

North Portland Bible College
Portland, Oregon

NT 101 New Testament Survey I
Examining the Gospels
Fall 2016-17
3 Credits

Instructor: Kenneth C. Holt MA (Biblical and Theological Studies)

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

A study of the four Gospels in their historical, social, religious context, and their unique harmony as well as diversity. Students will be able to summarize the earthly life of Christ and explain His teachings about the Kingdom of God.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. Know the basic introduction to each book (theme, purpose, theological contribution, and cultural and historical context).
2. Be able to explain the basic message of each book and how it fits into the overall story of Scripture.
3. Practice interaction with the text of Scripture through written identification of key questions, difficulties and insights and arriving at preliminary answers to those questions.
4. Grow in the desire and ability to study the Gospels.
5. Apply specific principals from the Gospels to personal life and ministry.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Reading

Required:

1. The Holy Bible. Preferred translations are the ESV, NASB, or HCSB however you may use any standard translation of the Bible (no paraphrases). You are strongly encouraged to use a translation different from the one you commonly use to provide fresh reading of this well know part of Scripture.
2. *The Lion and the Lamb*. Kostenberger, A. J. and L. S. Kellum. Nashville: B&H, 2012.

3. Supplemental articles and papers will be provided for additional personal growth. A one page response to the article may be turned in for extra credit. These materials will be available on the Classroom.

All assigned reading is to be completed prior to the beginning of class.

Recommended:

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

MAJOR ASSIGNMENTS (see attached schedule for due dates)

1. Completion of Bible reading from the Gospels.
2. Completion of assigned readings from *The Lion and the Lamb*.
3. Four Observations /Questions from Bible reading reports. The student will record a combination of 5 observations/insights and 5 questions/difficulties from the reading the assigned Biblical text.
4. Four Question and Preliminary Answer Papers. The student will select one of the 5 questions or difficulties from the previous assignment and prepare a 2 -3 page paper with a preliminary answer to the question. The format should use the following outline:
 - I. The Question Stated
In this section you will state the question and its Biblical reference. Also include why this question interested you. (1 paragraph)
 - II. The Question Answered
In this section you will present a preliminary answer to your question from your personal study of the Bible. Begin with the immediate context then consider the context of the chapter and then the entire book, Extend your research to any other writings of the author followed by pertinent information in the rest of the Bible. Use cross references and concordances to find other verses that help you understand your question, You may use electronic searches as well just confine them to the text of the Bible at this time.
5. One Final Answer and Application Paper. The student will select one of the questions from the Preliminary Answer Paper assignments and prepare a 4 -5 page paper answering the question using the students own insights and at least two commentaries and then apply the insights learned from that answer to his or her personal life or ministry. The format should use the following outline:
 - I. The Question Stated
In this section you will state the question and its Biblical reference. Also include why this question interested you. (1 paragraph)
 - II. The Question Answered
In this section you will re-present your preliminary answer to your question from your previous paper. Changes and additions to your answer are welcome but this section should still represent only your own personal study of the passage.
 - III. The Answer Researched
In this section you will expand your previous answer and include research from at least

two commentaries. Compare your preliminary answer to the information you find in the commentaries and augment, or modify your answer if you think the new information demands. State your disagreement and why if you do not agree with them. Sections I, II, & III (2½ - 3 pages)

IV. The Answer Applied

In this section you will apply the answer you have discovered to your personal life or ministry. Be specific. (1½ - 2 pages)

6. Two Exams. A mid-term and final exam consisting of T/F, multiple choice and short answer questions.

COURSE EXPECTATIONS AND POLICIES

Attendance Policy

Students are required to attend and participate in classroom activities. Students are expected to attend at least eight of the ten scheduled classes for completion of a course of study. It is the student's responsibility to make arrangements with instructors for completing class-work and meeting attendance requirements. (NPBC Catalog, pg. 15). Please notify the instructor of planned absences in advance and as soon as possible in the event of an unexpected or emergency situation.

Evaluation and Grading Policy

Letter grades will follow the Academic Policies section of the NPBC Catalog, pg. 13. A final grade will be based on the following criteria:

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| 1. Attendance and constructive class participation: | 15% |
| 2. Completion of assigned reading: | 20% |
| 3. Interactive Observations/Questions for each Gospel (5% each): | 20% |
| 4. Four Question and Preliminary Answer Papers (5% each): | 20% |
| 5. One Final Answer and Application Paper | 10% |
| 6. Two Exams | 15% |

Late assignment policy

A grace period of 2 (two) days will be given for incomplete assignments with prior approval of the instructor. The student will have two days following the normal class period that the assignment is due to complete the late assignment. Late work should be emailed to the instructor as soon as completed but no later than 3:00 PM of the 2nd day. A 5% grade reduction per day will be given for work turned in after the 3:00 PM cut off.

EXPECTATIONS RE: A PARTICULAR WRITING/FORMAT STYLE FOR PAPERS

NPBC Writing Standards:

All written work must be typed in the format designated by the college. Excessive errors such as grammar, punctuation, format, and spelling will affect your grade. A copy of NPBC Writing Guidelines is available through the office.

All written material submitted must be the original work of the student. **Plagiarism** is a violation of academic integrity and constitutes a serious breach of scholarship standards at North Portland Bible College. When quoting the work of an author or an author's ideas are used in your paper, document, document, and document.

OTHER

All written work should be turned in via the classroom. It should be in Microsoft Word (or compatible) format and will be returned with corrections/comments attached. The file name should be NT101*assignmenttitle*(Lastname), e.g. NT1015&5Matthew(Holt)

COURSE SCHEDULE AND CONTENT TOPICS

Date	Topic	Reading	Assignment	Supplementary Reading
9/26/2016	Course Introduction & Introduction to the Gospels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Syllabus and "Introduction to the Gospels" by Dr. Sweeney 	Online Orientation (available in Classroom)	
10/3/2016	Matthew	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Gospel According to Matthew 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interactive Questions for Matthew 	"Why Are There Four Versions of the Sign on the Cross?"
10/10/2016	Matthew	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Lion and the Lamb</i> chap 4 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preliminary Answer Paper for Matthew 	"God's Plan for the Ages"
10/17/2016	NO CLASS			"Chronological Aspects of the Life of Christ"
10/24/2016	Mark	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Gospel According to Mark 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interactive Questions for Mark 	"Why Annihilationism is Wrong"
10/31/2016	Mark	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Lion and the Lamb</i> chap 5 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preliminary Answer Paper for Mark 	TBA
11/7/2016	Luke	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Gospel According to Luke 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interactive Questions for Luke • Exam on Matthew and Mark 	No supplementary reading
11/14/2016	Luke	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Lion and the Lamb</i> chap 6 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preliminary Answer Paper for Luke 	TBA
11/21/2016	John	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Gospel According to John 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interactive Questions for John 	TBA
11/28/2016	John	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Lion and the Lamb</i> chap 7 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preliminary answer Paper for John 	No supplementary reading
12/5/2016	John Course Conclusion		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Answer and Application Paper • Exam on Luke and John 	No supplementary reading

Bibliography

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