



LEAVELL COLLEGE

AT NEW ORLEANS BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

New Testament Survey: LCCF1330-01

Fall 2023

Monday 12:30-3:20

Dr. Norris Grubbs
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New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Leavell College prepare servants to walk with Christ, proclaim His truth, and fulfill His mission.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The purpose of the course is to introduce the student to the background and literature of the New Testament. After a background study of the historical and cultural factors of the inter-biblical period and of pertinent political and geographical factors, the remainder of the course is devoted to a book-by-book study, including introductory matters for each book and a content summary. This course is a prerequisite for all New Testament interpretation courses.

COURSE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the conclusion of the semester, the student will:

1. understand the introductory issues of the New Testament,
2. demonstrate his or her understanding of the texts and themes in the historical context through discussion and written examinations, and
3. relate his or her understanding of the value of the New Testament as the revelation of God.

COURSE TEXTS

The following textbooks are **required**:

Lea, Thomas D. and David Alan Black. *The New Testament: Its Background and Message*. 2d ed. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 2003.

Any modern English translation of the Holy Bible (NIV, ESV, NASB, HCSB, etc.)

Extra credit reading options:

Longenecker, Bruce. *The Lost Letters of Pergamum*. 2d ed. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2016.

Any book from the *A Week in the Life of...* series.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

| Week | Date | Topic | Readings | |
|------|-------|--|-------------------------------|------------|
| | | | Lea & Black textbook | Assignment |
| 1 | 8/14 | Course Introduction, NT Text and Canon Intertestamental History | 69-82 7-30 | |
| 2 | 8/21 | Life in the NT World Life of Jesus Intro to Gospels | 31-67 85-111 171-221 | |
| 3 | 8/28 | Exam 1 Synoptic Problem Gospel of Mark | 113-30 140-146 | |
| 4 | 9/4 | Labor Day | | |
| 5 | 9/11 | Gospel of Matthew Gospel of Luke Gospel of John | 131-140 146-155 156-169 | |
| 6 | 9/18 | Acts | 281-329 | |
| 7 | 9/25 | Exam 2 Life of Paul Galatians | 333-361 363-377 | |
| 8 | 10/2 | Fall Break | | |
| 9 | 10/9 | 1 & 2 Thessalonians Corinthian Correspondence 1 & 2 Corinthians | 377-388 402-406 407-429 | |
| 10 | 10/16 | Exam 3 Romans Intro to Prison Epistles | 389-402 431-436 | |
| 11 | 10/23 | Colossians Philemon Ephesians | 449-457 457-462 436-441 | |
| 12 | 10/30 | Philippians Pastoral Epistles | 442-449 463-473 | |
| 13 | 11/6 | Exam 4 Hebrews James | 495-509 511-524 | |
| 14 | 11/13 | 1 & 2 Peter Jude ETS | 525-549 567-75; | |

| | | | | |
|----|-------|----------------------------|--------------------|---|
| 15 | 11/20 | Thanksgiving Break | | |
| 17 | 11/27 | Letters of John Revelation | 551-565 577-605 | Finish Final Exam by 12/7, 11:59pm |

1. Attendance and Participation: Students are expected to attend and participate in the class sessions. Any student missing more than nine hours may receive an automatic grade of "F" for the course. Three tardies will count as one absence.
2. Reading Log: The student is required to read the assigned material **before** coming to class. The reading log at the end of the syllabus will be used to assess the reading. As needed, quizzes will be given.
3. Exams: The student will take four sectional exams and a final exam.
4. NT Reading: The student is required to read the entire New Testament by the end of the semester. The reading statement at the end of the syllabus will be used to assess the reading.

Please Note: The student is responsible for scheduling make-up exams. **No make-up exams will be given unless a valid excuse is provided. The student must contact the professor before the exam unless circumstances prohibit it.** The professor reserves the right to include any material from the textbook or lecture on the make-up exam. **All make-up exams must be scheduled within two weeks from the scheduled date.**

GRADING SCALE

A: 93 – 100
 B: 85 – 92
 C: 77 – 84
 D: 70 – 76
 F: below 70

FINAL GRADE TABULATION

| | |
|---------------------|-----|
| NT Reading | 5% |
| Class Participation | 10% |
| Reading Log | 10% |
| Sectional Exam #1 | 15% |
| Sectional Exam #2 | 15% |
| Sectional Exam #3 | 15% |
| Sectional Exam #4 | 15% |
| Final Exam | 15% |

Extra Credit: For a possibility of three points on the final grade, the student may read and review either of the optional texts. The review should consist of a 1-2 page summary of the contents of the book followed by a 1-2 page reaction to the contents of the work evaluating strengths and weaknesses. Extra credit work must be turned in by the day of the final. No late extra credit work will be accepted.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Final Exam, December 4, 12:00 – 2:00.

ADDITIONAL COURSE INFORMATION

1. Plagiarism Policy: A high standard of personal integrity is expected of all Leavell College students. Copying another person's work, submitting downloaded material without

proper references, submitting material without properly citing the source, submitting the same material for credit in more than one course, and committing other such forms of dishonesty are strictly forbidden. *Although anything cited in three sources is considered public domain, we require that all sources be cited.* Any infraction may result in failing the assignment and the course. Any infraction will be reported to the Dean of Leavell College for further action.

2. *Classroom and Online Decorum*: Each student is expected to demonstrate appropriate Christian behavior. The student is expected to interact with other students in a fashion that will promote learning and respect for the opinions of the others in the course. A spirit of Christian charity is expected at all times. Electronic devices should be used only for classroom purposes as indicated by the professor.
3. *Special Needs*: If you need accommodations for a disability, please set up a meeting with the professor for consideration of any modifications you may need.
4. *Emergency Plan*: In the event the NOBTS schedule is impacted due to a natural event, go to the seminary's website for pertinent information. Class will continue as scheduled through the Canvas site. Please note announcements and assignments on the course's Canvas site.
5. *Technical Assistance*: For general NOBTS technical help, go to www.NOBTS.edu/itc/
6. *Style Guide*: A copy of the approved NOBTS Style Guide can be found in the course Canvas shell, or can be located online at the Writing Center's page on the seminary website at: <https://www.nobts.edu/resources/pdf/writing/StyleGuide.pdf>

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Barrett, C. K. ed. *The New Testament Background*. Rev. ed. San Francisco: Harper Collins Publishers, 1987.

Brown, R.E. *An Introduction to the New Testament*. New York: Paulist Press, 1998.

Burge, Gary M. *A Week in the Life of a Roman Centurion*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2015.

Carson, D. A., Douglas J. Moo, and Leon Morris. *An Introduction to the New Testament*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing, 1992.

Carson, D.A. *New Testament Commentary Survey*. 4th ed. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1993.

Dauids, P.H. eds. *Dictionary of the Later New Testament and Its Developments*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 1998.

Elwell, Walter A. and Robert W. Yarbrough, eds. *Readings from the First-Century World*. Primary Sources for New Testament Studies. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1998.

Fee, Gordon D. and Douglas Stuart. *How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth*. 3d ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 2003.

Ferguson, Everett. *Backgrounds of Early Christianity*. 2d ed. Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1993.

Lea, Thomas D. and David Alan Black. *The New Testament: Its Background and Message*. 2d ed. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 2003.

Theissen, Gerd. *The Shadow of the Galilean*. Philadelphia: Fortress, Press, 1987.

Ryken, Leland. *How to Read the Bible as Literature... and Get More Out of It*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1984.

Walton, John H. and Craig S. Keener eds. *NIV Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible: Bringing to Life the Ancient World of Scripture*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2016.

Reading Log

Name: _____

Please put the date you completed the reading assignments.

| Date | Topic | Readings | |
|-------|--|-------------------------------|-----------|
| | | Lea & Black textbook | Date Read |
| 8/21 | NT Text and Canon Intertestamental History | 69-82 7-30 | |
| 8/21 | Life in the NT World Life of Jesus Intro to Gospels | 31-67 85-111 171-221 | |
| 8/28 | Synoptic Problem Gospel of Mark | 113-30 140-146 | |
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| 11/13 | 1 & 2 Peter Jude | 525-549 567-575 | |
| 11/27 | Letters of John Revelation | 551-565 577-605 | |

NT Reading Statement

I _____ have completed reading the entire New Testament this semester.

Check One

Yes _____

No _____

If no, what percentage did you read. _____

Note: Submitting this statement will count as your signature and your pledge that this statement is true.