before June 6. Books involved are marked with an asterisk, above.
2. Attend all class sessions and contribute to seminar discussions
3. Submit Hermeneutical Approach Paper, in the appropriate style, format, and grammar, on or before July 5.
4. Submit Exegesis and Interpretation Paper, in the appropriate style, format, and grammar, on or before July 15.

Details on the requirements are a part of the syllabus, which is currently available to preregistered students on CAMS and will be available on Course Commons by May 3.