



School of Philosophy and Theology
BIB 102 New Testament History & Religion
3 Units

Fall 2018

Meeting days: MWF	Instructor: Prof. Wilson Ryland
Meeting times: 2:30 p - 3:25 p	Phone: 619-929-4530
Meeting location: LBRT 202	E-mail: wryland1@pointloma.edu
Final Exam: Monday, December 10, 2018; 1:30 p - 4:00 p	Office location and hours: 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 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.” 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 study things like historical contexts, narrative theology, genre, etc., but in service to the larger, 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.

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). Regarding bible phone/tablet apps, see the course technology policy below.
2. Powell, Mark Allan. *Introducing the New Testament: A Historical, Literary, and Theological Survey*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2009. ISBN 978-0801028687.
3. Handouts that will be distributed in class.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

Assignment Details:

READING QUIZZES Nearly every class session will begin with a quiz covering the events, characters, themes and ideas from the assigned reading. These provide encouragement and accountability for completing the assigned class reading, and give you an idea of what will be on the exams. These will also be how I track attendance.

IN-CLASS ESSAYS These will be open-Bible, and students may use handwritten notes. The prompt will draw from the readings and lectures. The purpose of this course requirement is to allow students to synthesize information from the reading and lectures, and trying out methods of biblical interpretation modeled in class. By articulating answers to questions, a student will move beyond information repetition to analysis and comparison. Students will receive a list of general topics the week beforehand.

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

The midterm will be held during regular class hours and cover introductory material, the Gospels, and Acts. Questions will include lectures and reading materials.

The final will be comprehensive.

There will be a review before each exam.

Extra Credit: You may earn up to (and no more than) 100 extra points for:

- 1) Doing a 2 page summary of Powell’s chapter on Jesus (ch. 3). 50 points.
- 2) Doing a 2 page summary of Powell’s chapter on Paul (ch. 11). 50 points.
- 3) Devotionally read 5 chapters from the Gospels and keep a Journal. 1 page per chapter for 50 points.

A cap of 100 extra points means a student may only do 2 of these assignments.

ASSIGNMENT	DATE
Reading Quizzes	Daily
In Class Essay 1	Monday, October 1
Midterm	Wednesday, October 10th
In Class Essay 2	Monday, November 5th
Extra Credit	Due Monday, December 3rd
Final Exam	Monday, December 10th

ASSESSMENT AND GRADING[Ⓢ]

<u>Assignment distribution:</u>	<u>Grade scale:</u>												
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading quizzes 300 points - 30% • In-Class Essay #1 100 points - 10% • In-Class Essay #2 100 points - 10% • Midterm Exam 200 points - 20% • Final Exam 300 points - 30% 	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">A=93-100</td> <td style="width: 50%;">C=73-76</td> </tr> <tr> <td>A-=92-90</td> <td>C-=70-72</td> </tr> <tr> <td>B+=87-89</td> <td>D+=67-69</td> </tr> <tr> <td>B=83-86</td> <td>D=63-66</td> </tr> <tr> <td>B-=80-82</td> <td>D-=60-62</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C+=77-79</td> <td>F=0-59</td> </tr> </table>	A=93-100	C=73-76	A-=92-90	C-=70-72	B+=87-89	D+=67-69	B=83-86	D=63-66	B-=80-82	D-=60-62	C+=77-79	F=0-59
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Notes on Grading Scale: PLNU requires a minimum of a C average to remain in academically good standing. A C grade therefore shows that you have achieved the minimal academic mastery in the assignment to remain a PLNU student making progress toward your degree. Anything below a C suggests that improvement is needed. If you fall below a C, contact me so we can work to increase your skills. Between a B and B- represents the “average” level of

mastery for a PLNU student. Grades that ascend beyond a B into higher levels witness a standard deviation leap in the mastery and skills witnessed to in the assignment. Such a grading scale protects students from grade inflation, a phenomenon that hurts all students and the institution. At the same time, students compete only against levels of mastery and full accomplishment of the outcomes - not against each other. Although the occasion has never arisen, I have no philosophical objections to the whole class receiving As - if each person's work achieved an A level of achievement of course outcomes.

INCOMPLETES AND LATE ASSIGNMENTS

All assignments are to be submitted/turned in by the beginning of the class session when they are due—including assignments posted in Canvas. Incompletes will only be assigned in extremely unusual circumstances.

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.

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.

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.

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 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

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.

PLNU ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION POLICY

Regular and punctual attendance at all classes is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. If the student is absent from more than 10 percent of class meetings, the faculty member can file a written report which may result in 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. See [Academic Policies](#) in the Undergraduate Academic Catalog.

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.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week	Monday	Wednesday	Friday
Aug 27-31	Syllabus & Introductions	<u>Reading:</u> Matthew 1-4; Mark 1; Powell pp. 15-45	<u>Reading:</u> Luke 1-4; John 1-2;
Sept 3-7	Labor Day - No Class	<u>Reading:</u> Mark 1-8; Powell 134-145	<u>Reading:</u> Mark 9-16
Sept 10-14	<u>Reading:</u> Matthew 1-10; Powell pp. 113-123	<u>Reading:</u> Matthew 11-20	<u>Reading:</u> Matthew 21-28
Sept 17-21	<u>Reading:</u> Luke 1-9:50; Powell 157-167	<u>Reading:</u> Luke 9:51-15	<u>Reading:</u> Luke 16-24

Week	Monday	Wednesday	Friday
Sept 24-28	<u>Reading:</u> John 1-8; Powell 181-189	<u>Reading:</u> John 9-16	<u>Reading:</u> John 17-21
Oct 1-5	IN CLASS ESSAY 1	<u>Reading:</u> Acts 1-10; Powell pp. 200-213	<u>Reading:</u> Acts 11-15:35
Oct 8-12	<u>Reading:</u> Acts 15:36-28	MIDTERM	<u>Reading:</u> Galatians; Powell pp. 311-321
Oct 15-19	<u>Reading:</u> Ephesians; Powell pp. 334-341	<u>Reading:</u> Philippians; Powell 349-355	Fall Break - No Class
Oct 22-26	<u>Reading:</u> Colossians; Powell pp. 363-369	<u>Reading:</u> 1 Corinthians; Powell pp. 279-291	<u>Reading:</u> 2 Corinthians; Powell pp. 298-305
Oct 29-Nov 2	<u>Reading:</u> Romans 1-8; Powell pp. 262-271	<u>Reading:</u> Romans 9-16	<u>Reading:</u> 1 & 2 Thessalonians; Powell pp. 377-385, 391-395
Nov 5-9	IN CLASS ESSAY 2	<u>Reading:</u> 1 & 2 Timothy; Powell pp. 404-413	<u>Reading:</u> Hebrews 1-10:31; Powell pp. 433-443
Nov 12-16	Hebrews 10:32-13	<u>Reading:</u> James, Philemon	<u>Reading:</u> 1 & 2 Peter
Nov 19-23	<u>Reading:</u> 1,2,3 John; Powell pp. 500-507	Thanksgiving Break - No Class	Thanksgiving Break - No Class
Nov 26-30	Revelation Intro (No Reading)	<u>Reading:</u> Revelation 1-3; Powell pp. 534-537	<u>Reading:</u> Revelation 4-10
Dec 3-7	<u>Reading:</u> Revelation 11-16 (Extra Credit Due)	<u>Reading:</u> Revelation 17-20	<u>Reading:</u> Revelation 21-22
Dec 10	FINAL EXAM 1:30 p -4:00 p		