

BSCM2350-01 NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Leavell College
Alan Permenter
apermenter@fbcwauchula.org

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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.

Student Objectives

In order to interpret and communicate the Bible accurately, the students, by the end of the course, should:

1. Comprehend the introductory issues of the New Testament.
2. Value the New Testament as the revelation of God to people.
3. Read the New Testament more critically with appropriate understandings of introductory matters and central themes.

Textbooks

The following textbook is required:

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

The following textbooks are optional:

Theissen, Gerd. *The Shadow of the Galilean*. Philadelphia: Fortress, Press, 1987.
Longenecker, Bruce. *The Lost Letters of Pergamum*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2003.

Methodology

The principle means of instruction for this course will be lecture and discussion. Handouts and visual aids will be utilized to supplement classroom presentations and discussion. An integral part of the learning environment will be reading assignments and quizzes.

Course Requirements

1. The student will attend and participate in the class sessions. The class will adhere to the attendance policy stated in the catalogue. Any student missing more than nine hours will receive an automatic grade of "F" for the course, unless excused by the Dean of Leavell College. Three tardies will count as one absence.
2. The student is required to read the assigned material **before** coming to class.
 1. Pop quizzes will be given over the assigned reading materials. All quizzes will be given at the beginning of the class period. The student will receive a zero for each quiz missed. A few of the lowest quizzes will be dropped.
4. The student will take a mid term and a final exam.
5. The student is required to read the entire New Testament by the end of the semester. A question will be on the final concerning fulfillment of this requirement.
6. The students will prepare a notebook in class on the background of each New Testament Book. This project will be a group project.
7. The student will present a paper on a selected New Testament text. The paper will be 3-5 pages in length and

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.**

The final grade for the course will be determined as follows:

- 20% Research Paper- Due April 30
- 20% Pop Quizzes and Class Project
- 30% Mid Term Exam- April 23
- 30% Final Exam- April 30

Course Assignments

(Due to the nature of this course, it is imperative that the student remain current with the reading assignments.)

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| Date | Assignment |
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| March 19 | Introduction the course/requirements Intertestamental History: <i>Lea 7-27</i> |
| March 19 | Intertestamental History (cont.) NT Text/Canon: <i>Lea 69-80</i> Life of Jesus: <i>Lea 85-109</i> |
| March 19 | Intro to Gospels: <i>Lea 171-221</i> Mark: <i>Lea 113-127, 140-146</i> Matthew: <i>Lea 131-140</i> |
| April 2 | Luke: <i>Lea 146-155, 245-277</i> John: <i>Lea 156-166</i> |
| April 2 | 1 st Sectional Acts: <i>Lea 281-328</i> |
| April 2 | Life of Paul: <i>Lea 333-358</i> Galatians: <i>Lea 363-377</i> |
| April 23 | 1 & 2 Thessalonians: <i>Lea 377-387</i> Corinthian Correspondence: <i>Lea 402-427</i> |
| April 23 | 2 nd Sectional Romans: <i>Lea 389-402</i> |
| April 23 | Intro to Prison Epistles: <i>Lea 431-436</i> Colossians, Philemon, Ephesians, Philippians: <i>Lea 436-460</i> |
| April 23 | The Pastoral Epistles: <i>Lea 463-490</i> Hebrews: <i>Lea 495-509</i> |
| April 30 | James, 1&2 Peter, Jude: <i>Lea 511-523</i> |
| April 30 | 3 rd Sectional Exam |
| April 30 | The Letters of John: <i>Lea 551-564</i> Revelation: <i>Lea 577-603</i> |

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.

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. *The New Testament: Its Background and Message*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 1996.

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.

For other suggested resources see the professor.