

School of Theology and Christian Ministry

Summer 2024 | Session I

Fully Online

May 6 - June 7

BIB1002 New Testament History and Religion

3 Units

Fully Online in Canvas

Office Hours: Scheduled Upon Request in Zoom

Professor: The Rev. Dr. Brad E. Kelle, Ph.D.



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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 cultures.

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.

PROGRAM GOAL

PLNU's Christian studies programs equip you with a foundational knowledge of Scripture and theology, as well as the practical experience essential for ministry and service, enabling you to courageously confront the problems facing our world today.

INSTITUTIONAL LEARNING OUTCOMES (ILOs)

1. Learning, Informed by our Faith in Christ

Students will acquire knowledge of human cultures and the physical and natural world while developing skills and habits of the mind that foster lifelong learning.

2. Growing, In a Christ-Centered Faith Community

Students will develop a deeper and more informed understanding of others as they negotiate complex professional, environmental and social contexts.

3. Serving, In a Context of Christian Faith

Students will serve locally and/or globally in vocational and social settings.

PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES (PLOs)

1. To help students appreciate and understand Christian history, theology, and spirituality from the perspective of the biblical, historical Christian faith;
 2. To create opportunities for students to apply and integrate classroom knowledge and principles to in-service training experiences in local churches, cross-cultural settings, and missions;
 3. To prepare students to pursue the study of philosophy, theology, or religion in a graduate school or seminary;
 4. To educate students to be “practical thinkers” and “thinking practitioners.”
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FOUNDATIONAL EXPLORATION LEARNING OUTCOMES (FELOs)

- FELO 1a. Students will be able to effectively express ideas and information to others through written communication.
 - FELO 1d. Critical Thinking: Students will be able to examine, critique, and synthesize information in order to arrive at reasoned conclusions.
 - FELO 3. Students will demonstrate an understanding of Christian Scripture, Tradition, and Ethics, including engagement in acts of devotion and works of mercy.
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COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES (CLO)

The following student learning outcomes will be achieved by this course:

1. Identify the historical contexts 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 in which 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 those books.

REQUIRED TEXTS AND RECOMMENDED STUDY RESOURCES

- *The New Interpreter's Study Bible*(NRSV). Nashville: Abingdon, 2003.

NOTE: Students are responsible to have the required textbooks prior to the first day of class. Students are also encouraged to begin reading the books in preparation for the class as soon as possible.

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. All supplemental materials posted on this course site (including articles, book excerpts, or other documents) are provided for your personal academic use. These materials may be protected by copyright law and should not be duplicated or distributed without the permission of the copyright owner.

COURSE CREDIT HOUR INFORMATION

Distribution of Student Learning Hours

It is anticipated that students will spend a minimum of 37.5 participation hours per credit hour on their course work over the next five weeks for a 3 unit course. The time expectations for this course are shown below:

Credit Hour Distribution

Category	Time Expectations in Hours
Required Reading	55
Discussions	21
Final Assignment	5
Quizzes & Study Guides	15
Lectures & Responses	15
Total Hours	111

ASSESSMENT AND GRADING

The following components will be present in the course to assess your learning:

1. **Readings** The New Testament is the primary text for this course. All readings are required. It is important to keep up with the readings on a session-by-session basis or the information will quickly become overwhelming. There will be both weekly quizzes ("Celebrations of Learning") and discussion forums aligned to the reading each week.
2. **Discussions** will be based on your observations from the assigned reading. **Discussions will make up 30% of your overall grade.**
 - Your initial post will contain three significant statements or points made or things you observed in the readings themselves (whether the biblical passages or textbooks) with an explanation for each of them and why you thought they were significant. **Note:** the initial post should be a total of **400 words** for all three observations.
 - Responses are required to at least two classmates to thoughtfully engage with their post and offer some responses that examine their observations or ask questions of them or even add to what they observed. **Note:** responses should be **200 words** total for the two responses combined.

3. Celebrations of Learning (a.k.a. reading quizzes) **Quizzes will make up 50% of your overall grade.** These will cover various reading assignments and associated class lectures. There are "Celebrations" each week (often called, erroneously, "quizzes" :-) and study guides ("Party Favors"!) will be provided.
4. **Assignments** will include Pre-lecture reflections, the end-of-course evaluation, a chance for extra credit and the Final Celebration of Learning will be a short reflective essay (a.k.a. final exam) at the end of the course. **Final Celebration will make up 20% of your overall grade.**

Assignments will be graded as soon after the due date as possible and feedback will be given on your assignments. It is important to read the comments posted in the Grades area and on your document submissions as these comments are intended to help you improve your work. You can expect an email response from me within 24-48 hours. Your grades will be posted in the Canvas Grades area no later than Friday of each week beginning in Week Two of this course. Grades will be based on the following guidelines:

GRADE SCALE

GRADE	%	GRADE	%
A	100-93%	C	73-76%
A-	90-92%	C-	70-72%
B+	87-89%	D+	67-69%
B	83-86%	D	64-66%
B-	80-82%	D-	60-63%
C+	77-79%	F	0-59%

LATE ASSIGNMENTS

All assignments are to be submitted by the due dates. There will be a 10% reduction of possible points for **each day** an assignment is late and assignments will **not be** accepted for credit four days after the due date. If missing assignments result in the failure to meet learning outcomes, students may receive a letter grade reduction on the final grade in addition to the loss of points for missing work. Assignments will be considered late if posted after the due date and time using Pacific Standard Time. No assignments will be accepted after midnight on Sunday night, the last day of class.

Exceptions for extenuating circumstances must be pre-approved by the instructor and the program director.

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.

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 an “F” grade.

COURSE MODALITY DEFINITIONS

1. **In-Person:** Course meetings are face-to-face with no more than 25% online delivery.
2. **Online:** Coursework is completed 100% online and asynchronously.
3. **Online Synchronous:** Coursework is completed 100% online with required weekly online class meetings.
4. **Hybrid:** Courses that meet face-to-face with required online components.

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.

ASYNCHRONOUS ATTENDANCE/PARTICIPATION DEFINITION

A day of attendance in asynchronous content is determined as contributing a substantive note, assignment, discussion, or submission by the posted due date. Failure to meet these standards will result in an absence for that day. Instructors will determine how many asynchronous attendance days are required each week.

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.

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 or 619-849-2486). Once a student’s eligibility for 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 ensure appropriate accommodations can be provided. It is the student’s responsibility to make the first contact with the EAC.

SPIRITUAL CARE

Please be aware that PLNU strives to be a place where you grow as a whole person. 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](#).

SEXUAL MISCONDUCT AND DISCRIMINATION

Point Loma Nazarene University faculty are committed to helping create a safe learning environment for all students. If you (or someone you know) have experienced any form of sexual discrimination or misconduct, including sexual assault, dating or domestic violence, or stalking, know that help and support are available through the [Title IX Office](#). Please be aware that under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, it is required to disclose information about such misconduct to the Title IX Office.

If you wish to speak to a confidential employee who does not have this reporting responsibility, you can contact Counseling Services at counselingservices@pointloma.edu or find a list of campus pastors at the [Title IX Office | Get Help Now](#)

LANGUAGE AND BELONGING

Point Loma Nazarene University faculty are committed to helping create a safe and hospitable learning environment for all students. As Christian scholars, we are keenly aware of the power of language and believe in treating others with dignity. As such, it is important that our language be equitable, inclusive, and prejudice-free. Inclusive/Bias-free language is the standard outlined by all major academic style guides, including MLA, APA, and Chicago, and it is the expected norm in university-level work. Good writing and speaking do not use unsubstantiated or irrelevant generalizations about personal qualities such as age, disability, economic class, ethnicity, marital status, parentage, political or religious beliefs, race, gender, sex, or sexual orientation. Inclusive language also avoids using stereotypes or terminology that demeans persons or groups based on age, disability, class, ethnicity, gender, race, language, or national origin. Respectful use of language is particularly important when referring to those outside of the religious and lifestyle commitments of those in the PLNU community. By working toward precision and clarity of language, we mark ourselves as serious and respectful scholars, and we model the Christ-like quality of hospitality.

You may report an incident(s) using the [Bias Incident Reporting Form](#).

USE OF TECHNOLOGY

In order to be successful in the online environment, students 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 requires a computer with a camera (tablets are not compatible) to complete exams online.

Problems with technology do not relieve students of the responsibility of participating, turning in assignments, or completing classwork.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) SYLLABUS POLICY

Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools (e.g., ChatGPT, iA Writer, Marmot, Botowski) is not permitted, and the use of these tools will be treated as plagiarism.

ASSIGNMENTS AT-A-GLANCE

The course summary below lists our assignments and their due dates. Click on any assignment to review it.