

BT709 ADVANCED NEW TESTAMENT SYNTHESIS I
(Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, and Acts)

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| Course: | BT709 Advanced New Testament Synthesis I |
| Credit: | 3 Semester Hours |
| Semester: | Spring 2022 Cycle 6 |
| Date: | Tuesday |
| Time: | 6:00 – 9:00 pm Central time |
| Place: | Microsoft Teams |
| Professor: | Dr. Gary Gromacki, Th.M., D.Min., Ph.D. Department Chair and Professor of Bible and Theology Director of the Ph.D. in Bible and Theology Program |
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DESCRIPTION

This course examines the historical backgrounds, arguments, biblical theology and interpretive issues of the four canonical gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John) and the book of Acts. Students will critique the philosophy and methodology behind source criticism, form criticism, and redaction criticism as related to the gospels. Students will do exegetical studies in the Greek text of these NT books.

This is a blended class, meaning that both campus (in class) and online students take this class together. Campus students attend the classes in person; online students attend the classes via the online classroom. All interaction and assignments for campus and online students are done in the online classroom.

COURSE OBJECTIVES**General competencies to be achieved: The student will:**

1. Explain the arguments of the following NT books: Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, and Acts (PLO 1, 2, 5) (A 2, 4, 8)
2. Explain the various views on the authorship, recipients, date and place of writing and purposes of Matthew, Mark, Luke, John and Acts (PLO 2, 3, 5) (A 2, 4, 8)

Our Mission: "to prepare Christians to live and serve in the church and in the world according to the Biblical worldview"

3. Identify the major interpretive problems for Matthew, Mark, Luke, John and Acts and give possible solutions to them (PLO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5) (A 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 9)

Specific competencies to be achieved: The student will:

1. Read and translate selected texts in Matthew, Mark, Luke, John and Acts in the Greek New Testament (PLO 1) (A 9)

2. Write exegetical outlines of three NT books (Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, or Acts) based upon the structural markers in the Greek New Testament (PLO 1, 2, 5) (A 2, 4, 8)

3. Critique the proposed purposes for Matthew, Mark, Luke, John and Acts (PLO 3, 4, 5) (A 2, 4, 8)

4. Validate the correct interpretation of Matthew, Mark, Luke, John and Acts using the grammatical historical hermeneutic (PLO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5) (A 6, 7, 9)

5. Present a research paper to the class and answer questions related to the interpretation of a text selected from Matthew, Mark, Luke, John and Acts (PLO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5) (A 9)

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

The Bible is a required textbook in every course at Calvary University. To facilitate academic level study, students are required to use for assignments and research an English translation or version of the Bible based on formal equivalence (meaning that the translation is generally word-for-word from the original languages), including any of the following: New American Standard (NASB), English Standard Version (ESV), New King James Version (NKJV), or King James Version (KJV). Other translations like NLT and NIV may be used as supplemental sources. Please ask the professor if you have any questions about a particular translation or version.

Green, Joel, editor. *Dictionary of Jesus and the Gospels*. Second edition. Downers Grove: IVP Academic, 2013. ISBN: 978-0-8308-2456-4 Cost: \$57.80

Schnabel, Eckhard. *Acts*. Zondervan Exegetical Commentary of the New Testament. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2012. ISBN 13: 978-0310243670 Cost: \$59.99

Wright, N.T. and Michael Bird. *The New Testament In Its World*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Academic, 2019. ISBN 978-0-281-08271-1 Cost: \$50.99

REQUIRED: ORIGINAL LANGUAGE BIBLE STUDY SOFTWARE (Accordance, Bible Works, Logos)

Students are required to have digital resources to engage Biblical study in the original languages, including but not limited to *Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia (BHS)*, *Nestle Aland 28 (NA28)* – both including critical apparatus; *Septuaginta (LXX)*, *a Greek Lexicon of the New Testament and*

Other Early Christian Literature (BDAG) by Bauer, Danker, Arndt, and Gingrich; Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament (HALOT) by Koehler and Baumgartner.

ASSIGNMENTS AND POINTS

Assignment #1: Read 300 pages in the *Dictionary of Jesus and the Gospels* and write a summary critique of 5 pages (double spaced) on your reading (100 points)

Assignment #2: Write a book argument of Matthew (100 points)

Assignment #3: Read 300 pages in *The New Testament and Its World* and write a summary critique of 5 pages (double spaced) on your reading (100 points)

Assignment #4: Write the book argument of John (100 points)

Assignment #5: Read 300 more pages in *Dictionary of Jesus and the Gospels* and write a summary critique of 5 pages (double spaced) on your reading (100 points)

Assignment #6: Answer 10 research questions in Discussions based upon reading in the book *The New Testament and Its World* by N.T. Wright (100 points)

Assignment #7: Answer 10 research questions in Discussions based upon your reading of the Zondervan exegetical commentary on *Acts* by Schnabel. (100 points)

Assignment #8: Write a book argument on Luke OR Acts (100 points)

Assignment #9: Write an exegetical research paper (25-30 pages double spaced and following Turabian style format) on a text from Matthew, Mark, Luke, John or Acts that is selected by you and approved by the professor. Present the results of your research in the last class (200 points)

GRADING RUBRIC FOR BOOK ARGUMENTS

- 10 points** Author (Internal and External Evidence)
- 10 points** Date, Place and Occasion of Writing
- 10 points** Message and Possible Purposes
- 10 points** Ten Key Interpretive Problems to Solve in the Book
- 20 points** Biblical Theology (Major themes in the Book)
- 40 points** Detailed Analytical Outline (chapter and verse reference must follow every outline point)
- 100 points** Total

FINAL GRADE BASED ON 1000 POINTS

- 960-1000 points** A
- 940-959 points** A-
- 920-939 points** B+
- 880-919 points** B
- 860-879 points** B-
- 0-859 points** F

PROPOSED SCHEDULE/TOPICS

Week 1: Matthew 1-13

Week 2: Matthew 14-28

Week 3: Mark

Week 4: John 1-12

Week 5: John 13-21

Week 6: Luke

Week 7: Acts 1-12

Week 8: Acts 13-28

ASSIGNMENT NOTICES

Students with disabilities have the responsibility of informing the Academic Accommodations Coordinator (aso@calvary.edu) of any disabling condition that may require support.

The Clark Academic Center (learning@calvary.edu) is dedicated to providing free academic assistance for Calvary University students. Student tutors aid with all facets of the writing process, tutor in various subject areas, prepare students for exams and facilitate tests. Please take advantage of this service.

Plagiarism is defined as copying any part of a book or paper without identifying the author. This also includes taking another person's ideas and presenting them as your own.

All class papers must follow the Turabian style according to A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations, 8th edition.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Bailey, Mark and Tom Constable. *Nelson's New Testament Survey*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1999.

Barrett, C.K. *The New Testament Background*. San Francisco: HarperCollins, 1989.

Beilby, James and Eddy, Paul Rhodes, eds. *The Historical Jesus: Five Views*. Downers Grove: IVP Academic, 2009.

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- Kostenberger, Andreas. *Encountering John*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 1999.
- MacArthur, John. *Because the Time is Near*. Chicago: Moody Publishers, 2007.
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