

EXPLORING THE NEW TESTAMENT: NTEN5300

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

Spring Semester 2011 Syllabus

Instructor: Mr. Delio DelRio M.Div., Th.M.

Phone: (601) 978-0785

Email: noladelio@aol.com

I. MISSION STATEMENT:

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

II. CORE VALUES 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. In addition, seven basic competencies guide masters degree programs: Biblical Exposition, Christian Theological Heritage, Disciple Making, Interpersonal Skills, Servant Leadership, Spiritual and Character Formation, and Worship Leadership. This course especially addresses the “Biblical Exposition” competency by means of helping the student learn to interpret the Bible accurately.

- 2010-2011 Core Value: Mission Focus

III. COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The purpose of this course is to introduce the student to the literature of the New Testament by means of studying both the Biblical text and the historical and cultural factors that shaped it. The historical background, certain aspects of contemporary scholarship, and especially the themes and general teachings of the New Testament books will be discussed.

IV. COURSE OUTCOMES:

Knowledge

Students who complete this course successfully should:

- Know a basic historical, social, and cultural forces impacting the life and times of the New Testament world
- Know the basic content of the New Testament and be able to give a brief description of the major themes and emphases of the New Testament books
- Know the characteristics of the various literary genres in the New Testament and some of the major implications of the genre differences for interpretation
- Know the current issues involved in the contemporary study of New Testament documents

Attitudes

Students who complete this course successfully should:

- Appreciate the impact of the New Testament world on the New Testament

- documents and their interpretation
- Respect the complexity of applying ancient texts written thousands of years ago in modern contexts
- Appreciate the value of the moral, ethical, and practical teachings of the New Testament for guidance in daily living in family and society

Skills

Students who complete this course successfully should be able to:

- Contextualize New Testament texts within their ancient historical, cultural, social, and literary setting for the purpose of interpretation
- Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of various modern translations of the New Testament
- Prepare the exegetical foundation for an intelligent, thoughtful, and relevant Bible study, devotional, or message based on the New Testament text
- Have a working familiarity with resources for the on-going study of the New Testament

V. TEXTS:

- *The Holy Bible*, any English version
- Thomas D. Lea and David Alan Black, *The New Testament: Its Background and Message*, 2ed. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 2003.
- C. K. Barrett, ed. *The New Testament Background Selected Documents: Writings from Ancient Greece and the Roman Empire That Illuminate Christian Origins*. Rev. ed. San Francisco: Harper, 1995.

VI. COURSE DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY:

This course is designed specifically for the Hybrid format course NTEN5300: Exploring the New Testament. Students will be given assignments according to the course schedule below. Students will be expected to complete these assignments and post the assignments in the appropriate section in the “Assignments” page in Blackboard. Students may take no more than two absences, but absences are not advised.

The course is designed with both in-class and internet component and the format of the content coincides with the Lea and Black text book with supplements from the Barrett book. Students will take all quizzes and exams through blackboard before the beginning of the class period as indicated on the course schedule below. Students will also turn in all chapter discussion question assignments through blackboard before the beginning of the class period as indicated on the course schedule below. Each class period will consist of group discussion concerning the chapters and discussion questions listed for that week and the prior week, as well as an introduction given by the instructor to the coming material.

VII. COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Class Participation:

Students are expected to participate in class discussions concerning the chapter contents and the chapter discussion questions. The instructor will call on students to lead in class

discussion in reference to the discussion questions of the chapters being covered. Students should be prepared for and involved in class discussions.

Weekly Quizzes, Mid-Term Exam, and Final Exam:

Students will complete weekly quizzes concerning the chapter content before class meeting as noted in the course schedule. The quizzes and exams will be taken through the “Assignments” page in blackboard. All quizzes and exams are *closed* book.

Chapter Discussion Questions:

Students will answer weekly discussion questions in written form as noted in the course schedule. The chapter discussion questions are found at the end of each chapter in the Lea and Black textbook. Students are to type the question and then answer each question with a thoughtful and informed response. The answers should be at least one paragraph in length, and should be discussion oriented. One-sentence answers are not sufficient. The chapter discussion questions assignment will be turned in through the “Assignments” page in blackboard and discussion in class.

Class Grading

The final grade will be determined as follows:

- 10% Class Participation
- 25% Weekly Quizzes
- 25% Chapter Discussion Questions
- 20% Mid-term Exam
- 20% Final Exam

COURSE SCHEDULE

Date	Textbook Reading and New Testament Reading Due by the beginning of class	Assignments Due by the beginning of class
Jan 24 Class 1 Week 1	Part 1: Background to NT <u>Lea & Black</u> : chapters 1–4 <u>Barrett</u> : Pharisees, Sadducees, and Essenes (#135, pgs. 157–160)	*Quiz 1: chs 1–4 *Discussion Ques chapters 3 & 4
Jan 31 Week 2	Part 2: Life of Jesus & Gospels <u>Lea & Black</u> : chapter 5 <u>NT text</u> : Matthew	*Quiz 2: ch 5 *Discussion Ques chapter 5
Feb 7 Class 2 Week 3	Part 2: Life of Jesus & Gospels <u>Lea & Black</u> : chapters 6–7 <u>NT text</u> : Mark	*Quiz 3: ch 6–7 *Discussion Ques chapter 6–7

Feb 14 Week 4	Part 2: Life of Jesus & Gospels <u>Lea & Black:</u> chapters 8–9 <u>NT text:</u> Luke <u>Barrett:</u> Selections from the Targum: Isa 52:13–53:12 (#259 pgs. 314)	*Quiz 4: ch 8–9 *Discussion Ques chapter 8–9
Feb 21 Class 3 Week 5	Part 2: Life of Jesus & Gospels <u>Lea & Black:</u> chapters 10–11 <u>NT text:</u> John <u>Barrett:</u> Community Rule 1QS 8.1–19 (#211 pgs. 221–223) and War Rule 1QM 1.1–12a (#222 pgs. 246–247)	*Quiz 5: ch 10–11 *Discussion Ques chapter 10–11
Feb 28 Week 6 Mid-term Study guide	Part 3: Early Church in Acts <u>Lea & Black:</u> chapter 12 <u>NT text:</u> Acts 1–12	*Quiz 6: ch 12 *Discussion Ques chapter 12
Mar 7 Class 4 Week 7	Part 3: Early Church in Acts <u>Lea & Black:</u> chs. 13 <u>NT text:</u> Acts 13–28 <u>Barrett:</u> Claudius (#9–10 pgs. 13–15) <u>Barrett:</u> Inscriptions: Gallio Inscription at Delphi (#49 pgs. 51–52)	*Discussion Ques chapter 13 *Quiz 7: ch 13
Mar 14 Spring Break		
Mar 21 Class 5 Week 8	Part 4: Epistles of Paul <u>Lea & Black:</u> chapters 14–15 <u>NT text:</u> Galatians, 1 & 2 Thessalonians	* Mid-Term Exam *Discussion Ques chapter 14–15
Mar 28 Week 9	Part 4: Epistles of Paul <u>Lea & Black:</u> chapter 16 <u>NT text:</u> Romans, 1 & 2 Corinthians	*Quiz 8: ch 16 *Discussion Ques chapter 16
Apr 4 Class 6 Week 10	Part 4: Epistles of Paul <u>Lea & Black:</u> chapters 17–18 <u>NT text:</u> Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, Philemon, 1 & 2 Timothy, Titus	*Quiz 9: ch 17–18 *Discussion Ques chapter 17–18
Apr 11 Week 11	Part 5: Hebrews, General Epistles, & Revelation <u>Lea & Black:</u> chapters 18–19 <u>NT text:</u> Hebrews & James	*Quiz 10: ch 18–19 *Discussion Ques chapter 18–19
Apr 18 Class 7 Week 12	Part 5: Hebrews, General Epistles, & Revelation <u>Lea & Black:</u> chapter 21 and 23 <u>NT text:</u> 1 & 2 Peter, Jude	*Quiz 11: ch 21 and 23 *Discussion Ques chapter 21 and 23
Apr 25	Part 5: Hebrews, General Epistles, &	*Quiz 12: ch 22

Apr 25 Week 13 Final Exam Study Guide	Part 5: Hebrews, General Epistles, & Revelation <u>Lea & Black</u> : chapter 22 <u>NT text</u> : 1, 2, & 3 John	*Quiz 12: ch 22 *Discussion Ques chapter 22
May 2 Class 8 Week 14	Part 5: Hebrews, General Epistles, & Revelation <u>Lea & Black</u> : chapter 24 <u>NT text</u> : Revelation <u>Barrett</u> : Apocalyptic chapter 12 (pgs. 316–344)	*Quiz 12: ch 24 *Quiz 12: ch 24 *Discussion Ques chapter 24
May 9	Final Exam Due	

VIII. SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Barrett, C. K. ed. *The New Testament Background Selected Documents: Writings from Ancient Greece and the Roman Empire That Illuminate Christian Origins*. Rev. ed. San Francisco: Harper, 1995.

Bloomberg, Craig L. *Interpreting the Parables*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1990.

Elwell, Walter A. and Robert W. Yarbrough. *Encountering the New Testament: A Historical and Theological Survey*. Encountering Biblical Studies. . Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1998.

Ferguson, Everett. *Backgrounds of Early Christianity*. 2ed. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1993.

Helyer, Larry R. *Exploring Jewish Literature of the Second Temple Period: A Guide for New Testament Studies*. . Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2002.

Jeremias, Joachim. *Jerusalem in the Time of Jesus*. Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1962.

Klien, William W., Craig L. Blomberg, Robert L. Hubbard, Jr. *Introduction to Biblical Interpretation*. Rev. Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 2004.

Koester, Helmut. *History, Culture and Religion of the Hellenistic Age*. Introduction to the New Testament. Vol. 1. New York: Fortress Press, 1982.

_____. *History and Literature of Early Christianity*. Introduction to the New Testament. Vol. 2. New York: Fortress Press, 1982.

Ladd, George Eldon. *A Theology of the New Testament*. Rev. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1993.

- Lea, Thomas D. and David Alan Black, *The New Testament: Its Background and Message*. 2ed. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 2003.
- Longenecker, Richard N. *Biblical Exegesis in the Apostolic Period*. 2ed. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1999.
- Marshall, I. Howard and Ian Paul. *Exploring the New Testament: A Guide to the Letters and Revelation*. Vol. 2. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2002.
- Metzger, Bruce M. and Bart D. Ehrman. *The Text of the New Testament: Its Transmission, Corruption, and Restoration*. 4ed. New York; Oxford University Press, 2005.
- Richards, Ralph E. *Paul and First-Century Letter Writing: Secretaries, Composition and Collection*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2004.
- Stein, Robert H. *The Synoptic Problem: An Introduction*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1987.
- Wenham, David and Steve Walton. *Exploring the New Testament: A Guide to the Gospels and Acts*. Vol. 1. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2001.