

Trinity Evangelical Divinity School

NT5000 Introduction to the New Testament

TEDS Extension Education. Indianapolis

Spring 2008. Jan 11-12, Feb 22-23, Mar 14-15, April 4-5, April 25-26

Fridays 7:00 – 10:00 pm, Saturdays 8:00 am – 4:00 pm.

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Course Description

Introductory survey of the New Testament, including the life and ministry of Jesus Christ, apostolic history, New Testament literature, principal critical issues, and the unity and diversity of New Testament theology (TEDS Catalogue). *Four hours.*

In particular, the course intends to

Ÿ describe the **content** of the New Testament in terms of literature, history, and theology

Ÿ introduce the **context** of the New Testament writings in the history of the early church

Ÿ analyze the **hermeneutical issues** that affect our understanding of the New Testament texts

Ÿ explicate the **theological diversity** of the New Testament writings

At the end of the course, students should be able to

Ÿ retrace the **history of the early church** and her mission

Ÿ analyze the **literary genres** of the New Testament

Ÿ explain the **basic content of each book** of the New Testament

Ÿ outline the **circumstances in which each New Testament book** was written

Ÿ sketch the **faith and message of the early church** in historical context

Ÿ discuss the **major critical issues** in New Testament studies

Ÿ explicate the **significance of Jewish and Greco-Roman traditions** for the NT

Required texts

A standard translation of the Bible: RSV/NRSV, NIV/TNIV, NASB.

Barnett, Paul W. *Jesus and the Rise of Early Christianity: A History of New Testament Times*.
Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1999.

Gundry, Robert A. *A Survey of the New Testament*. Fourth Edition. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2003.

I. Howard Marshall, *New Testament Theology: Many Witnesses, One Gospel*. Downers Grove:
InterVarsity Press, 2004.

Consult as necessary:

Second Temple Judaism:

- Davies, W. D. et al., eds. *The Cambridge History of Judaism. Vol. 2: The Hellenistic Age. Vol. 3: The Early Roman Period*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1989/1999
- Geva, Hillel, ed. *Ancient Jerusalem Revealed*. Expanded Edition. Jerusalem: Israel Exploration Society, 2000
- Levine, Lee I. *Jerusalem: Portrait of the City in the Second Temple Period (538 B.C.E. – 70 C.E.)*. Philadelphia: The Jewish Publication Society, 2002
- Lipschitz, Oded. *The Fall and Rise of Jerusalem: Judah Under Babylonian Rule*. Winona Lake: Eisenbrauns, 2005
- Mendels, Doron. *The Rise and Fall of Jewish Nationalism: The History of Jewish and Christian Ethnicity in Palestine Within the Greco-Roman Period (200 B.C.E. - 135 C.E.)*. New York: Doubleday, 1992
- Nickelsburg, George W.E. *Jewish Literature between the Bible and the Mishnah*. London: SCM Press, 1981
- Safrai, S., and M. Stern, ed. *The Jewish People in the First Century. Historical Geography, Political History, Social, Cultural and Religious Life and Institutions*. CRINT 1.2. Assen: Van Gorcum, 1987 [1976]
- Saldarini, Anthony J. *Pharisees, Scribes and Sadducees in Palestinian Society*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2001
- Schürer, E., G. Vermes, and F. Millar, eds. *The History of the Jewish People in the Age of Christ*. Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark, 1973-1987
- VanderKam, James C. *From Joshua to Caiaphas: High Priests After the Exile*. Minneapolis: Fortress, 2004

Gospels:

- Blomberg, C. L. *Jesus and the Gospels*. Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 1997.
- Blomberg, C. L. *The Historical Reliability of John's Gospel*. Grand Rapids: InterVarsity Press, 2001.
- Green, J. B. et al., eds. *Dictionary of Jesus and the Gospels*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1992
- Jensen, Morten Hørning. *Herod Antipas in Galilee*. WUNT 2/215. Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2006
- Theissen, Gerd, and Annette Merz. *The Historical Jesus. A Comprehensive Guide*. Minneapolis: Fortress, 1998.
- Wright, N. T. *Who Was Jesus?* Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1993.

Paul:

- Bruce, F. F. *Paul: Apostle of the Free Spirit*. Exeter: Paternoster, 1977
- Hawthorne, G. F. et al., eds. *Dictionary of Paul and his Letters*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1993
- Marrow, Stanley B. *Paul: His Letters and his Theology*. New York: Paulist, 1986
- Murphy-O'Connor, Jerome. *Paul: A Critical Life*. Oxford: Clarendon, 1996
- Schreiner, Thomas R. *Paul, Apostle of God's Glory in Christ*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2001

Early Christianity:

- Davids, P. H., and R. P. Martin, eds. *Dictionary of the Later New Testament and Its Developments*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1997
- Hurtado, Larry W. *Lord Jesus Christ: Devotion to Jesus in Earliest Christianity*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2003.
- Schnabel, Eckhard J. *Early Christian Mission. Vol. 1: Jesus and the Twelve. Vol. 2: Paul and the Early Church*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2004

Dictionaries and encyclopedias:

- Avi-Yonah, Michael, and Ephraim Stern, eds. *Encyclopedia of Archaeological Excavations in the Holy Land [EAEHL]*. 4 vols. Englewood Cliffs, N.J.: Prentice-Hall, 1975–1978 (see now E. Stern, *NEAEHL*)
- Bromiley, G. W., ed. *The International Standard Bible Encyclopedia [ISBE]*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1979–1988
- Brown, C., ed. *The New International Dictionary of New Testament Theology [NIDNTT]*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1975–1978
- Freedman, D. N., ed. *Anchor Bible Dictionary [ABD]*. 6 vols. New York: Doubleday, 1972

Hornblower, Simon and Antony Spawforth. *Oxford Classical Dictionary [OCD]*. 3rd ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1996

Douglas, J. D., ed. *The Illustrated Bible Dictionary*. Leicester and Wheaton: InterVarsity Press and Tyndale, 1980

Meyers, Eric M., ed. *Oxford Encyclopedia of Archaeology in the Near East [OEANE]*. 5 vols. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1997

Schiffman, Lawrence H. and James C. VanderKam. *Encyclopedia of the Dead Sea Scrolls [EDSS]*. 2 vols. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2000

Stern, Ephraim, ed. *The New Encyclopedia of Archaeological Excavations in the Holy Land [NEAEHL]*. Jerusalem and New York: The Israel Exploration Society, Carta and Simon & Schuster, 1993

Stillwell, Richard, ed. *The Princeton Encyclopedia of Classical Sites [PECS]*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1976

Atlases:

Aharoni, Y. and M. Avi-Yonah. *The Macmillan Bible Atlas*. Revised Edition. New York: Macmillan, 1993

May, H. G. *Oxford Bible Atlas*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1984

Mittmann, S., and G. Schmitt. *Tübingen Bible Atlas*. Stuttgart: United Bible Society, 2001

Pritchard, J. B. *The Harper Atlas of the Bible*. San Francisco: Harper, 1987

Rasmussen, C. G. *Zondervan NIV Atlas of the Bible*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1989

Talbert, Richard J. A. *Barrington Atlas of the Greek and Roman World*. Princeton: University Press, 2000

Tsafir, Yoram, Leah Di Segni and Judith Green. *Judaea. Palaestina. Eretz Israel in the Hellenistic, Roman and Byzantine Periods. Maps and Gazetteer. Tabula Imperii Romani*. Jerusalem: The Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities, 1994

Assignments

1. Read the New Testament texts carefully, both before and after the class in which the specific NT books are discussed.
2. Read the required texts of Barnett, Gundry, and Marshall as specified in the Class Schedule.
3. Quizzes will test the student's knowledge of the New Testament texts and of other material assigned for the particular class session.
4. Project I: Choose either a town (e.g. Antioch, Corinth, Pergamon), a group (e.g. the scribes, the Pharisees, the Samaritans), or a custom (e.g. korban, Passover, taxes) mentioned in the New Testament. Research the matter in at least five sources (dictionaries, encyclopedias, commentaries, studies). Summarize your findings and then relate those findings to at least one passage in the New Testament, explaining how your findings help to understand the passage. Two pages (single spaced). For the due date see the Class Schedule.
5. Project II (major project): each student selects a New Testament book and prepares a twelve week Sunday School series to an adult class, using basic tools of Biblical interpretation (concordance, Bible dictionaries and encyclopedias, three commentaries). (i) Divide the book on the basis of a twelve week series. (ii) Choose a major theme that summarizes the section covered each week. (iii) List the historical (cultural) and theological issues for each individual section. (iv) List the contemporary issues which you will address in each session. Include a bibliography.

Example:

Passage	Major Theme	Theological Themes	Current Issues
Week 1 1:1-14	God's care in the midst of trials	1. Servanthood (v. 1) 2. Prayer (vv. 2-3, 9-11) 3. Fellowship (v. 5) 4. Growth to maturity (v. 6) 5. The mind and spiritual growth (vv. 12-14) 6. The purpose of trials (vv. 12-14)	1. Leaders are servants 2. The discipline of prayer 3. Fellowship of believers 4. Concern for others (vv. 7-8) 5. Spiritual discernment (v. 10) 6. Reaction to trials

6. There will be a final examination after the last weekend of classes, which students will take electronically via Moodle (<http://webapps.tiu.edu/moodle> ... TEDS Academics . . . Standard Bible Content Test NT)

Assignments relative to final grade: quizzes 20%; project I 20%; project II 30%; exam 30%.

Grading scale: A:96-100. A-:93-95. B+:91-92. B:87-90. B-:84-86. C+:80-83. C:77-79. C-:72-76. D+:69-71. D:67-68. D-:65-66. F:65-0.

Class Schedule

Jan 11	Second Temple Judaism: History and Literature	Barnett, 13-89; Gundry, 1-75
	Interpretation of the Gospels	Marshall, 184-206
Jan 12	The study of the historical Jesus	Gundry, 90-122; Barnett, 90-179
	The Gospel of Matthew Jesus and the Kingdom of God (Mt 3:12-17; 13) Jesus, the Messiah, and Judaism (Mt 1-2; 5)	Gundry, 158-204; Marshall, 95-128
Feb 22	The Gospel of Mark Jesus' miracles (Mk 4-5) Jesus' death (Mk 10:32-45; 14-15)	Gundry, 124-57; Marshall, 57-94
	The Gospel of Luke Messiah, Servant, Prophet, Lord (Lk 1-2; 4; 20) Jesus and the marginalized (Lk 6; 10; 15)	Gundry, 206-52; Marshall, 129-54
	Project I due	
Feb 23	The Gospel of John Jesus and God's revelation (Jn 1-2; 6; 14) Jesus and the people of God (Jn 10; 17)	Gundry, 254-97; Marshall, 491-528 Marshall, 579-601
	The Acts of the Apostles Peter and the church in Jerusalem (Acts 1-12) Paul and the mission to the Gentiles (Acts 13-28)	Gundry, 298-344; Marshall, 155-83 Barnett, 195-246 Barnett, 247-98, 328-56
Mar 14	The life and the theological convictions of Paul The letters of the New Testament	Marshall, 420-488
Mar 15	Galatians Justification by faith in Jesus Christ	Gundry, 346-60; Marshall, 209-35 Barnett, 299-327
	1, 2 Thessalonians The return of Jesus Christ	Gundry, 360-68; Marshall, 236-51
	1, 2 Corinthians Life as a believer in a pagan city	Gundry, 372-91; Marshall, 252-304
	Romans	Gundry, 391-406; Marshall, 305-44

Revelation of God's righteousness in Christ

April 4	Philippians The work of Christ and sanctification	Gundry, 427-434; Marshall, 344-61
	Colossians Jesus Christ, the "fullness" of God	Gundry, 416-20; Marshall, 366-78
	Philemon The consequences of conversion	Gundry, 414-15; Marshall, 362-65
	Ephesians The church, the body of Christ	Gundry, 421-26; Marshall, 379-96
April 5	1, 2 Timothy, Titus Caring for the church	Gundry, 440-49; Marshall, 397-419
	Hebrews Jesus and the new covenant	Gundry, 456-71; Marshall, 605-27 Marshall, 681-704
	James Faith, works, and judgment	Gundry, 474-80; Marshall, 628-41
April 25	1 Peter The suffering of believers	Gundry, 480-86; Marshall, 642-59
	2 Peter, Jude Fighting false teachers	Gundry 486-92; Marshall, 660-80
	Major Project due	
April 26	1, 2, 3 John The true faith	Gundry, 492-97; Marshall, 529-47
	The Book of Revelation The goal of history and the return of Jesus	Gundry, 504-28; Marshall, 548-66
	The unity and the diversity of the New Testament	Marshall, 707-32
	The text and the canon of the New Testament	Gundry, 78-89

—May 10 **Final Exam**