

	<b>School of Philosophy and Theology</b> <b>BIB 1002 New Testament History &amp; Religion (Section 4)</b>  <b>3 Units</b>
	Spring 2022

<b>Meeting days:</b> Thursday	<b>Instructor title and name:</b> Prof. Wilson Ryland
<b>Meeting times:</b> 6:00-8:45 pm	<b>Phone:</b> 619-929-4530
<b>Meeting location:</b> LBRT 201	<b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:wryland1@pointloma.edu">wryland1@pointloma.edu</a>
<b>Final Exam:</b> Thursday, May 5, 7:30 -10:00 pm	<b>Office location and hours:</b> by appointment

### PLNU Mission

#### To Teach ~ To Shape ~ To Send

Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service is an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we strive to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

#### Foundational Explorations Mission

PLNU provides a foundational course of study in the liberal arts informed by the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. In keeping with the Wesleyan tradition, the curriculum equips students with a broad range of knowledge and skills within and across disciplines to enrich major study, lifelong learning, and vocational service as Christ-like participants in the world's diverse societies and culture.

#### COURSE DESCRIPTION

Within the context of Christian origins, an overview of the canonical literature of the New Testament with special attention to its literary history and theological themes.

This course is one of the components of the Foundational Explorations Program at Point Loma Nazarene University, under the category of "Responding to the Sacred." This course is included in the common educational experience for undergraduates because the faculty understands the study of Scripture and Christian heritage to be foundational in the pursuit of knowledge and the development of personal values. We will explore areas of study that contribute to an

understanding of the New Testament like historical contexts, genre and composition, doctrine and theology, etcetera. All this will be carried out, though, in service to the more vital goal of equipping you to read the Bible prayerfully and faithfully, as part of, and in service to, Christ's church.

### **COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

By the end of the course, you will be able to:

1. Identify the historical context of the New Testament.
2. Articulate the unity of the New Testament in its canonical context within the diverse literature of the Christian canon.
3. Articulate and appreciate the ways the Bible, understood as given by divine inspiration, functions as the church's central norm for Christian discipleship, faith, and practice.
4. Articulate the basic content of the books of the New Testament and the methods appropriate to the interpretation of these books.

### **FOUNDATIONAL EXPLORATIONS LEARNING OUTCOME**

Throughout this course you will engage in actions that reflect Christian Discipleship in a context of communal service and collective responsibility. This will be done primarily as we read New Testament texts together as part of our regular class sessions with an aim toward Christian formation, and will be part of class attendance and participation.

### **REQUIRED TEXTS AND RECOMMENDED STUDY RESOURCES**

1. A standard translation of the Bible (e.g., ESV, NRSV, NASB, NIV, etc.) in book form. Please do not bring Bible paraphrases (e.g., The Message).
2. Powell, Mark Allan. *Introducing the New Testament: A Historical, Literary, and Theological Survey*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2018. ISBN 978-0801099601.
3. Handouts that will be distributed in Canvas.

For the Essays, it is strongly recommended you use a scholarly biblical commentary. These are available at PLNU's Ryan Library. Guidance about how to find and use a commentary relevant to you essay topic will be given in class.

### **COURSE CREDIT HOUR INFORMATION**

In the interest of providing sufficient time to accomplish the stated Course Learning Outcomes, this class meets the PLNU credit hour policy for a 3 unit class delivered over 15 weeks. It is anticipated that students will spend a minimum of 37.5 participation hours per credit hour on

their coursework. For this course, students will spend an estimated 112.5 total hours meeting the course learning outcomes. The time estimations are provided in the Canvas modules.

## **ASSIGNMENTS AT-A-GLANCE**

### ATTENDANCE

Attendance will be taken each class session and is constituted by your presence and participation.

### CLOSE READING AND DISCUSSION

The central piece of this course is the reading of the New Testament, with special emphasis given to the close reading of selected texts in class sessions. Each week you will be assigned a larger portion of a New Testament book to read once; then there will be a smaller selection of verses that we will spend extended time exploring together in the class sessions (see course schedule below or in Canvas). This assignment helps prepare you for these close reading sessions; the more you put into the preparation, the more you will get from this course.

Before each class session: (a) Read the assigned close reading selection slowly, carefully, and 2-3 times over (b) List 10 specific details from the text. (c) Pick one detail/word/phrase/idea, and *post 250 words* on the questions this detail/word/phrase/idea raises in your mind, or insights it generates, and why this might matter for Christian formation.

These should be submitted via Canvas before the start of class.

READING QUIZZES Nearly every class session will begin with a quiz covering the events, characters, themes, and ideas from the larger assigned reading; the material on these quizzes will not be limited to the “close reading” selections. The quizzes provide encouragement and accountability for completing the assigned class reading, highlight key details or themes from the texts, and give you an idea of what will be on the exams.

This will be given in class.

ESSAYS draw from the readings and lectures. These assignments allow students to synthesize information from the reading and lectures, and try out the methods of biblical interpretation modeled in class. In articulating answers to questions, a student will move beyond information repetition to analysis and comparison. Students will receive the essay prompt the week before the essay is due. The prompt will also be posted in Canvas. It is strongly recommended you use a scholarly biblical commentary. These are available at PLNU’s Ryan Library. Guidance about how to find and use a commentary relevant to your essay topic will be given in class.

MIDTERM AND FINAL EXAMS The course exams are **closed-book** .

The midterm will be given via Canvas and will cover introductory material, the Gospels, and Acts. Questions will also include lectures and reading materials.

The final will be comprehensive and given *in-class* during the time allotted by the University's final exam schedule.

There will be a review before each exam.

Extra Credit: You may earn up to (and no more than) 50 extra points for:

1) 2 page paper. 1 page should summarize Powell's chapter on Jesus (ch. 3), 1 page compares Powell with a reading from a classic Christian source. These sources will be available in Canvas. There will be several options, choose only 1 to put into conversation with Powell. 25 points.

2) 2 page paper. 1 page should summarize Powell's chapter on Paul (ch. 11), 1 page compares Powell with a reading from a classic Christian source. These sources will be available in Canvas. There will be several options, choose only 1 to put into conversation with Powell. 25 points.

3) Devotionally read 5 chapters from the Gospels and keep a Journal. 1 page per chapter for 25 points.

A cap of 50 extra points means a student may only do 2 of these assignments.

ASSIGNMENT	DATE
Reading Quizzes	Each Class Session
Close Reading	Before Each Class
Essay 1	Due by Midnight, Feb 17
Midterm	Due by Midnight, March 3rd
Essay 2	Due by Midnight, March 31
Extra Credit	Due by Midnight, April 28
Final Exam	May 5

## ASSESSMENT AND GRADING

Grades will be based on the following:

<u>Assignment distribution:</u>	<u>Grade scale:</u>
• Attendance 100 points - 10%	A=93-100 C=73-76
• Reading quizzes 150 points - 15%	A-=92-90 C-=70-72
• Reading Discussion 100 points - 10%	B+=87-89 D+=67-69
• Essay #1 125 points - 12%	B=83-86 D=63-66
• Essay #2 125 points - 12%	B-=80-82 D-=60-62
• Midterm Exam 150 points - 15%	C+=77-79 F=0-59
• Final Exam 250 points - 25%	

## STATE AUTHORIZATION

State authorization is a formal determination by a state that Point Loma Nazarene University is approved to conduct activities regulated by that state. In certain states outside California, Point Loma Nazarene University is not authorized to enroll online (distance education) students. If a student moves to another state after admission to the program and/or enrollment in an online course, continuation within the program and/or course will depend on whether Point Loma Nazarene University is authorized to offer distance education courses in that state. It is the student's responsibility to notify the institution of any change in his or her physical location. Refer to the map on [State Authorization](#) to view which states allow online (distance education) outside of California.

## INCOMPLETES AND LATE ASSIGNMENTS

All assignments are to be submitted/turned in by the time and date indicated in the syllabus and in Canvas. Incompletes will only be assigned in extremely unusual circumstances.

## PLNU COPYRIGHT POLICY

Point Loma Nazarene University, as a non-profit educational institution, is entitled by law to use materials protected by the US Copyright Act for classroom education. Any use of those materials outside the class may violate the law.

## PLNU ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY

Students should demonstrate academic honesty by doing original work and by giving appropriate credit to the ideas of others. Academic dishonesty is the act of presenting information, ideas, and/or concepts as one's own when in reality they are the results of another person's creativity and effort. A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty has been detected may assign a failing grade for that assignment or examination, or, depending on the seriousness of the offense, for the course. Faculty should follow and students may appeal using the procedure in the university Catalog. See [Academic Policies](#) for definitions of kinds of academic dishonesty and for further policy information.

## **INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE**

The School of Theology and Christian Ministry is committed to the equality of women and men. Recognizing that people have often used the English language in ways that imply the exclusion or inferiority of women, the school urges students, faculty, and staff to avoid sexist language in public discourse, in classroom discussion, and in their writings. Thus, terms like "man" or "mankind" or the pronoun "he," should not be used to refer to all humans. Instead "people," "humanity," "humans," and "he or she" better acknowledge women as full persons.

All language should strive to reflect the truth that first and foremost everyone is a child of God, created in God's image.

## **PLNU ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS POLICY**

PLNU is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all its programs, services, and activities. Students with disabilities may request course-related accommodations by contacting the Educational Access Center (EAC), located in the Bond Academic Center ([EAC@pointloma.edu](mailto:EAC@pointloma.edu) or 619-849-2486). Once a student's eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, the EAC will issue an academic accommodation plan ("AP") to all faculty who teach courses in which the student is enrolled each semester.

PLNU highly recommends that students speak with their professors during the first two weeks of each semester/term about the implementation of their AP in that particular course and/or if they do not wish to utilize some or all of the elements of their AP in that course.

Students who need accommodations for a disability should contact the EAC as early as possible (i.e., ideally before the beginning of the semester) to assure appropriate accommodations can be provided. It is the student's responsibility to make the first contact with the EAC.

## **PLNU ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION POLICY**

Regular and punctual attendance at all class sessions is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. If the student is absent for more than 10 percent of class sessions, the faculty member will issue a written warning of de-enrollment. If the absences exceed 20 percent, the student may be de-enrolled without notice until the university drop date or, after that date, receive the appropriate grade for their work and participation.

In some courses, a portion of the credit hour content will be delivered **asynchronously** and attendance will be determined by submitting the assignments by the posted due dates. See [Academic Policies](#) in the Undergraduate Academic Catalog. If absences exceed these limits but are due to university excused health issues, an exception will be granted.

If for health or COVID related issues you cannot attend regular class sessions, work with the professor to determine an Asynchronous option.

## **USE OF TECHNOLOGY**

In Case of Needed Asynchronous Option (which will only be granted for approved health or COVID related issues): In order to be successful in the online or hybrid environment, you'll need to meet the minimum technology and system requirements; please refer to the [Technology and System Requirements](#) information. Additionally, students are required to have headphone speakers, microphone, or webcams compatible with their computer available to use. Please note that any course with online proctored exams require a computer with a camera (tablets are not compatible) to complete exams online.

Problems with technology do not relieve you of the responsibility of participating, turning in your assignments, or completing your class work.

Standard Case Policy: Students are encouraged to use technology, especially the Canvas site, for learning and communication *outside* of class. In fact, students should be checking their email daily to receive timely course-related communication. *In class, however, the professor has banned the use of electronic devices*, except by permission or in the case of specific need. (Please speak to me if, for example, you require a laptop for learning purposes and we will work out an accommodation.) For the sake of optimal student learning, and knowing the distractions available with just one click, you may not use laptops, tablets, smartphones, or any other screen-device during class.

## **SPIRITUAL CARE**

Please be aware PLNU strives to be a place where you grow as whole persons. To this end, we provide resources for our students to encounter God and grow in their Christian faith.

If students have questions, a desire to meet with the chaplain or have prayer requests you can contact the [Office of Spiritual Development](#)

## **COURSE SCHEDULE**

Week		
1 Jan 13	Syllabus & Introductions	<u>Reading:</u> Matthew 1-4; Mark 1; Luke 1-4; John 1-2; Powell pp. 17-56
2 Jan 20	<u>Reading:</u> Mark Powell pp. 150-157 <u>Close Reading:</u> Mark 4:35-5:20	<u>Close Reading:</u> Mark 1:9-13; 15:33-47
3 Jan 27	<u>Reading:</u> Matthew Powell pp. 129-138 <u>Close Reading:</u> Matthew 1	<u>Close Reading:</u> Matthew 28:1-10
4 Feb 3	<u>Reading:</u> Luke; Powell pp. 172-180 <u>Close Reading:</u> Luke 10:25-37	<u>Close Reading:</u> Luke 24:13-35
5 Feb 10	<u>Reading:</u> John Powell pp. 194-202 <u>Close Reading:</u> John 9:1-12	<u>Close Reading:</u> John 19:41-20:18  Essay 1 Prompt Available
6 Feb 17	<u>Reading:</u> Acts Powell pp. 216-228 <u>Close Reading:</u> 1) Acts 6:8-15; 7:54-60 2) Acts 17:16-34	<b><u>ESSAY 1 Due</u></b>
7 Feb 24	<u>Reading:</u> Galatians & Ephesians Powell pp. 329-335, 349-355 <u>Close Reading:</u> 1) Galatians 2:15-21 2) Ephesians 5:15-33	<u>Reading:</u> Philippians & Colossians Powell pp. 363-368, 378-384 <u>Close Reading:</u> 1) Philippians 2:1-10; 2) Colossians 1:15-23
8 March 3	<u>Reading:</u> 1 Corinthians Powell pp. 295-306 <u>Close Reading:</u> 1 Corinthians 15:12-28	<u>Reading:</u> 2 Corinthians Powell pp. 314-320 <u>Close Reading:</u> 2 Corinthians 5:11-21  <b>MIDTERM Due</b>

Week		
9 March 10	<b>Spring Break</b>	
10 March 17	<u>Reading:</u> Romans Powell pp. 277-286 <u>Close Reading:</u> Romans 7:7-8:8	<u>Close Reading:</u> Romans 12:1-21
11 March 24	<u>Reading:</u> 1 & 2 Thessalonians; Powell pp. 393-400 <u>Close Reading:</u> 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18	<u>Reading:</u> 1 & 2 Timothy Powell pp. 420-427  ESSAY 2 prompt available
12 March 31	<u>Reading:</u> Hebrews Powell pp. 449-458 <u>Close Reading:</u> Hebrews 4:14-16; 9:11-14	<b>ESSAY 2 Due</b>
13 April 7	<u>Reading:</u> James; 1 & 2 Peter; Philemon <u>Close Reading:</u> 2 Peter 1:3-11	<u>Reading:</u> 1,2,3 John; Jude; Powell pp. 514-520 <u>Close Reading:</u> 1) 1 John 1:5-10
14 April 14	<b>Easter - No class</b>	
15 April 21	<u>Reading:</u> Revelation 1-10; Powell pp. 547-550 <u>Close Reading:</u> Revelation 1:1-3	<u>Close Reading:</u> Revelation 4:1-11
16 April 28	<u>Reading:</u> Revelation 11-22 <u>Close Reading:</u> Revelation 21:9-22:7	<b>EXTRA CREDIT DUE</b>
May 15	<b>FINAL EXAM</b> Thursday, May 5, 7:30 -10:00 pm	