



SYLLABUS

RELT 100 God and Human Life

202231

RELT 100 God and Human Life

School of Distance Education

Self-Paced Format

This course follows a self-paced online format. You have 180 days from your selected start date to complete the course. The last day to withdraw with a full refund is 15 days after your start date.

Instructor Contact

Please refer to course in LearningHub for the teacher contact information.

Communication with the Instructor

It is important to remember that while the Internet is available 24 hours a day, your instructor is not. You can expect that your instructor will respond to e-mail message to you within *2 business days* during the week and may not be available to respond on weekends.

Other Assistance

Username and password assistance	helpdesk@andrews.edu	(269) 471-6016
Enrollment and withdrawal questions	sderegister@andrews.edu	(269) 471-6323
Technical assistance with online courses	dlit@andrews.edu	(269) 471-3960
Exam requests and online proctoring	sdeexams@andrews.edu	(269) 471-6566
Distance Student Services - any other questions	sdestudents@andrews.edu	(269) 471-6566

Part 1: Course Information

Course Descriptions

How God confronts human beings- includes the process of revelation, principles of interpreting Scripture and similarly inspired material, the nature of God and His expectations for humans, and the evaluation of these concepts as presented in Scripture and the classic literature of various religions.

Required Text/Material

Note: Textbooks for online courses may be purchased from any supplier. For financial aid in payment, contact your financial advisor at the university where you are completing your degree. Andrews University degree students who have confirmed that funds are available will then purchase the books themselves and send receipts to their financial advisor for reimbursement.

Rice, Richard (1997), *Reign of God: An Introduction to Christian Theology* (2nd Edition), Andrews University Press, ISBN: 9781883925161

Stott, John (2012), *Basic Christianity*, IVP Books, ISBN-13: 9780802864635

Optional Text/Material

The following materials are required for the course and available online within the course or on the Internet. If you prefer to have a hard copy of these materials, you may choose to order them.

White, Ellen G. [*Steps to Christ*](#)

Credit Hour and Commitment

This course is offered for 3 semester credits; therefore it is expected that you will spend 135 hours total on this course. This course has 11 assignments and 2 exams; so it is recommended that you budget 9 hours for studying and completing the activities for each module. Suggested schedules to accomplish this work are included in this syllabus.

Institutional Outcomes:

- 3.a. Articulate a biblical worldview in order to interpret life, learning, and civic responsibility from a Seventh-day Adventist perspective.
- 3.b. Address the needs of diverse communities in a manner consistent with Christian thought and practice.

Program Learning Outcomes

Graduates of this program will be able to:

- Document foundational knowledge in the areas of Bible, history, and theology from a Seventh-day Adventist perspective (Seek Knowledge)
- Effectively communicate the global mission, beliefs, and heritage of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. (Affirm Faith)
- Exhibit growth in awareness of Christian values and life skills. (Affirm Faith)
- Document service experiences and skills in community and cross cultural contexts. (Change the World)

Student Learning Outcomes

- To expedite the understanding and internalizing of the meaning of God in one's personal experience.
- To facilitate the understanding of how God expresses Himself by means of revelation, inspiration, and illumination.
- To assist in understanding and articulating the broad impact that the Trinitarian concept of God makes on human life and salvation.
- To enable application of an understanding of God to such aspects of Christian living as vocational choice, interpersonal relationships, the use of money, and the stewardship of mind, body, and time.

Part 2: Course Methods and Delivery

Methods of Instruction

Methods of instruction include assigned readings from the textbook and the course material, short essays and book review, blogs, two written papers, and two exams. Regular participation in the course is essential to good performance.

Technical Requirements

- Computer: PC (Win 10 or newer) or MAC (10.14 or better)
- A webcam with microphone, and speakers (or plug in headset)
- Internet: 2.4 Mbps or faster DSL, cable or Wi-Fi connection
- Browser: Current version of Chrome or Firefox
- Software: Office 2013 or newer ([Office 365 available here](#))

LearningHub Access

This course is delivered online through LearningHub at <http://learninghub.andrews.edu>

Your username and password are your Andrews username and password. You need to activate your username and password to access LearningHub.

Please do this online here: <https://vault.andrews.edu/vault/pages/activation/information.jsp> if you haven't already. If you need assistance, call or email us: (296) 471-6016 or <mailto:helpdesk@andrews.edu>.

If you need technical assistance at any time during the course, or to report a problem with LearningHub, please email dlit@andrews.edu or call (269) 471-3960.

Part 3: Course Requirements

Important Note: Activity and assignment details will be explained in detail within each learning module. If you have any questions, please contact your instructor.

Your Schedule

In Learning Hub, you will access online lessons, course materials, and resources. This course is self-paced. You must complete the course within 180 days. This is the Consortium policy. You may have a stricter deadline imposed by graduation, financial aid, or other restrictions.

Start by creating a schedule for completion of the course.

- Determine your deadline. Do you need a transcript sent to your home institution?
- Working from your deadline, count backwards. Allow 2 weeks after you take your final exam for your final grade to be calculated. Allow another 2 weeks for the transcript to be processed and sent.
- Now use the suggested schedules to create a schedule for yourself that ensures completion 4 weeks before your deadline.

Submit your course plan to your instructor within Learning Hub AND discipline yourself to make regular progress.

Assessment Descriptions

Blogs

There are eight blogs. Please, follow the instructions found in the section Writing Good Essays in Learning Hub. Blogs are expected to be at least 300 words in length discussing the given issues, using Biblical texts and other references.

Short Essays

There are 8 short essay assignments each consisting of several questions. Each answer should be one page, double-spaced, 12 points. You may use your learning materials to complete these assignments. There is no time limit, but you only have one attempt.

Midterm Paper

In about five double-spaced, Times New Roman 12 point, typewritten pages, address the following issues as they relate to your chosen passage. Include a cover sheet.

Choose from the following Bible texts:

- Deuteronomy 6:4-9
- Isaiah 43:10-13
- Isaiah 53:1-3
- John 1:1-4, 14
- Philippians 2:5-11
- Hebrews 1:1-3, 8, 10-12
- 2 Timothy 3:15-17

- a. Read your passage in five different versions of the Bible. Then tell what five versions of the Bible you used. (10 points)
- b. Write your own paraphrase or version of the text. (10 points)
- c. After consulting one of the suggested Bible commentaries:
 - SDA Bible Commentary
 - New American Commentary
 - New International Biblical Commentary
 - NIV Application Commentary
 - Tyndale Commentaries
 - Life Application Bible Commentary

write two or three paragraphs describing the history of the time, the social issues (living conditions, state of the government), and something about the geographical area in which your passage was written. Then add a paragraph discussing who wrote your passage. (20 points total)

- a) History of the time (5 points)
- b) Social issues (5 points)
- c) Geography (5 points)
- d) Major theme of book (5 points)
- e) How passage relates to theme (5 points)
- f) Authorship (5 points)
- d. Identify the major theme of the book from which the passage was taken and discuss how your passage relates to that theme. (10 points total)
- e. Choose TWO words from your passage which contribute significantly to your understanding of the passage. After consulting Bible dictionaries, write a short paragraph describing how these words are used in other parts of the Bible. (10 points)
- f. Write a paragraph discussing THREE other places where your passage is quoted or referred to in the rest of the Bible, or where a similar theme is treated. Consult a good Bible with marginal references, a concordance, or a book like Bible Readings for the Home Circle to aid you in finding these passages. (15 points)
- g. Discuss how TWO of the above suggested Bible commentaries interpret your passage; be sure to tell which two commentaries you consulted. (15 points)
- h. In one paragraph, discuss how this passage can be applied to your life. (10 points)

Choices and Plans Paper

Write a 5-page paper discussing how you will handle making choices throughout your life. Consider how to make proper moral decisions and overcome temptations. Include with this a model for how you plan to reach toward sanctification and/or more upright living. Discuss also making wise plans in accordance with God's will. Explore how you plan to seek and recognize God's will. Discuss, for example, decisions you might make concerning career choice, or, if you already have a career path, difficult decisions you might make in that career. Discuss also what you will do in the times when you make the wrong decision. Use Scripture and any class materials to help you.

Analytical Book Review

You will do an analytical review of the book *Basic Christianity* by John R. W. Stott, compared with Ellen White's *Steps to Christ*. This review must be typewritten, Times New Roman, 12 point, double-spaced, and no less than five pages long. Answer the following questions in your review:

- a. What is the objective of the author and how has he met the objective?
- b. Is the book written to a special interest group? Who is the group? Support your answer.
- c. What are the strengths and/or weaknesses of the book with reference to logic, literary style, and choice of material included or excluded from the book?
- d. How has the book affected you spiritually?
- e. Make a statement as to how much of the book you have read.
- f. Contrast and compare Stott with Ellen White's *Steps to Christ*.

Exams

The midterm exam is worth 25% of your grade. You are allowed 120 minutes to complete this exam. You are allowed to use your Bible during the exam. The final exam is worth 25% of your grade. You are allowed 120 minutes to complete this exam. You are allowed to use your Bible during the exam.

All exams in this course require proctoring. Follow prompts in the course space to set up your exam session. In each module that contains an exam, you will find what to review and what materials are allowed (if any) during the exam.

Please read the important information about taking exams and how online proctoring works at www.andrews.edu/distance/students/exams.html. Then follow the instructions that apply to your situation on the [exam request form](#) to set up your exam session.

Please note that an exam code is never released to the student. All students must present photo identification before each exam session. Exams can only be proctored after a deadline with approval directly from the instructor to the Testing Center (sdeexams@andrews.edu or 269-471-6566). No exam is returned to the student for review. The instructor, to aid studying for future exams can provide feedback on exams.

Suggested schedule for completion in 8 weeks:

Module	Lessons	Readings	Assignments	Outcomes Met
Intro	These items will need to be completed before you will have access to the rest of the course	Orientation Course Overview Introductions Academic Integrity	Schedule Introduce Yourself Academic Integrity Quiz Academic Integrity Statement	
1	Lesson 1: What are the Nature and purposes of Theology?	Lesson 1 and C. S. Lewis On "Theology". Rice's <i>Reign of God</i> pp. 1-13.	Assignment 1 Short Essay Blog 1	SLO 1, 2, 3
	Lesson 2: Adventist Theology: Its Basic Christian, Protestant, etc.	Lesson 2		
	Lesson 3: The Resources and Methods of Doing Theology	Lesson 3 Rice's <i>Reign of God</i> pp. 36-41	Assignment 2 Short Essay Blog 2	
2	Lesson 4: Revelation, Inspiration, and Illumination	Lesson 4 Rice's <i>Reign of God</i> pp. 23-34, 205-227.	Assignment 3 Short Essay Blog 3	SLO 1, 2, 3
	Lesson 5: The Question of "Inerrancy"	Lesson 5 Rice's <i>Reign of God</i> pp. 34-36, 115-136	Assignment 4 Short Essay Blog 4	SLO 2, 3
3	Lesson 6: Which Bible Version Should We Be Using	Lesson 6		SLO 2, 3, 4
	Lesson 7: How to Study the Bible Theologically	Lesson 7 Rice's <i>Reign of God</i> pp. 41-44	Assignment 5 Short Essay Blog 5	SLO 1, 3, 4
	Lesson 8: The Trinity: Triune Unity, the Fall Deity of Christ, and the Personhood of the Holy Spirit	Lesson 8 Rice's <i>Reign of God</i> pp. 58-61, 64-71	Assignment 6 Short Essay	SLO 1, 2, 3
4	Lesson 9: What is Sin?	Lesson 9 Ellen White On "Depravity and Sin". Rice's <i>Reign of God</i> pp. 143-150, 156, 157	Assignment 7: Midterm Paper	SLO 1, 2, 3, 4
	PROCTORED MIDTERM EXAM			SLO 1, 2, 3, 4
5	Lesson 10: What is the Atonement?	Lesson 10	Assignment 8 Short Essay	SLO 1, 3, 4
	Lesson 11: A Defense of the Satisfaction Model	Lesson 11 Rice's <i>Reign of God</i> pp. 196-199	Blog 6	SLO 1, 3, 4
	Lesson 12: Calling, Conviction, Repentance, Regeneration	Lesson 12 <i>Steps to Christ</i> Chapters 1-7 Rice's <i>Reign of God</i> pp. 265-267	Blog 7	SLO 1, 3, 4
6	Lesson 13: Justification: Forgiveness, New Standing, etc.	Lesson 13 Rice's <i>Reign of God</i> pp. 267-275	Assignment 9 Short Essay	SLO 1, 2, 3, 4
	Lesson 14: Ellen White and Justification by Faith Alone	Lesson 14 Ellen White On "Objective" Justification Ellen White: Mitigating Statements		SLO 1, 2, 4
7	Lesson 15: Sanctification, Character Change, and Obedience	Lesson 15 Rice's <i>Reign of God</i> pp. 275-280 Begin reading John R. W. Stott's <i>Basic Christianity</i>		SLO 1, 3, 4
	Lesson 16: Christian Perfection and the "Why" of Sanctification	Lesson 16 From the Writings of Ellen White: Perfection Is . . . Perfection and Closing Events Rice's <i>Reign of God</i> pp. 280-282 Complete your reading of Stott's <i>Basic Christianity</i>	Assignment 10: Analytical Book Review Blog 8	SLO 1, 3, 4
8	Lesson 17: How to Know the Will of God	Lesson 17 Rice's <i>Reign of God</i> pp. 289-305	Assignment 11: Choices and Plans Paper	SLO 1, 2, 3, 4
	PROCTORED FINAL EXAM			SLO 1, 2, 3, 4

Suggested schedule for completion in 16 weeks:

Week	Lessons	Readings	Assignments	Outcomes Met
Intro	These items will need to be completed before you will have access to the rest of the course	Orientation Course Overview Introductions Academic Integrity	Schedule Introduce Yourself Academic Integrity Quiz Academic Integrity Statement	
1	Lesson 1: What are the Nature and purposes of Theology?	Lesson 1 and C. S. Lewis On "Theology". Rice's <i>Reign of God</i> pp. 1-13.	Assignment 1 Short Essay Blog 1	SLO 1, 2, 3
	Lesson 2: Adventist Theology: Its Basic Christian, Protestant, etc.	Lesson 2		
2	Lesson 3: The Resources and Methods of Doing Theology	Lesson 3 Rice's <i>Reign of God</i> pp. 36-41	Assignment 2 Short Essay Blog 2	SLO 1, 2
3	Lesson 4: Revelation, Inspiration, and Illumination	Lesson 4 Rice's <i>Reign of God</i> pp. 23-34, 205-227.	Assignment 3 Short Essay Blog 3	SLO 1, 2, 3
4	Lesson 5: The Question of "Inerrancy"	Lesson 5 Rice's <i>Reign of God</i> pp. 34-36, 115-136	Assignment 4 Short Essay Blog 4	SLO 2, 3
5	Lesson 6: Which Bible Version Should We Be Using	Lesson 6		SLO 2, 3, 4
	Lesson 7: How to Study the Bible Theologically	Lesson 7 Rice's <i>Reign of God</i> pp. 41-44	Assignment 5 Short Essay Blog 5	SLO 1, 3, 4
6	Lesson 8: The Trinity: Triune Unity, the Fall Deity of Christ, and the Personhood of the Holy Spirit	Lesson 8 Rice's <i>Reign of God</i> pp. 58-61, 64-71	Assignment 6 Short Essay	SLO 1, 2, 3
7	Lesson 9: What is Sin?	Lesson 9 Ellen White On "Depravity and Sin". Rice's <i>Reign of God</i> pp. 143-150, 156, 157	Assignment 7: Midterm Paper	SLO 1, 2, 3, 4
8	PROCTORED MIDTERM EXAM			SLO 1, 2, 3, 4
9	Lesson 10: What is the Atonement?	Lesson 10	Assignment 8 Short Essay	SLO 1, 3, 4
	Lesson 11: A Defense of the Satisfaction Model	Lesson 11 Rice's <i>Reign of God</i> pp. 196-199	Blog 6	SLO 1, 3, 4
10	Lesson 12: Calling, Conviction, Repentance, Regeneration	Lesson 12 <i>Steps to Christ</i> Chapters 1-7 Rice's <i>Reign of God</i> pp. 265-267	Blog 7	SLO 1, 3, 4
11	Lesson 13: Justification: Forgiveness, New Standing, etc.	Lesson 13 Rice's <i>Reign of God</i> pp. 267-275	Assignment 9 Short Essay	SLO 1, 2, 3, 4
12	Lesson 14: Ellen White and Justification by Faith Alone	Lesson 14 Ellen White On "Objective" Justification Ellen White: Mitigating Statements		SLO 1, 2, 4
13	Lesson 15: Sanctification, Character Change, and Obedience	Lesson 15 Rice's <i>Reign of God</i> pp. 275-280 Begin reading John R. W. Stott's <i>Basic Christianity</i>		SLO 1, 3, 4

Week	Lessons	Readings	Assignments	Outcomes Met
14	Lesson 16: Christian Perfection and the “Why” of Sanctification	Lesson 16 From the Writings of Ellen White: Perfection Is . . . Perfection and Closing Events Rice’s <i>Reign of God</i> pp. 280-282 Complete your reading of Stott’s <i>Basic Christianity</i>	Assignment 10: Analytical Book Review Blog 8	SLO 1, 3, 4
15	Lesson 17: How to Know the Will of God	Lesson 17 Rice’s <i>Reign of God</i> pp. 289-305	Assignment 11: Choices and Plans Paper	SLO 1, 2, 3, 4
16	PROCTORED FINAL EXAM			SLO 1, 2, 3, 4

Completing Assignments

All assignments for this course will be submitted electronically through LearningHub unless otherwise instructed. Assignments and exams must be completed **within 180 days** of course registration date. This timeframe is subject to change depending on deadlines set by your home institution.

Part 4: Grading Policy

Graded Course Activities

Percent %	Description
10	Short Essays (Assignments 1-6 & 8-9)
10	Blogs
10	Midterm Paper (Assignment 7)
10	Analytical Book Review (Assignment 10)
10	Choices & Plans Paper (Assignment 11)
25	Midterm Exam
25	Final Exam
100	Total Percent Possible

Viewing Grades in Moodle

- Click into the course.
- Click on the **Grades** link in Administration Block to the left of the main course page.

Letter Grade Assignment

Letter Grade	Percentage
A	93-100%
A-	90-92%
B+	88-89%
B	83-87%
B-	80-82%

Letter Grade	Percentage
C+	78-79%
C	73-77%
C-	70-72%
D	60-69%
F	0-59%

Part 5: Course Policies

Withdrawal and Incomplete Policies

The current withdrawal policy can be found online at <https://www.andrews.edu/distance/students/gradplus/withdrawal.html>. The incomplete policy is found online at <http://www.andrews.edu/web/msc/moodle/public/incompletes.html>.

Maintain Professional Conduct Both in the Classroom and Online

The classroom is a professional environment where academic debate and learning take place. Your instructor will make every effort to make this environment safe for you to share your opinions, ideas, and beliefs. In return, you are expected to respect the opinions, ideas, and beliefs of other students—both in the face-to-face classroom and online communication. Students have the right and privilege to learn in the class, free from harassment and disruption.

Academic Accommodations

Students who require accommodations may request an academic adjustment as follows:

1. Read the Andrews University Disability Accommodation information at <https://www.andrews.edu/services/sscenter/disability/>
2. Download and fill in the disability form at <http://www.andrews.edu/services/sscenter/disability/accommodationsreqform.pdf>. Preferably type answers. To save a digital copy, 1) print to file and save or 2) print and scan. Email the completed form and disability documentation (if any) to success@andrews.edu or fax it to (269) 471-8407.
3. Email sdestudents@andrews.edu to inform the School of Distance Education that a disability has been reported to Student Success.

Commitment to Integrity

As a student in this course, and at the university, you are expected to maintain high degrees of professionalism, commitment to active learning, participation in this course, and integrity in your behavior in and out of this online classroom.

Commitment to Excellence

You deserve a standing ovation based on your decision to enroll in, and effectively complete this course. Along with your pledge of “commitment to Integrity” you are expected to adhere to a “commitment to excellence.” Andrews University has established high academic standards that will truly enhance your writing and communication skills across the disciplines and in diverse milieu with many discourse communities in the workplace.

Honesty

Using the work of another student or allowing work to be used by another student jeopardizes not only the teacher-student relationship but also the student’s academic standing. Lessons may be discussed with other students, tutors may help to guide a student’s work, and textbooks, encyclopedias and other resource materials may be used for additional assistance, but the actual response must be the student’s own work. A student who gives information to another student to be used in a dishonest way is equally guilty of dishonesty.

Any violation of this policy will be taken before the Higher Education Academic and Curriculum Committee for appropriate punitive action.

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