

Reformed Theological Seminary
02NT5350 • Hebrews to Revelation
Course Syllabus • Fall 2026 • RTS-Orlando

1. Course Details

- 3 credit hours
- Tuesday 9:00 am – 12:00 n (September 1 – December 1)
- Description: “An introduction to the General Epistles and Revelation that includes the history, setting, theme, purpose, and message of each book” (*RTS Catalog 2023–2025*, p. 69).

2. Instructor Information

- Zachary J. Cole, Ph.D., Associate Professor of New Testament, RTS-O
- E-mail: zcole@rts.edu
- Office: Orlando Campus #3-214
- Office phone: 407-278-8167
- Office hours: e-mail to arrange an appointment

3. Course Objectives

- To understand the background, content, message, and redemptive-historical significance of Hebrews through Revelation.
- To understand and evaluate scholarly contributions to the study of Hebrews through Revelation.
- To consolidate and deepen skills related to biblical interpretation.

4. Bibliography

Hebrews through Revelation in an English Bible.

Bauckham, Richard. *The Theology of the Book of Revelation*. Cambridge University Press, 1993.

Köstenberger, Andreas J. *Handbook on Hebrews through Revelation*. Baker Academic, 2020.

Kruger, Michael J. “The Authenticity of 2 Peter.” *Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society* 42 (1999): 645–671. Provided in Canvas.

Vos, Geerhardus. *The Teaching of the Epistle to the Hebrews*. Eerdmans, 1956.

5. Course Requirements

- **Biblical reading (10%)**
 - Read Hebrews through Revelation in English once.
 - If you have not taken Greek, read them again in a different translation.
 - If you have taken Greek, read 1 John in Greek, and the other books again in a different translation (no need to write out a translation.)
 - You will indicate in Canvas the percentage of reading you completed.
- **Textbook Reading (10%)**
 - Read all the assigned books and articles above.
 - You will indicate in Canvas the percentage of reading you completed.
- **Research paper (40%):** Write a 3000-word research paper on a topic of your choice from Heb–Rev. You must propose and defend a thesis, using secondary sources (commentaries, articles, etc.). Criteria:
 - **Argument:** does the paper articulate a clear and coherent thesis?
 - **Focus:** does the paper provide supporting evidence for the thesis?
 - **Awareness:** does the paper responsibly engage relevant sources?
 - **Quality:** is the paper well-structured, logical, and clear?
 - **Style:** does the paper adhere to the style guidelines?
- **Midterm exam (20%):** Covers lecture material only. Completed in Canvas. Includes objective and short essay questions. The midterm exam will require the student to provide a bullet-point outline of Hebrews.
- **Final exam (20%):** Covers lecture material only. Completed in Canvas. Includes objective and short essay questions. The final exam will require the student to provide a bullet-point outline of Revelation.

6. Grading System

A	(97-100)	4.00
A-	(94-96)	3.66
B+	(91-93)	3.33
B	(88-90)	3.00
B-	(86-87)	2.66
C+	(83-85)	2.33
C	(80-82)	2.00
C-	(78-79)	1.66
D+	(75-77)	1.33
D	(72-74)	1.00
D-	(70-71)	0.66
F	(below 70)	0.00
I	(incomplete)	–
W	(withdraw)	–
S	(satisfactory)	–
P	(passing)	–

7. Other Information

- Students are encouraged to read the RTS policy on Artificial Intelligence (see student handbook).
- Late work is subject to penalties determined by the professor and is not normally accepted without permission.

8. Course Schedule

August 26	Classes begin
September 7	Labor Day holiday
September 9	Last day to add a class
September 30	Last day to drop a class
October 12–16	Reading week
November 25–27	Thanksgiving holidays
December 7	Last day of fall semester classes
December 9	Term paper deadline (11:00 a.m.)
December 10–15	Examination period
Dec 16- Jan 3	Christmas holidays

Course Objectives Related to MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes

Course: Hebrews – Revelation (NT5350)

Professor: Zachary Cole

Campus: Orlando

Date: Fall 2026

<u>MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes</u> <i>In order to measure the success of the MDiv curriculum, RTS has defined the following as the intended outcomes of the student learning process. Each course contributes to these overall outcomes. This rubric shows the contribution of this course to the MDiv outcomes.</i> <i>*As the MDiv is the core degree at RTS, the MDiv rubric will be used in this syllabus.</i>		<u>Rubric</u> • Strong • Moderate • Minimal • None	<u>Mini-Justification</u>
Articulation (oral & written)	Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both oral and written, of essential biblical, theological, historical, and cultural/global information, including details, concepts, and frameworks. Also includes ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.	Strong	The outlines, research paper, and exam require students to understand and articulate essential biblical and theological knowledge.
Scripture	Significant knowledge of the original meaning of Scripture. Also, the concepts for and skill to research further into the original meaning of Scripture and to apply Scripture to a variety of modern circumstances. (Includes appropriate use of original languages and hermeneutics; and integrates theological, historical, and cultural/global perspectives.)	Strong	The course content and assignments focus directly on the original meaning of Scripture.
Reformed Theology	Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.	Moderate	Traditional categories of Reformed theology are discussed in class and engaged in the paper and exam.
Sanctification	Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student's sanctification.	Minimal	Direct engagement with Scripture (Heb–Rev) allows students to encounter God in his self-revelation.
Worldview	Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God. Includes ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues.	Minimal	In lectures, students will be pushed to apply their reading to relevant issues in the contemporary world.
Winsomely Reformed	Embraces a winsomely Reformed ethos. (Includes an appropriate ecumenical spirit with other Christians, especially Evangelicals; a concern to present the Gospel in a God-honoring manner to non-Christians; and a truth-in-love attitude in disagreements.)	Minimal	Non-Reformed positions are discussed accurately and charitably.
Pastoral Ministry	Ability to minister the Word of God to hearts and lives of both church and unchurched, to include preaching, teaching, leading in worship, leading and shepherding the local congregation, aiding in spiritual maturity, concern for non-Christians.	Minimal	Instructor will frequently push students to consider how course content can be applied in pastoral ministry