Course Syllabus for New Testament Introduction and Survey II – NT 512

A Course offered at the Baptist Missionary Association Theological Seminary
Mr. David Hellwig, Instructor
Phone number: 501-626-0156

Description of Course:

According to the BMATS catalog, New Testament Introduction and Survey II or NT 512, is a continuation of NT 511. The previous course (NT 511) covered the political, social, religious, and economic world of the New Testament – including a survey of Judaism, the life of Christ, first century New Testament churches, NT canon, and the Gospels and Acts. This course (NT 512) will give special attention to the background, date of composition, structural outline and authorship of the Pauline epistles, the General epistles, the Johannine epistles, and Revelation.

Course Objectives:

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

1. know the issues surrounding the human authorship of the New Testaments books covered in this class.

2. know the background, occasion, and purpose of each book discussed.

3. be able to state the major concepts and themes of each book discussed.

4. have a grasp on the date of composition of each book discussed.

5. know some of the special literary features unique in each book.

6. be able to discuss some of the special issues dealt with in each book.

7. be familiar with the major outline of each book.

8. know the major contributions each book makes regarding the overall message of the New Testament.


10. possess a tool for ministry, especially in the area of preaching through the New Testament books.
Course Textbooks:


Course Assignments:

Reading:

1. The student is required to read through in its entirety the 22 New Testament books covered in this class (Romans thru Revelation).

2. The student is required to read through the portion of Carson and Moo’s, *An Introduction to the New Testament*, pertaining to this class (chapters 9-26, pp. 354-743).

Writing:

1. On the first day of class, each student will be assigned one of the 22 New Testament books covered in this course and will prepare a 2-3 page outline of the book(s). This outline is to be single spaced. Commentaries and other outlines may be consulted for this project, but do not just copy another outline verbatim.

2. The student will prepare a 12-15 page research paper on any one of the topics listed below. The paper should contain a title page, contents page, main body of text, and a bibliography of sources used. The paper is to be cited using footnotes below the text. The paper should be double-spaced using Times New Roman 12 font. Be sure to consult commentaries or books pertinent to your topic, and at least two journal articles. Internet sources may be used, but should not comprise more than 20% of the paper. Internet sources must be footnoted and cited in the bibliography. The paper will be graded on neatness, proper form, content, research, and writing.

3. Each student will write a 2-3 page critical book review of the above textbook by Carson and Moo. This critical review should include strengths and weaknesses; whether or not this is a valuable resource and why; and interaction with some of the contents. This review is to be double-spaced.
Topics for Research:

The following are suggested topics for research. The student may choose a topic that is not listed below providing it pertains to the New Testament books covered in this course and met with approval by the instructor.

• Authorship
• Purpose and Occasion
• Thematic issues
• Specific literary features
• Issues surrounding date of composition
• Issues surrounding the canon of a specific book
• Pauline Theology
• Any issue surrounding the life of Paul (for example: Roman citizenship, life prior to Christianity, examination of his conversion, Paul’s sufferings, Paul’s preaching, Paul’s missionary journeys, etc.)
• Special issues surrounding any one book
• Word studies of key words in a specific book
• Choose any pericope for an exegetical examination

Course Exams:

There will be two exams given pertaining to this class: a mid-semester test and a final exam. The final is not comprehensive and will cover only the material for the second half of the course.

Course Grading:

There is a total of 1,000 points that are possible to earn for this course. The point value for each item is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mid-semester test</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research paper</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NT Book outline</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critical Book Review</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading / Class Participation</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,000 pts.</strong></td>
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BMATS grading scale is as follows:

- A 91-100%  
- B 81-90%  
- C 71-80%  
- D 61-70%  
- F below 61%  
- I Incomplete  
- WP Withdrawal while passing  
- WF Withdrawal while failing
Course Schedule:

- **Jan. 27**: Introduction to course; Assignment of book outlines; Introductory matters pertaining to the NT

- **Feb. 3**: Overview of Paul’s letters; Paul’s earlier letters – Galatians (Reading Report #1)

- **Feb. 10**: Paul’s earlier letters – 1 & 2 Thessalonians (Reading Report #2)

- **Feb. 17**: Paul’s greatest letters – 1 & 2 Corinthians (Reading Report #3)

- **Feb. 24**: Paul’s greatest letters – Romans (Reading Report #4)

- **Mar. 3**: Paul’s prison epistles – Colossians & Philemon (Reading Report #5)

- **Mar. 10**: Paul’s prison epistles – Ephesians & Philippians (Reading Report #6)

- **Mar. 17**: MID-SEMESTER TEST

- **Mar. 24**: Paul’s Pastoral Epistles – Titus (Reading Report #7) (**Outline Due**)

- **Mar. 31**: Paul’s Pastoral Epistles – 1 & 2 Timothy (Reading Report #8)

- **Apr. 7**: Hebrews and James (Reading Report #9)

- **Apr. 14**: 1 & 2 Peter (Reading Report #10) (**Critical Review Due**)

- **Apr. 21**: SPRING BREAK / BMAA NATIONAL MEETING

- **Apr. 28**: 1-3 John (Reading Report #11)

- **May 5**: Jude & Revelation (Reading Report #12) (**Research Paper Due**)

- **May 12**: FINAL EXAM

*Please note: This is a tentative schedule and is subject to change at the discretion of the professor.*

*The reading from the Bible and the reading from the textbook are due on the day that topic is scheduled to be covered in class. Each reading report is to be turned in at the beginning of each class session. The*
reading report will be recorded on a 3 x 5 index card and turned in. Five points will be deducted for failure to turn in a card on time.

Bibliography

New Testament Surveys and Introductions


Commentaries

Romans


Murray, John. *The Epistle to the Romans: The English Text with Introduction, Exposition*


1 & 2 Corinthians


Galatians


**Ephesians**


**Philippians**


**Colossians**

Abbott, T. K. *The Epistle to the Ephesians and to the Colossians*. In the *International


Moule, C. F. D. *The Epistle of Paul the Apostle to the Colossians and to Philemon.* In the *Cambridge Greek Testament Commentary.* Cambridge: University Press, 1957.


*1 and 2 Thessalonians*

Bruce, F. F. *1 and 2 Thessalonians.* In the *World Biblical Commentary.* Waco, TX: Word, 1982.


*1 and 2 Timothy*


Lenski, R. C. H. *The Interpretation of St. Paul’s Epistles to the Colossians, to the Thessalonians, to Timothy, to Titus, and to Philemon.* Columbus, OH: Lutheran Book Concern, 1937.
Titus and Philemon


Hebrews


James


*1 and 2 Peter; Jude*


_________. *Now Unto Him: Messages from Jude for Our Day*. Cordova, TN: Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary, n. d.


*1, 2, 3 John*


**Revelation**


