Syllabus for *Studies in the Gospels:*
Gospel of John (NT 421)
Fall 2012

A course offered at the Baptist Missionary Association Theological Seminary

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Course Description:

According to the current catalog (2012-14) on p. 72, the description of this course is stated as follows: “Topical and exegetical studies are made in the Synoptic and/or Johannine Gospels with emphasis on important theological concepts and great events in the life of Christ, such as the Messianic consciousness of Jesus, His miracles, and His parabolic teachings.” The emphasis in this course will be an exposition of the Gospel of John. The introduction and background information will be examined along with an examination of chapter one. John includes seven miracles and seven emphatic statements by Jesus. Each of these will be examined closely in context. Also, the last words of Jesus to His disciples will be examined along with John’s look at the Passion Week and beyond.

Course Textbooks:

- Holy Bible: The NASB will be the version used in class. The student is welcome to use whatever version he or she prefers to follow along.


Course Objectives:

*By the end of this course, the student should . . .*

1. possess a firm grasp on the background, purpose, themes, and literary characteristics of the Gospel of John.

2. possess a detailed outline of the Gospel of John than can be expanded and applied for teaching and preaching purposes.

3. be able to comprehend the teachings and miracles of Jesus that the Apostle John includes in his Gospel.

5. be able to identify the geographical regions that John highlights in his treatment of the ministry of Jesus.

6. know how to analyze a juried journal on the Gospel of John.

7. gain a greater appreciation for the Gospel of John as an inspired and infallible writing within the corpus of Holy Scripture.

Course Requirements:

Reading – The student is required to read in its entirety the Gospel of John, and the commentary by D. A. Carson (PNTC). The student is expected to complete the reading according to the class schedule at the end of this syllabus. The student will be asked on the final what percentage of the reading he or she has completed. The student will also read one juried journal pertaining to the Gospel of John (one that is written within the last ten years).

Writing

- Each student will turn in their own detailed outline of the Gospel of John. The student may consult other resources such as technical commentaries to help him/her with this assignment, but the outline turned in must be the work of that student. The outline is to be two to three pages in length, single-spaced. Works consulted should also be included at the end of the outline.

- From the journal article that the student reads, he/she is to write a critical review of that article that includes a brief summary of its contents along with the student’s opinion of the helpfulness of its contents for New Testament studies. The student is to provide a copy of his/her report for each student in the class, and be prepared to give an oral report on his/her findings. The student will be graded on both the written (grammar, content) and oral presentation. The written portion should be condensed to one page formatted to the student’s own choosing.

- Each student will write a five to seven page research paper on any topic related to the Apostle John or the Gospel of John. This paper is to be written according to Turabian, 7th edition. The student should use Times New Roman, 12 pt. font. The paper is to be double-spaced using footnotes below the text. This paper should include a title page, contents page, body of paper, and bibliography. The bibliography should be comprised of ¾ page of resources (books, commentaries, and journal articles). The internet may be used as a source, but should not comprise more than 20% of the research. The five to seven pages refers to the main body of the paper and does not include the title page, contents page, or bibliography.
Course Exams:

Two exams will be given in this course: a mid-semester exam and a final. The final exam is not comprehensive and only includes the information from the second half of the course. *Exams must be taken on the day they are assigned.*

Course Grading:

There are up to 1,000 points that can be earned for this class. The student must earn each percentage point. Percentage points will not be rounded up. For example, if the student earns 907 points in the course, the percentage will be 90.7% which is a “B.” The breakdown of percentage and point values are as follows.

- Mid-semester test 200 pts. (20%)
- Final exam 200 pts. (20%)
- Research paper 250 pts. (25%)
- Outline of John 100 pts. (10%)
- Reading 100 pts. (10%)
- Journal article presentation (written) 50 pts. (5%)
- Journal article presentation (oral) 50 pts. (5%)
- Class attendance & participation 50 pts. (5%)

*All written assignments are due according to the course schedule – any late work will be penalized 2 percentage points for every day it is late.*

*The reading should be completed each week according to the sections that will be discussed.*

Class Attendance and Participation:

The student is expected to be in class for each class session. Missing class will result in a reduction in one’s overall grade (5 points per miss off of class attendance & participation grade regardless of circumstance). Missing more than ¼ of class sessions, except for extenuating circumstances, can place the student at risk of failing the course. Students are allowed to use their personal computers in class for taking notes only – using the internet during class is strictly prohibited unless allowed by the professor. A violation of this rule may result in the prohibited use of any electronics in class. The students are expected to pay attention in class and not doing any other work for other classes.

BMATS Grading Scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percent Range</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>91-100%</td>
<td>F below 61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>81-90%</td>
<td>I Incomplete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>71-80%</td>
<td>WP Withdrawal while passing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>61-70%</td>
<td>WF Withdrawal while failing</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Note on Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is considered a serious academic offense that can result in the student being placed on academic probation or expulsion. Plagiarism is defined as presenting material written by someone else and passing that off as one’s own work, whether intentional or unintentional. This may include either a whole paper or part of a paper. In research and writing assignments, proper citations should be used to give proper credit to an author. This includes direct quotations or writing about another author’s ideas even though you use your own words.

- Direct quotes must be cited (set off by quotation marks or indented single-spaced block quotes for longer quotes).
- Writing about an author’s ideas in your own words must be cited.
- Your own thoughts and ideas do not need to be cited.
Course Schedule:

- Aug. 28: Introduction to course / Intro & Background of the Gospel of John
- Sept. 4: John 1
- Sept. 11: Seven miracles of Jesus
- Sept. 18: Seven miracles of Jesus (cont.)
- Sept. 25: Seven emphatic statements of Jesus
- Oct. 2: Seven emphatic statements of Jesus (cont.) / Outline of John due
- Oct. 9: John 13 / review for mid-semester test (Paschal Lectures)
- Oct. 16: MID-SEMESTER TEST
- Oct. 23: John 14 & 15
- Oct. 30: John 16
- Nov. 6: John 17
- Nov. 13: Student presentations of journal articles
- Nov. 20: Passion Week, John 18 & 19 / Research Paper Due
- Nov. 27: Beyond Passion Week, John 20 & 21
- Dec. 4: FINAL EXAM, 9:00 AM

- The contents in this course syllabus and the course schedule are subject to change at the discretion of the professor.
- This class meets on Tuesdays from 8-12 noon in the Cherokee Room (last room by the chapel). Chapel meets from 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM, class will typically resume at 11:00 AM unless chapel runs over.
Course Syllabus Contract

I have carefully read through the syllabus for this course. I fully comprehend what is expected of me as a student in this course.

If I am late for any assignments, I understand that they will be deducted 2 percentage points for every day they are late.

I understand that the tests must be taken on the dates they are scheduled.

I understand the 1,000 point grading scale for this course, and further understand that percentage points will not be rounded up.

I understand that attending class is vital to my seminary education, and that missing class will result in 5 points deducted from my class attendance and participation grade for each class missed. I further understand that three tardies is equal to one absence according to the BMATS catalog.

By affixing my signature below, I fully comply with the procedures for this course:

Printed Name ______________________

Date ___________ Signature ______________________