New Testament Introduction and Survey I  
NT 511 – Course Syllabus  
Summer Session  
June 11-15, 2012  

A course offered through the Baptist Missionary Association Theological Seminary  

Mr. David Hellwig, Instructor  
E-mail address: dghellwig@gmail.com  
Phone numbers: cell, 501-626-0156  
                   office, 903-586-2501, ext. 223  

Description of Course:  

This class is the first part of a two part course. This course will cover the period of history between the Old and New Testaments; including the political, social, religious, and economic world of the New Testament. Special attention will also be given to a survey of Judaism, the life of Christ, first century New Testament churches, the New Testament canon, and the Gospels and Acts. The emphasis on this course is not on exposition, but rather a study of the backgrounds of the New Testament books covered, along with other important peripheral issues.  

Course Objectives:  

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

1. possess a good understanding of the intertestamental period, and be able to analyze how that period of history set the stage for the coming of Christ and the New Testament era.  

2. be able to assess the state of Judaism in the first century.  

3. know the major aspects of the life of Christ from His birth to His ascension.  

4. be able to evaluate how the canon of the New Testament was established by the early church.  

5. be able to analyze the major issues surrounding the Synoptic Problem, as well as some proposed solutions to this problem.  

6. know the background, occasion, and purpose of the four Gospels and Acts.
7. be able to discuss some of the special issues dealt with in the four Gospels and Acts.

8. know the major contributions the four Gospels and Acts makes regarding the overall message of the New Testament.

9. possess a detailed outline of the four Gospels and Acts.

10. gain a greater appreciation for the New Testament canon as a whole.

11. possess a tool for ministry, especially in the area of teaching and preaching through the four Gospels and Acts.

Course Textbooks:

1. The Bible, especially Matthew – Acts


Course Assignments:

Reading (All reading is to be completed by the first day of class!):

1. The student is required to read through the Bible books of Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, and Acts in their entirety. To receive the most benefit, the student should read through the Bible books in a good literal translation (KJV, NKJV, NASB, etc.).

2. The student is required to read through Carson and Moo’s Introduction dealing with the Synoptic Problem, the four Gospels, and Acts.

3. The student is required to read Stein’s book on Jesus the Messiah.

Writing:

1. The student is required to write a 10-12 page research paper on the topic of their choice. The student’s choice is limited to the intertestamental period, background information on Jewish society in the first century, the four Gospels, and Acts. This paper is to be written according to Turabian, 7th ed. This paper must possess a title page, contents page, body (10-12 pages, double-spaced), and a
bibliography. The bibliography should contain at least a full page of resources including at least two journal articles. The paper should be written using Times New Roman, 12 pt. font. The student will be graded on research, critical thinking, organization, grammar, and neatness.

2. The student is to outline all four Gospels and Acts. Each outline should be at least two pages in length single-spaced.

3. The student is required to write an evaluation of Stein’s, Jesus the Messiah used for this course. This evaluation is a critical review describing the strengths and weaknesses observed in the book, the usefulness of this book for New Testament studies, and which part or parts of the book the student found most helpful personally and why. The student is to write his/her review according to the critical book review rubric given on the first day of class. This evaluation is to be at least 2-3 pages in length.

**Late Work:**

Any late work will be deducted 2 percentage points for everyday it is late.

**Course Exams:**

One final exam will be given on Friday, June 15, tentatively @ 2:00 PM

**Course Grading:**

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research Paper</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>July 20, 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NT Book Outlines</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>July 13, 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Book Review</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>July 6, 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class attendance &amp; participation</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>1,000 pts.</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**BMATS Grading Scale:**

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

The student is expected to attend all class sessions. According to the BMATS catalog, “Tardiness or absence from class may result in a reduction of the final grade a student may receive in a particular course. A student who misses more than one-fourth of the classes for any course, without extenuating circumstances, as determined by the professor, will receive an automatic “F” for the course.” Please note: three tardies are equivalent to one absence. Since this is a one week course, all class sessions must be attended. It is the responsibility of the student to make sure his/her schedule is free for the week of June 11-15 to ensure complete concentration is placed on this course.

Tentative Schedule for the Week:

Monday, June 11th:
- Introduction to Course
- Introductory issues to the New Testament
- Historical Interlude between the two testaments
- Library Presentation (4:30 – 5:30 PM)

Tuesday, June 12th:
- The world situation at the time of the New Testament
- Elements of Judaism
- Canon of the New Testament
- Understanding the Gospels
- Introduction to the Synoptic Problem

Wednesday, June 13th:
- Three Major Schools of Historical Criticism
- Survey of Matthew; Mark

Thursday, June 14th:
- Survey of Luke; John
- Survey of the Life of Jesus

Friday, June 15th:
- Survey of Acts; Examination of the Early Church
- Final Exam

*The professor reserves the right to make changes and adjustments to this syllabus at his own discretion.

*This class will meet in the Grimsley Building. Each day will start promptly at 9:00 AM and conclude around 5:00 PM. The lunch break will be from noon to 1:00 PM. Smaller breaks will be given throughout the day.
Bibliography

Gospel of Matthew


Gospel of Mark


*The Gospel of Luke*


**Gospel of John**


**Acts**


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.

I have duly noted the due dates on the course schedule and agree that I will turn in all assignments on time.

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 final exam is scheduled for 2:00 PM on Friday.

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 any class session may result in the failure to complete this course.

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

Date ____________ Printed Name _______________________

Signature ____________________________