



School of Theology and Christian Ministry

BIB 301, JESUS AND THE GOSPELS

Four Portraits of One Christ

Spring 2018, 3 Units

Meeting days: Tuesday and Thursday	Instructor: Dr. Kara Lyons-Pardue
Meeting times: 3:00 – 4:15 P.M.	Phone: (619) 849-2989 Office Location: Smee 203
Meeting location: Bond Academic Center 155	E-mail: karalyons-pardue@pointloma.edu
Final Exam: Thursday, May 3, 4:30–7:00 P.M.	Office hours: Mon and Fri, 8:30 – 9:30 A.M. (*or by appt.)

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

Catalog Description: “A study of the content, theological perspectives, relationships, and reception of the canonical Gospels. This class asks the driving questions: Who is Jesus? How do the Gospels reveal the life, ministry, and death of Jesus? The heart of the course is growing in understanding of and reverence for the Christ of history and faith.”

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of the course, students will be able to ...

1. Describe and compare the canonical Gospels;
2. Apply exegetical techniques and theories of Gospel relationships to the interpretation of particular biblical passages; and
3. Argue a presentation of Jesus that accounts for the portraits of Jesus by Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, modern historians, and Christian confession.

REQUIRED TEXTS

1. *Synopsis of the Four Gospels*, Revised Standard Version (Rev. ed.; American Bible Soc., 2010). ISBN 978-1585169429
2. Mary Ann Beavis, *Mark* (Paideia: Commentaries on the New Testament; Baker, 2011). ISBN 978-0801034374
3. John T. Carroll, *Jesus and the Gospels: An Introduction* (Westminster John Knox, 2016). ISBN 978-0664239725
4. Richard Bauckham, *Jesus: A Very Short Introduction* (Oxford University Press, 2011). ISBN 978-0199575275

RECOMMENDED:

1. *The Peoples' Bible: NRSV Version, with the Apocrypha* (Fortress Press, 2008). ISBN 978-0806656250

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION

Regular and punctual attendance at all classes is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. In this course, a significant portion of the grade is based on attendance and participation. Additionally, as per PLNU policy, if the student is absent from more than 10% of class meetings, the faculty member has the option of filing a written report that may result in de-enrollment. If the absences exceed 20%, *even if the absences are school-approved individually*, the

student will be de-enrolled without notice. If the date of de-enrollment is past the last date to withdraw from a class, the student will be assigned a grade of W or WF consistent with university policy in the grading section of the catalog. See [Academic Policies](#) in the undergrad student catalog.

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 ACCOMMODATIONS POLICY

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.

INCOMPLETES AND LATE ASSIGNMENTS

All assignments are to be submitted/turned in by the beginning of the class session when they are due, as indicated by the schedule below. A late assignment is automatically subject to a 10% reduction in grade. Each 24-hour period subsequent to the time it was due, the instructor will deduct another 10%.

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. *Dr. Lyons-Pardue believes that when a student commits academic dishonesty—cheating or plagiarizing—he/she insults the professor and betrays his/her peers. Worse damage is done to the student's own character and education. The outcome may be the highest penalties for the offense.*

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 "humanity," "humans," and "he or she" better acknowledge women as full persons.

FINAL EXAMINATION POLICY

This course's final exam is scheduled for **Thursday, May 3, 4:30–7:00 P.M.** (See the [Class Schedules](#) site.) Absolutely no requests for early examinations or alternative days will be approved.

USE OF TECHNOLOGY

Students are encouraged to use technology, especially the Canvas site, for learning and communication outside of class. *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 Dr. Lyons-Pardue if you require a laptop for learning purposes and we can make adjustments.) For the sake of optimal student learning, knowing well the distractions available with just one click, laptops, iPads, and any mobile phones are banned during class. Your brain thanks you (as do your fellow students & professor & grade).

ASSESSMENT AND GRADING

This course will be graded on a 1,000-point scale. The following are the grading categories and point-values:

Assessment Item	% of Total GRADE
Class Attendance	10% = 100 points
Reading Comprehension Quizzes	25% = 250 points
"Who Is Jesus?" 2-part project	15% = 150 points
Small Papers/Presentation Dictionary Abstract Wiley Lecture	20% = 200 points
Final Interpretive Project (and supporting work)	30% = 300 points

Class Attendance is worth 10% of the student's total grade. These may seem like "fluff points," but they awarded based on the conviction that the class functions best when all students are present and contributing. (Two tardy arrivals will be considered an absence.)

Perfect attendance = 100 pts; 2 absences (or equivalent) = 90 pts; 3 absences = 60 pts; 4 absences = 20 pts; ≤ 5 absences = 0 pts (See attendance policy.)

Reading Comprehension is vital for the class to function at an optimal level. For this reason, students will take eight quizzes over their week's reading (See *Course Schedule*). The online Canvas quiz is to be completed before Thursday's class. Reading assignments are heavier in the first half of the semester, in light of the final project. *Fulfills Outcomes #1-3.*

The **"Who Is Jesus?" Group/Individual Project** will consist of two parts. The first will be a group exercise in the first or second week of class. Students will work together to describe Jesus in one page (50 pts. possible; each group member will receive same score). In the final exam period, after a semester spent closely reading the Synoptic Gospels and inquiring into the person of Jesus, each student will submit a revised statement of her/his perspective on Jesus, making note of new insights and answering a focused prompt on the subject (100 pts. possible). *Fulfills Outcome #3.*

Small Papers / Presentation

- 1. Dictionary Article Abstract and Presentation:** From a list of instructor-approved options, the student will select one topic (with an assigned presentation/due date; See *Course Schedule*). Summarize the article topic in 250-300 words based on research in the *specified* Bible Dictionary (example provided on Canvas). The student must make copies of his/her abstract for each class member and the professor (___ copies). 50 pts will be based on the quality, comprehensibility, and selection of examples of the in-class presentation (3-5 minutes). The remaining 25 points are based on the submitted written abstract; including the quality of writing, accuracy, and selection of additional salient information for presentation. This ongoing learning exercise helps teach the class; it serves to introduce a diverse body of scholarly topics and literature to the class, while holding each student responsible for educating her classmates. *This is not a line-by-line paraphrase or condensation of the original.* Instead, by summarizing accurately in your own words and presenting relevant examples, you demonstrate understanding. *Fulfills Outcomes #1-2.*
- 2. Wiley Lecture Report and Reflection:** Dr. Shelly Rambo is giving the Wiley lectures in Theology (Feb. 14-16, 2018). Her topic, *"Faith in Post-traumatic Times: Encountering Resurrection Wounds,"* has overlapping themes with our course. Students must attend at least two; if there is a scheduling conflict, speak to the professor. The student's Report will summarize (in complete sentences and paragraphs) the two lectures s/he attended. The Reflection portion will answer this question: How does or should Christian worship of a wounded Savior inform our response to traumas in our world/sphere of influence? (Approx. 800 words; 75 pts.) *Fulfills Outcome #3.*

The **Final Interpretive Project** (300 pts) relies on the creative integration of the careful exegetical learning expressed in the Exegetical Worksheet (due as supporting documentation at the same time as the Final project). For most students it will be comprised of a 10-15 minute video, either of a sermon or a Bible Study, accompanied by a manuscript or detailed lesson plan/outline. The Gospel passages eligible for study will be provided to students in the first 1/3 of the class. Students may petition to write a more traditional academic paper on the passage. Also, by petition, a student may do a

studied, creative rewrite of one of Jesus’s parables (accompanied by an Exegetical Worksheet). By petition, students may work in pairs, but the output need to be increased to account for the shared workload. For the Final Interpretive Sermon, Bible Study, or Parable Projects, 33.3% of the grade (100 pts) will be based on the Exegetical Worksheet and the remaining 200 on the final product itself. Abbreviated presentations will be given the last week of class; attendance of others’ papers is mandatory. *Fulfills Outcomes #1 and 3.*

COURSE SCHEDULE AND ASSIGNMENTS

UNIT	Wk	Date ☑ = bring Synopsis	Due ➤ <i>Have read by class time;</i> 📖 Paper due in class; 📄 Complete online reading quiz before class time	CLASS TOPIC 📖 Dictionary Article (indiv. assigned)
	1	Thurs, Jan 11		WHO IS JESUS? INTRODUCTION TO CLASS
M A R K	2	Tues, Jan 16	➤ Gospel According to Mark (Read in one sitting) ➤ Carroll, <i>J&tG</i> , “Contexts” (pp. 3-4; stop before “Jews within”); “Genre” (pp. 28-29) <i>In class:</i> 📖 Part 1: “Who Is Jesus?” Group Paper	WHAT IS A GOSPEL? MARK 📖 Mark, Gospel of (NIDB) *example 📖 Gospel (NIDB)
		Thurs, Jan 18	➤ Reread Mark chs. 1–3 ➤ Beavis, <i>Mark ΠΑΙΔΕΙΑ</i> , “Intro” (pp. 3-22; stop before “Major themes”); Commentary & textboxes [C]:1:1-9; 1:16-45; 3:7-19; “Theological Issues” & textbox, pp. 70-73 📄 Reading Quiz #1	
	3	Tues, Jan 23	➤ Mark chs. 4–6 ➤ Beavis, <i>Mark ΠΑΙΔΕΙΑ</i> , (pp. 74-87); C6:34-44 ➤ Carroll, <i>J&tG</i> , “Contexts” cont’d (pp. 4-19)	MARK, CONTINUED 📖 Son of Man 📖 Galilee (NIDB) 📖 Pharisees
		Thurs, Jan 25	➤ Mark chs. 7–9 ➤ Beavis, <i>Mark ΠΑΙΔΕΙΑ</i> , C 7:24-30; C 8:14–9:8 📄 Reading Quiz #2	
4	Tues, Jan 30	➤ Mark chs. 10–13 ➤ Beavis, <i>Mark ΠΑΙΔΕΙΑ</i> , C 12:1-12 & Ch. 13, pp. 188-205	MARK, CONTINUED	
	Thurs, Feb 1	➤ Mark chs. 14–16 ➤ Beavis, <i>Mark ΠΑΙΔΕΙΑ</i> , pp. 206-208; pp. 227-238 📄 Reading Quiz #3	📖 Apocalypses and Apocalypticism (ABD) 📖 Passover and Feast of Unleavened Bread (NIDB)	
	5	Tues, Feb 6 * Thurs, Feb 8 *	Classes this week are cancelled because professor is teaching M.Min. week-long intensive course; Students must attend at least 2 of 4 Wiley lectures next week : #1: Lockdown: A Climate of Fear and “Posts”, Wed. Feb. 14, 2018 @ 11-11:50am #2: Seeing Invisible Wounds, Wed. Feb. 14, 2018 @ 1:30-2:20pm #3: Touching Invisible Wounds, Thurs. Feb. 15, 2018 @ 9:30-10:20am #4: Believing in the After-Living, Fri. Feb. 16, 2018 @ 8:30-9:20am	
M A T T	6	Tues, Feb 13 ☑	➤ Gospel According to Matthew 1–16 ➤ Carroll, <i>J&tG</i> , Ch. 4 “Matthew” (pp. 89-115)	MATTHEW JESUS: JEWISH MESSIAH
		Thurs, Feb 14 ☑	➤ Matthew 17–28 ➤ Carroll, <i>J&tG</i> , Ch. 4 “Matthew” (pp. 116-138) 📄 Reading Quiz #4	📖 Kingdom of God/Kingdom of Heaven 📖 Matthew, Gospel of (NIDB) 📖 Messiah

UNIT	Wk	Date ☑ = bring Synopsis	Due ➤ <i>Have read by class time</i> ; 📄 Paper due in class; 📖 Complete online reading quiz before class time	CLASS TOPIC 📖 Dictionary Article (indiv. assigned)
H E W - L U K E - J O H N	7	Tues, Feb 20 ☑	➤ Gospel According to Luke 1–15 ➤ Carroll, <i>J&tG</i> , Ch. 5 “Luke” (pp. 139-171; stop before “Inside-Out”)	<u>LUKE</u> <u>JESUS: BORN</u>
		Thurs, Feb 22 ☑	➤ Luke 16–24 ➤ Carroll, <i>J&tG</i> , Ch. 5 “Luke” (start at “Inside-Out” pp. 171-184) 📖 Reading Quiz #5	📖 Luke, Gospel of (NIDB) 📖 Jesus, Quest for the Historical (ABD) 📖 Mary (NIDB)
	8	Tues, Feb 27	➤ Gospel According to John 1–12 ➤ Carroll, <i>J&tG</i> , Ch. 6 “John” (pp. 185-190; 195-219; stop before “Techniques of Narration”) 📄 Wiley Lecture Report due	<u>JOHN</u> <u>JESUS: WORD INCARNATE</u>
		Thurs, Mar 1 ☑	➤ Gospel According to John 13–21 ➤ Carroll, <i>J&tG</i> , Ch. 6 “John” (start at “Techniques of Narration”; pp. 219-239) 📖 Reading Quiz #6	📖 John, Gospel of (NIDB) 📖 God, Names of (NIDB) 📖 Incarnation (NIDB) 📖 Word, The (NIDB)
No CLASS: Spring Break, March 5-9				
C A N O N	9	Tues, Mar 13 ☑	➤ <i>Gospel of Thomas</i> (links provided—to this reading and Thursday’s reading—on Canvas) ➤ Carroll, <i>J&tG</i> , “Formation” & “Explanatory Models” (pp. 29-36); “John’s Relationship” (pp. 192-195); Ch7 “From Ancient” (pp. 243-257)	<u>GOSPEL RELATIONSHIPS</u> <u>APOCRYPHAL GOSPELS</u>
		Thurs, Mar 15	➤ <i>Infancy Gospel of Thomas</i> ➤ <i>Protoevangelium of James</i> ➤ <i>Gospel of Peter</i> 📖 Reading Quiz #7	📖 Synoptic Problem (ABD) 📖 Q (Gospel Source) [ABD] 📖 <i>Diatessaron</i> (ABD) 📖 Gospels, Apocryphal (ABD) 📖 Methods: Redaction Criticism (ABD), Literary Interpretation, NT (NIDB), Text Criticism, NT (NIDB)
	10	Tues, Mar 20 *	LIBRARY SESSION ON RESEARCH METHODS (bring Exegetical Worksheet)	
		Thurs, Mar 22*	➤ Bauckham, <i>Jesus: A Very Short Introduction</i> (ALL) ➤ Carroll, <i>J&tG</i> , beginning of Ch. 2 “Jesus and the Emergence” (pp. 20-27) 📖 Reading Quiz #8	<u>JESUS: HISTORY AND THEOLOGY</u>
	11	Tues, Mar 27 ☑	*** From this point on, 6-9 hours weekly outside of class preparatory time should be used for research and formulation of Final Interpretive Project. Participation in class discussion and ongoing learning through lecture and activities are still required. These classes will be beneficial for final project and reworked Jesus Paper.	<u>JESUS: CRUCIFIED</u> 📖 Passion Narratives (ABD) 📖 Cross (NIDB)
		Thurs, Mar 29	NO CLASS – EASTER BREAK	

UNIT	Wk	Date ☑ = bring Synopsis	Due ➤ <i>Have read by class time;</i> 📄 Paper due in class; 📖 Complete online reading quiz before class time	CLASS TOPIC 📖 Dictionary Article (indiv. assigned)
	12	Tues, Apr 3 ☑	***	<u>JESUS: RESURRECTED</u> 📖 Resurrection, NT (NIDB) <i>or</i> Resurrection (Early Judaism and Christianity) 📖 Christology
		Thurs, Apr 5 ☑	***	
	13	Tues, Apr 10 ☑	***	<u>JESUS: TEACHER</u> 📖 Parable (NIDB) 📖 Sermon on the Mount/ Plain (or both in NIDB)
		Thurs, Apr 12 *	***	
	14	Tues, Apr 17 ☑	***	<u>JESUS: HEALER</u> <u>JESUS: THE LORD AND HIS DISCIPLES</u>
		Thurs, Apr 19 ☑	***	
	15	Tues, Apr 24	<u>DUE: ➔ FINAL INTERPRETIVE PROJECTS</u> (PRESENTATIONS DISTRIBUTED THROUGHOUT WEEK)	
		Thurs, Apr 26	<u>➔ FINAL INTERPRETIVE PROJECTS</u>	
PLNU FINAL EXAMINATION WEEK: April 30 – May 4, 2018 ➔ OUR FINAL EXAM: Thursday, May 3, 4:30–7:00 P.M. <i>During Final Exam Period:</i> 📄 Part 2: “Who Is Jesus?” Individual Paper				