

## **THE GOSPEL OF MARK (NTEN 5302)**

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary  
New Testament Department, Biblical Studies Division  
Dr. Bill Warren, Landrum P. Leavell, II, Professor of NT and Greek  
BIBLELANDS ISRAEL TRIP, Jan. 2018

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### **NOBTS MISSION STATEMENT:**

The mission of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary is to equip leaders to fulfill the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.

### **COURSE PURPOSE, CORE VALUE FOCUS, AND CURRICULUM COMPETENCIES:**

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary has five core values: Doctrinal Integrity, Spiritual Vitality, Mission Focus, Characteristic Excellence, and Servant Leadership. These values shape both the context and manner in which all curricula are taught, with “doctrinal integrity” and “academic excellence” especially highlighted in this course. Servant Leadership is being emphasized this year at NOBTS and its courses.

NOBTS has seven basic competencies guiding our Masters degree programs: Biblical Exposition, Christian Theological Heritage, Disciple Making, Interpersonal Skills, Servant Leadership, Spiritual & Character Formation, and Worship Leadership. This course addresses the “Biblical Exposition” competency by helping the student learn to interpret the Bible accurately.

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This study will include a detailed analysis of the text of the Gospel of Mark. The historical background to Mark will be studied, recent studies in the area will be reviewed, the backgrounds for understanding the various settings in the text will be examined, and the text will be analyzed to determine its exegetical meaning (historical meaning).

### **OBJECTIVES:**

The objectives of this course include the following:

1. Students should understand the state of research related to the Gospel of Mark.
2. Students should gain an increased appreciation for the relevance of exegetical study.
3. Students should acquire the ability to apply their skills in exegesis to a sound interpretation of the text.

### **COURSE TEACHING METHODS:**

This course will be taught via a combination of pedagogical methods, including but not limited to the following: lectures, student assignments, small group work, computer resources, textbook reviews, a resource notebook or major paper, on-site encounters with the historical settings of the events, and student presentations. Both inductive and deductive approaches to learning will be utilized.

### **TEXTBOOKS:**

1. Robert Guelich and Craig Evans, *Mark: Word Biblical Commentary, Vol. 34A & B*
2. Bruce Malina & Richard Rohrbaugh, *Social Science Commentary on the Synoptic Gospels*

## REQUIREMENTS IN THE COURSE:

1. Students are expected to participate in the site lectures and evening sessions, with notes taken at the class sessions required to be included in the journal requirement below. (10%)

2. Students are expected to read the Gospel of Mark and complete the section on Mark in Malina and Rohrbaugh prior to the trip. A written review must be submitted on this part of the Malina/Rohrbaugh book via email or a hard copy by the time of arrival in Israel. The book review should be 3-5 single-spaced pages and include the following elements:

- 1) Bibliographic Entry
- 2) Statement of the Author's Purpose
- 3) Summary of the Contents (this should form the bulk of the review)
- 4) An Evaluation of the book, including consideration of the most suitable readership, the scope of the book (comprehensive? or lacking in major areas), the viewpoints presented (multiple viewpoints when pertinent, or only one), and your overall evaluation of the book.

A summary of the commentary by Guelich and Evans is due two weeks after the trip on Monday, Jan. 29<sup>th</sup>. The review should follow the format above regarding length and content. (20% for the Malina review, and 20% for the Guelich/Evans review = 40% total)

3. Each student will keep a journal during the trip that will chronicle the lectures, insights, and teachings gained in the various contexts on the trip. The journal may be hand-written and are to be submitted at the conclusion of the trip (at the airport in the waiting area for returning home is most common for this). (20%)

4. Each student will prepare a research paper on a topic related to the Gospel of Mark. Prior approval for the topic by the professor is required. The paper should include a substantial bibliography of sources consulted (minimum = 20, with at least 5 journal articles). The content should be organized around a central hypothesis and a thesis statement. The overall length should be 12-15 pages double-spaced (12 point font with Times or Times New Roman preferred, 1 inch margins on all sides), not counting the bibliography. The research papers are due on or before Monday, February 12<sup>th</sup> and should be submitted via e-mail ([WWarren@nobts.edu](mailto:WWarren@nobts.edu)) or via a hard copy left at Dr. Warren's office. (30%)

## COURSE EVALUATION:

Journal	20%	Malina Book Review	20%
Research Paper	30%	Guelich/Evans Review	20%
Participation/Attendance	10%		

## CLASS SCHEDULE (Read the Gospel of Mark as we cover the text):

<b>Israel Trip Sessions:</b>	<b>Session 1: Mark 1</b>	<b>Session 6: Mark 9-10</b>
	<b>Session 2: Mark 2-3</b>	<b>Session 7: Mark 11-12</b>
	<b>Session 3: Mark 4-5</b>	<b>Session 8: Mark 13</b>
	<b>Session 4: Mark 6</b>	<b>Session 9: Mark 14-15</b>
	<b>Session 5: Mark 7-8</b>	<b>Session 10: Mark 16</b>

## Reminder of Due Dates:

- |                                |                     |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| (1) Review of Malina/Rohrbaugh | Friday, January 5   |
| (2) Journal                    | Friday, January 12  |
| (3) Review of Malina/Rohrbaugh | Monday, January 29  |
| (4) Research Paper             | Monday, February 12 |

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