



Spring 2017

Instructor title and name: Prof. Jonathan Manning	Instructor phone: 626-236-0008 (my personal cell)		
Office location and hours: Taylor 110; by appointment	Instructor email: jmanning@pointloma.edu		
Meeting times/days: (sec 3: 11:00a-11:55a MWF)	(sec 4: 1:30p-2:25p MWF)	(sec 5: 2:55p-3:50p MWF)	
Meeting location: (sec 3: Rohr Hall 109)	(sec 4: Starkey B 100)	(sec 5: Starkey B 100)	
Final Exam: (sec 3: Fri, 12/15, 10:30a-1:00p)	(sec 4: Mon, 12/11, 1:30p-4:00p)	(sec 5: Fri, 12/15, 1:30p-4:00p)	

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 becomes an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we aspire to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

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 General Education Program at Point Loma Nazarene University, under the category of “Responding to the Sacred.” By including this course in a common educational experience for undergraduates, the faculty supports the study of Scripture and Christian heritage as foundational in the pursuit of knowledge and the development of personal values.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

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 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 these books.

REQUIRED TEXTS

A standard translation of the Bible (e.g., ESV, NRSV, NASB, NIV, etc.) in book form. Please avoid using Bible paraphrases (e.g., The Message) or archaic English translations (e.g., KJV-King James Version). Regarding bible phone/tablet apps, see the course technology policy below.

Longenecker, Bruce W. *The Lost Letters of Pergamum: A Story from the New Testament World*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2016. ISBN 978-0801097966.

Powell, Mark Allan. *Introducing the New Testament: A Historical, Literary, and Theological Survey*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2009. ISBN 978-0801028687.

All other assigned reading will be available via handout or online.

ASSESSMENT AND GRADING

Assignment Distribution by Points and Percentage:

Class Attendance and Participation	50 points	(10%)
Reading Quizzes.....	100 points	(20%)
Reading Responses.....	75 points	(15%)
Critical Response to Longenecker's <i>Lost Letters of Pergamum</i>	75 points	(15%)
Midterm Exam.....	100 points	(20%)
Final Exam.....	100 points	(20%)
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TOTAL POINTS.....	500 points	(100%)

Grading Scale:

	89%-87%	= B+	79%-77%	= C+	69%-67%	= D+	
100%-93%	= A	86%-83%	= B	76%-73%	= C	66%-63%	= D
92%-90%	= A-	82%-80%	= B-	72%-70%	= C-	62%-60%	= D-
						59%-0%	= F

Assignment Details:

Class Attendance and Participation (worth 50 points total; 25 for attendance, 25 for participation):

Attendance (25 points): From the PLNU Attendance Policy: "Regular and punctual attendance at all classes is considered essential to optimum academic achievement." (See [Academic Policies](#) in the academic catalog.)

Lateness	2 tardies will count as one unexcused absence. Please arrive to class on time.
Unexcused Absences	Unexcused absence #1-2: 5% of sessions missed. Does not count against attendance grade. Unexcused absence #3-5: 12% of sessions missed. Attendance grade reduced by 9 <u>per day</u> . More than 20% of sessions missed for any reason: Student may be de-enrolled from the course.
Excused Absences	No grade reduction. <u>Requires a note or other documentation from a health professional or professor/coach</u> (for sickness or official PLNU scheduled event). Notes from the PLNU Wellness Center are accepted, and if you are sick enough to miss class, you are strongly encouraged to go there.
Perfect Attendance	Students with <u>zero tardies</u> and <u>zero unexcused absences</u> at the end of the semester will earn 1% of extra credit toward the final course grade.

Participation (25 points): Class participation means simply participating verbally in question/answer and discussion during the class period, engaging in assigned tasks, maintaining focus, and avoiding distraction. Participation encompasses being prepared to discuss assigned reading, sharing insights, responding to other students, asking relevant questions, attempting to answer relevant questions, and discussing the issues brought up in class. In a 30- to 40-person class you might not have the opportunity to speak up on a daily basis, but you should still come prepared to contribute something to discussion on a daily basis.

Q: What will earn me the maximum participation grade?

A: Speaking up in class (productively), asking questions, not being distracting to others, staying off screen devices

Q: What will reduce my participation grade?

A: Remaining quiet in class all semester, never asking questions, distracting others, using screen devices

Reading Quizzes (worth 100 points total): Answer questions about the weekly assigned Bible/Powell reading.

Rationale: Open-book online reading quizzes accomplish several important goals: (1) quizzes provide encouragement and accountability for completing the assigned class reading, (2) quiz questions highlight and reinforce important ideas within the reading, (3) the online format of these quizzes shifts quiz-taking time outside of scheduled class sessions, and most importantly, (4) the open-book and repeatable format of the quizzes creates a low-stress “free to try and fail” environment conducive to learning.

Instructions: Reading quizzes will be scheduled for virtually every class session with assigned Bible/Powell reading, and are due by the beginning of a given class session. They are **open-book**, and **may be retaken as many times as desired** up until the due date (note that quiz questions are drawn randomly from a question pool, so when you retake, you will likely see different questions). If a quiz is repeated, your highest score will be recorded. Find all Reading Quizzes in the “Quizzes” section of our class Canvas site.

For Best Results: Do the reading first, and read carefully and thoughtfully—it will be easier to know/remember where specific information is located if you’ve already read it. When you take the quiz, have your text(s) alongside for reference. Repeat a quiz until you are confident in your mastery of the material. It’s obviously possible to complete a quiz successfully without actually doing all the reading, but that defeats the larger purpose, and will not benefit you in the long term.

Reading Responses (worth 75 points total; 25 per response, 3 total responses):

During the semester we will read the following scholarly articles:

Heen, Erik M. “Radical Patronage in Luke-Acts.” *Currents in Theology and Mission* 33 no 6 (2006): 445-458.

Koester, Craig R. “The Antichrist Theme in the Johannine Epistles and its Role in Christian Tradition.” In *Communities in Dispute: Current Scholarship on the Johannine Epistles*, edited by R. Alan Culpepper and Paul N. Anderson, 187-196. Atlanta: SBL Press, 2014.

Longenecker, Bruce W. “Poverty and Paul’s Gospel.” *Ex Auditu* 27 (2011): 26-44.

Trobisch, David. “Oral Performance of Biblical Texts in the Early Church.” *Concordia Journal* 37 no 4 (2011): 277-284.

Instructions: Three times during the semester when an assigned article comes due, compose and submit a 620-word (i.e., roughly 2-page) reflection/response to what you’ve read in the article. Strong responses will both briefly summarize key points from the reading and also critically reflect on and evaluate the author’s ideas and assertions. What did you find to be helpful or illuminating? What did you find to be troubling or confusing? What questions did the reading raise in your own thinking? Make clear and specific points while demonstrating engagement with the reading for best results.

Critical Response to Longenecker’s *Lost Letters of Pergamum*: (worth 75 points total):

Instructions: Compose and submit a 1240-1550 word (roughly 4-5 page) critical response to the entirety of Longenecker’s novel. This response should pursue the following goals:

1. Explain how *The Lost Letters* contributes to your understanding of patronage, honor, and shame within the NT.
2. Explain how *The Lost Letters* contributes to your understanding of ancient epistolary exchanges and collections.
3. Explain how *The Lost Letters* contributes to your overall understanding of the New Testament and early Christianity.

Finally, conclude by contemplating in what ways Longenecker’s text might apply to our own context. Demonstrate throughout your paper a thorough mastery of the text’s underlying concepts and arguments for best results.

Midterm & Final Exams (worth 200 points total; 100 for the midterm and 100 for the final):

The course exams will be **closed-book** and comprehensive. There will be a review before each exam.

Extra Credit:

In addition to the perfect attendance bonus (see above), you may earn extra points in the following ways:

1. Complete and return your Student Information Sheet (see the back of the syllabus) for 2 points.
2. Theological/Biblical Studies events go on frequently at PLNU and in our larger community. Attend an author lecture, reading, or forum and write a 1-2 page critical analysis and reflection over what was said and how it might apply to our course material. This will earn you up to +1% of the total class grade (you can do this up to 3 times for credit). If you are unsure whether a particular event might count for credit, ask the professor.

INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE

Point Loma Nazarene University approaches diversity from a biblical perspective, affirming that diversity is an expression of God's image, love, and boundless creativity. Recognizing that people have often used the English language in ways that imply the exclusion or inferiority of women and other marginalized groups, I strongly urge you to avoid sexist and racist language in your public discourse, in classroom discussions, and in your writings.

For further help on this topic, please visit the following websites:

http://www.whwomenclergy.org/booklets/inclusive_language.php#two

<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/608/05/>

INCOMPLETES AND LATE ASSIGNMENTS

Assignments are to be submitted/turned in by the beginning of the class session when they are due. The instructor reserves the right to refuse late work, and in fact, the course materials on Canvas are impossible to submit past the deadline without special permission. You are therefore strongly encouraged to contact your professor if you foresee a problem in completing work on time.

USE OF TECHNOLOGY

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.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

Students should demonstrate academic honesty by doing original work and by giving appropriate credit to the ideas of others. As explained in the university catalog, 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. Violations of university academic honesty include cheating, plagiarism, falsification, aiding the academic dishonesty of others, or malicious misuse of university resources. A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty has been detected may assign a failing grade for a) that particular assignment or examination, and/or b) the course following the procedure in the university catalog. Students may appeal also using the procedure in the university catalog. See [Academic Policies](#) for further information.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

If you have a diagnosed disability, please contact PLNU's Disability Resource Center (DRC) within the first two weeks of class to demonstrate need and to register for accommodation by phone at 619-849-2486 or by e-mail at DRC@pointloma.edu. See [Disability Resource Center](#) for additional information.

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.

FINAL EXAMINATION POLICY

Successful completion of this class requires taking the final examination **on its scheduled day**. The final examination schedule is posted on the [Class Schedules](#) site. No requests for early examinations or alternative days will be approved.

COURSE SCHEDULE AND ASSIGNMENTS

Course schedule, topics, evaluation, and assignments may be changed at the instructor's discretion.

	MONDAY	WEDNESDAY	FRIDAY
WEEK 01 Intro to NT	[TUESDAY] AUG 29 <i>Syllabus & Orientation</i>	AUG 30 Read: <u>Class Syllabus</u> DUE: Student Info Sheet	SEP 01
WEEK 02	SEP 04 NO CLASS: LABOR DAY	SEP 06 Read: <u>Powell 9-61 (Preface, Chs. 1-2)</u> DUE: Online Reading Quiz #1	SEP 08
WEEK 03 The Gospels & Acts	SEP 11 Read: <u>Powell 81-101 (Ch. 4)</u> Read: <u>Mark 1; Matthew 1-4;</u> <u>Luke 1-4; John 1-2</u> DUE: Online Reading Quiz #2	SEP 13	SEP 15 Read: <u>Trobisch, "Oral Performance of Biblical Texts in the Early Church"</u> DUE: Trobisch Article Response
WEEK 04	SEP 18 Read: <u>Powell 125-145 (Ch. 6)</u> Read: <u>Mark (all)</u> DUE: Online Reading Quiz #3	SEP 20	SEP 22
WEEK 05	SEP 25 Read: <u>Powell 103-123 (Ch. 5)</u> Read: <u>Matthew (all)</u> DUE: Online Reading Quiz #4	SEP 27	SEP 29 Read: <u>Lost Letters 11-47 (Prefaces - Letter Collection 4)</u>
WEEK 06	OCT 02 Read: <u>Powell 147-167 (Ch. 7)</u> Read: <u>Luke (all)</u> DUE: Online Reading Quiz #5	OCT 04	OCT 06 Read: <u>Heen, "Radical Patronage in Luke-Acts"</u> DUE: Heen Article Response
WEEK 07	OCT 09 Read: <u>Powell 169-189 (Ch. 8)</u> Read: <u>John (all)</u> DUE: Online Reading Quiz #6	OCT 11 <i>Midterm Exam Review</i>	OCT 13 Read: <u>Lost Letters 51-86 (Letter Collections 5-7)</u>
WEEK 08	OCT 16 Read: <u>Powell 191-213 (Ch. 9)</u> Read: <u>Acts (all)</u> DUE: Online Reading Quiz #7	OCT 18 <i>Midterm Exam</i>	OCT 20 NO CLASS: FALL BREAK DAY

WEEK 09 The Pauline Epistles	OCT 23 Read: <u>Powell 215-253; 415-425 (Chs. 10-11, 22)</u> Read: <u>Philemon (all)</u> DUE: Online Reading Quiz #8	OCT 25	OCT 27 Read: <u>Longenecker, "Poverty and Paul's Gospel"</u> DUE: Longenecker Article Response
WEEK 10	OCT 30 Read: <u>Powell 273-291; 307-321 (Chs. 13, 15)</u> Read: <u>Galatians, 1 Corinthians (all)</u> DUE: Online Reading Quiz #9	NOV 01	NOV 03 Read: <u>Lost Letters 89-132 (Letter Collections 8-10)</u>
WEEK 11	NOV 06 Read: <u>Powell 255-271; 293-305 (Chs. 12, 14)</u> Read: <u>Romans, 2 Corinthians (all)</u> DUE: Online Reading Quiz #10	NOV 08	NOV 10 Read: <u>Lost Letters 135-162 (Letter Collections 11-12)</u>
WEEK 12	NOV 13 Read: <u>Powell 343-355; 397-413 (Chs. 17, 21)</u> Read: <u>Philippians, 1 Timothy (all)</u> DUE: Online Reading Quiz #11	NOV 15	NOV 17 Read: <u>Lost Letters 165-183 (Letter Collections 13-14)</u> DUE: Critical Response to Lost Letters of Pergamum
WEEK 13 The Catholic Epistles	NOV 20 Read: <u>Powell 445-461 (Ch. 24)</u> Read: <u>James (all)</u>	NOV 22 NO CLASS: THANKSGIVING BREAK	NOV 24 NO CLASS: THANKSGIVING BREAK
WEEK 14	NOV 27 Read: <u>Powell 463-479; 493-507 (Chs. 25, 27)</u> Read: <u>1 Peter, 1-3 John (all)</u>	NOV 29	DEC 01 Read: <u>Koester, "The Antichrist Theme in the Johannine Epistles"</u> DUE: Koester Article Response
WEEK 15 Revelation	DEC 04 Read: <u>Powell 519-537 (Ch. 29)</u> Read: <u>Revelation (all)</u> DUE: Online Reading Quiz #12	DEC 06	DEC 08 <i>Final Exam Review</i>

FINALS WEEK	BIB102 Sec. 3 (regularly meets MWF @ 11:00am) Final Exam Day/Time: Friday, 12/15, 10:30am-1:00pm
	BIB102 Sec. 4 (regularly meets MWF @ 1:30pm) Final Exam Day/Time: Monday, 12/11, 1:30pm-4:00pm
	BIB102 Sec. 5 (regularly meets MWF @ 2:55pm) Final Exam Day/Time: Friday, 12/15, 1:30pm-4:00pm

STUDENT INFORMATION SHEET

Name: _____

Phone Number (one where you can be reached during the semester): (_____) _____

Academic Major: _____

Why did you choose your particular major, and what are your larger vocational/career goals?

Your primary language is: _____ English _____ Other: _____

On a scale of 0-10, where "0" represents total unfamiliarity and "10" represents detailed and specific knowledge,

How do you rate your own level of familiarity with the Christian Scriptures? _____

How do you rate your own level of familiarity with the New Testament? _____

Is there some particular question you are seeking to answer during this course?

Is there any additional information about yourself you would like me to know? (e.g., course schedule conflicts, medical issues that may affect class performance, specific learning needs or preferences that you want to bring to my attention, etc.)
