

**THE GOSPEL OF MARK: NTGK9632**  
**Seminar Schedule**  
**Dr. William F. Warren, Jr.**

## **I. DESCRIPTION**

This seminar is designed to acquaint the student with contemporary Marcan scholarship with regard to the background and introductory matters concerning the Gospel, exegesis of the text in relation to the other Synoptic Gospels, and theological themes in the Gospel. Also, an introduction to several methodologies for gospel studies will be overviewed and incorporated into the exegetical section of the course.

## **II. TEXTS**

Aland, *Synopsis Quattuor Evangeliorum*

Guelich and Evans, *Word Biblical Commentary: 34A and 34B, Mark*

Malina and Rohrbaugh, *Social Science Commentary on the Synoptic Gospels*

N. T. Wright, *Jesus and the Victory of God*. Vol. 2

James Dunn, *Christianity in the Making*, vol. 1: *Jesus Remembered*

Larry Hurtado, *Lord Jesus Christ: Devotion to Jesus in Earliest Christianity*

## **III. REQUIREMENTS**

1. Translate Mark and review the parallel passages from Matthew and Luke from Aland's Synopsis. Read the two commentaries listed under "Texts" (Guelich/Evans and Malina/Rohrbaugh) and one other critical commentary from the bibliography.
2. Read the books by Hurtado, Wright, and Dunn. Be prepared to discuss them on the designated days, bringing a list of discussion questions based upon your readings.
3. Bring annotated bibliographies of 4 journal articles on Mark (open themes) to the seminar meetings #3 and 4, with copies for all members of the seminar
4. Write a 3 to 4 page *review* of one of the books from the list below.
5. Write a hist.-source oriented study on one of the listed background themes.
6. Write a paper (Turabian style) on one of the major paper themes listed below (or a theme approved by the professor). The problem statement and outline of the paper must be approved by the professor prior to writing the paper.

## **IV. SEMINAR SCHEDULE**

<b>Aug. 21</b>	<b>Introduction to the Synoptic Problem, Hurtado's book, The Historical Jesus</b>
<b>Aug. 28</b>	<b>Hurtado's book, The Historical Jesus</b>
<b>Sept. 4</b>	<b>Wright's book, The Historical Jesus, Journal Articles</b>
<b>Sept. 11</b>	<b>Mark 1, Dunn's book, The Historical Jesus continued, Journal Articles</b>
<b>Sept. 18</b>	<b>Mark 2:1-3:35, Dunn's book, The Historical Jesus continued</b>
<b>Sept. 25</b>	<b>Mark 4-6</b>
<b>Oct. 2</b>	<b>Mark 7-9:10</b>
<b>Oct. 9</b>	<b>Book reviews #1, 2, 3, 4, &amp; 5, background studies #1, 2, 3, 4, &amp; 5</b>
<b>Oct. 23</b>	<b>Mark 9:11-10:52, background study #6, 7, &amp; 8, Book reviews #6, 7, &amp; 8</b>
<b>Oct. 30</b>	<b>Mark 11-13</b>
<b>Nov. 6</b>	<b>Mark 14-16:?</b>
<b>Nov. 13</b>	<b>Major Papers #1 &amp; 2</b>
<b>Nov. 27</b>	<b>Major Papers #3 &amp; 4</b>
<b>Dec. 4</b>	<b>Major Papers #5 &amp; 6</b>
<b>Dec. 11</b>	<b>Major Papers #7 &amp; 8</b>

**V. BOOKS FOR REVIEW**

1. W. Marxsen, *Mark the Evangelist*
2. Seán P. Kealy, *Mark's Gospel: A History of Its Interpretation*
3. M. D. Hooker, *The Son of Man in Mark*
4. Waetjen, Herman, *A Reordering of Power: A Sociopolitical Reading of Mark's Gospel*
5. C. D. Marshall, *Faith As a Theme in Mark's Narrative*
6. C. Clifton Black, *The Disciples according to Mark: Marcan Redaction in Current Debate*
7. Matthew C. Williams, *Two Gospels from One: A Comprehensive Text-Critical Analysis of the Synoptic Gospels*
8. Brian Blount, *Cultural Interpretation: Reorienting New Testament Criticism*
9. G. R. Beasley-Murray, *Jesus and the Future*
10. Arlen Hultgren, *The Parables of Jesus*
11. E. Best, *The Temptation and Passion: The Marcan Soteriology*
12. Rhoads, Dewey, and Michie, *Mark as Story* (2d ed.)

**VI. THEMES FOR MINOR PAPERS**

1. Historical Sources on the authorship of the Gospels, 2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> centuries
2. Messianic claims and political unrest in 1st and 2nd century Palestine
3. The City of Rome in the First Century
4. The Neronian Persecution and the Christian Community in Rome
5. Extra-Biblical Accounts of Healings
6. Extra-Biblical Accounts of Exorcisms
7. The Palestine & the Christian Community during the Jewish-Roman War (66-72)
8. Jewish Holiness Laws and Concepts in the First Century

**VII. THEMES FOR MAJOR PAPERS**

- The Priority of Mark: History of the Synoptic Problem
  - The Language and Style of Mark
  - A History and Introduction to Form Criticism and Redaction Criticism
  - A History and Introduction to Narrative Criticism
  - A History and Introduction to Sociological Criticism
  - Gospel as Genre and Ancient Methods of Writing History
  - The Significance of Miracles/Healings/Exorcisms in Mark
  - The Kingdom of God in Mark
  - Discipleship in Mark
  - Marcan Soteriology
  - The Temple in Marcan Perspective
  - A Sociological Analysis of [some aspect related to Mark, i.e., Rome, Persecution, Group Boundaries, etc.]
  - A Social Map of Sacred [Time, Place, etc.] in Mark
  - Ideology, Interpretation, and Marcan Perspectives
  - A Literary Analysis of [a Theological Theme] in Mark
  - The Textual History of Mark
- (Others with the approval of the professor)**

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