

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

Course:	BT709 Advanced New Testament Synthesis I
Credit:	3 Semester Hours
Semester:	Spring 2022 Cycle 6 (May 9 – July 1, 2022)
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 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 ten articles in *Dictionary of Jesus and the Gospels* and write a summary critique of each of the ten articles (100 points). Due: May 16, 2022

Assignment #2: Write a detailed exegetical outline of The Gospel According to Matthew. Make sure you use full sentences for each main point and subpoint. Each outline point should have a chapter and verse reference after the outline point. (100 points). Due May 23, 2022.

Assignment #3: Read “Reading the New Testament” (pages 38-85), “The World of Jesus and the Early Church” (pages 86-171) and “Jesus and the Victory of God” (pages 172-263) in *The New Testament and Its World* and write a summary critique of each of these sections in the book (100 points). Due: May 30, 2022

Assignment #4: Read ten more articles in *Dictionary of Jesus and the Gospels* and write a summary critique of each of these ten articles (100 points) Due: June 6, 2022

Assignment #5: Read “The Gospels and the Son of God” (pages 554-701) in the book *The New Testament and Its World* by N.T. Wright and write a summary critique of his views on each of the four gospels (100 points) Due: June 13, 2022

Assignment #6: Read through the book of Acts and 300 pages from the commentary on Acts by Schnabel. Type a paper of 5 double spaced pages indicating 10 things you learned from the reading of his commentary (100 points) Due: June 20, 2022

Assignment #7: For the class translate at least 5 verses from the Greek New Testament from one of the gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke or John) or the book of Acts and share 5 observations and one interpretation problem and possible solution with the class. You are encouraged to use Powerpoint for your presentation. Each student will present on a different text of scripture (first come, first served). (100 points). Due June 21, 2022

Assignment #8: 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. The exegetical research paper should include: your translation of the Greek text, context, exegetical outline and exegetical idea, your commentary explaining the meaning of the verses in context, biblical theology, textual criticism problem, applications and annotated bibliography of sources used in your research (300 points) Due: June 28, 2022

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

Week 5: Luke

Week 6: Acts 1-12

Week 7: Acts 13-28

Week 8: Student Presentations of Exegetical Papers

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.

Blomberg, Craig. *The Historical Reliability of John's Gospel*. Downers Grove, Ill.: IVP, 2001.

Bock, Darrell. *A Theology of Luke and Acts*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2012.

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Bruce, F.F. *New Testament History*. New York: Doubleday, 1980.

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Burge, Gary and Lynn Cohick and Gene Green. *The New Testament In Antiquity*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2009.

Carson, D.A. and Douglas Moo, *An Introduction to the New Testament*. Second edition. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2005.

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Helyer, Larry. *Exploring Jewish Literature of the Second Temple Period*. Downers Grove: IVP, 2002.

Jeffers, James. *The Greco-Roman World of the New Testament Era*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1999.

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Kostenberger, Andreas. *A Theology of John's Gospel and Letters*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2009.

Kostenberger, Andreas. *Encountering John*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 1999.

Kostenberger, Andreas. *The Jesus of the Gospels*. Grand Rapids: Kregel Academic, 2020.

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Toussaint, Stanley. *Behold the King: A Study of Matthew*. Portland: Multnomah Press, 1980.

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