

School of Theology and Christian Ministry

BIB 6035, Christian Scripture

BLESSED READERS, HEARERS, AND KEEPERS OF THE WORDS

3 Units - Fall 2023, Quad 1

Asynchronous Online (See Canvas site) + 2.5-day intensive Oct 16-18, 2023 (Smee Hall 100)

Final Assignments: Due by official end of class, Oct 22, 2023 (11:59 P.M.)

Instructor:	Email:	Office Phone:	
Rev. Dr. Kara Lyons-Pardue	karalyons-pardue@pointloma.edu	619-849-2989	
Office location and hours: Smee 203; By appt. or Zoom drop-in 1-2 pm on Wed. (See Canvas for link.)			

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.

Course Description (from PLNU Catalog): An exploration of the literature and theology of the Christian canon with special attention to its ancient contexts and significance for preaching and teaching.

Because the FA23 offering of this course affords us the opportunity to meet synchronously/in-person at the conclusion of our class—that is, at the end our journey through the canon of Scripture—we will focus our textual study for that time on the complex and theologically rich Book of Revelation. This course's bonus subtitle, "BLESSED READERS, HEARERS, AND KEEPERS OF THE WORDS," derives from Rev 1:3, in which the practices of reading, listening, and enacting the prophetic challenges of the book are deemed blessed, even as persecution and hardship surely loomed large for the faithful earliest recipients of the text. May we be likewise challenged, faithful, and blessed.

Program and Course Learning Outcomes (PLOs & CLOs)

When you successfully complete PLNU's Master of Arts in Christian Ministry you will be able to ...

- 1. Incorporate Christian formation in the local congregation and your life as a minister;
- 2. Interpret scripture especially as related to preaching and teaching in the local church;*
- 3. Explain the nature, mission, and social context of the Church, especially as related to ecclesial practices and leadership of the pastor in the local congregation; and
- 4. Analyze theology, ethics, and Church history, especially as related to the Wesleyan tradition in contemporary ministry.

Upon completion of this course on Christian Scripture you will be able to ...

- 1. Articulate the inspiration and authority of Christian Scripture;
- 2. Apply methods of interpretation appropriate to selected books, texts, and genres of Christian scripture; and
- 3. Evaluate the unity of scripture in its witness to Christ.

Required Texts and Recommended Study Resources

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 (but note which books will be covered in full and which only partially).

Required:

- 1. A printed Bible in the NRSV/UE translation including Apocrypha (See prof's email for suggestions and Canvas for explanation).
- 2. Brad E. Kelle, *Telling the Old Testament Story: God's Mission and God's People* (Abingdon, 2017); ISBN 1426793049
- 3. N.T. Wright and Michael Bird, *The New Testament in Its World: An Introduction to the History, Literature, and Theology of the First Christians* (Zondervan, 2019); ISBN 9780310499305
- 4. Karen R. Keen, *The Word of a Humble God: The Origins, Inspiration, and Interpretation of Scripture* (Eerdmans, 2022); ISBN 978002878694
- 5. A **CHOICE** OF ONE OF THE TWO FOLLOWING OPTIONS:
 - 5.1. Justo L. Gonzalez, *Santa Biblia: The Bible through Hispanic Eyes* (Abingdon, 1996); ISBN 0687014522 *OR*
 - 5.2. Safwat Marzouk, *Intercultural Church: A Biblical Vision for an Age of Migration* (Fortress, 2019); ISBN 9781506433462

Recommended: *Synopsis of the Four Gospels,* Revised Standard Version (Revised ed.; American Bible Society, 2010); ISBN 1585169420

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 8 weeks. Specific details about how the class meets the credit hour requirement can be provided upon request.

Assessment and Grading

Weighted Percentages by grading category:		Group Textbook Discussion (CLO 2,3)	15%
Reading Comprehension quizzes (CLO 1,2)	20%	Reflective/Writing Assignments (CLO 2,3)	25%
Discussion + Participation (CLO 1,2,3)	20%	Final Paper + Video (CLO 1,2,3; PLO 2)	20%

Please note: Detailed explanations of these grading categories are provided on the class Canvas site.

Letter grades will be determined according to the following scale:

Points	Grade
93-100%	А
90-92%	A-
87-89%	B+
83-86%	В
80-82%	B-
77-79%	C+

Points	Grade
73-76%	С
70-72%	C-
67-69%	D+
63-66%	D
60-62%	D-
59% and below	F

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. Late papers will incur a -10% deduction for every day they are late (adding up after 24-hours of the time due). Incompletes will only be assigned in extremely unusual circumstances.

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 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 <u>Graduate Academic and General Policies</u> for definitions of kinds of academic dishonesty and for further policy information.

During the first week of class, you will be asked to submit an **Academic Honesty Verification Statement**. Submitting the statement is a requirement of this course. By submitting the Academic Honesty

Verification Statement, you will be verifying all assignments completed in this course were completed by you. Carefully review the Academic Honesty Statement below.

Statement: "In submitting this form, I am verifying all the assignments in this course will be completed by me and will be my own work."

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy

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

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 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.

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.

Sexual Misconduct and Discrimination

In support of a safe learning environment, if you (or someone you know) have experienced any form of sexual discrimination or misconduct, including sexual assault, dating or domestic violence, or stalking, accommodations and resources are available through the Title IX Office at pointloma.edu/Title-IX. Please be aware that under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, faculty and staff are 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 pointloma.edu/title-ix.

SoTCM Inclusive Language Policy

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.

PLNU Attendance and Participation Policy

* Please see the following 2 subsections regarding how this applies to our varied course format.

Regular and punctual attendance at all class sessions is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. Therefore, regular attendance and participation in each course are minimal requirements.

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 withdrawal date or, after that date, receive an "F" grade.

Students who anticipate being absent for an entire week of a course should contact the instructor in advance for approval and make arrangements to complete the required coursework and/or alternative assignments assigned at the discretion of the instructor. Acceptance of late work is at the discretion of the instructor and does not waive attendance requirements.

Refer to Academic Policies for additional detail.

MACM Gathering Days (Oct. 16-18, 2023): Synchronous Attendance/Participation Definition

This course requires the co-registration with CMI 6WEK-1 – Intensive, including specific scheduled meeting times (in keeping with the policy of the MA in Christian Ministry, which should be completed in-person), absences are counted from the first official synchronous meeting of the class regardless of the date of the student's enrollment. Participation is a vital portion of the learning time of the course and may entail failure of CMI 6WEK-1 (and certainly loss of course participation points) if at least 75% of the synchronous component is not met with attentive, engaged attendance.

Online Asynchronous Attendance/Participation Definition

Students taking online courses with no specific scheduled meeting times are expected to actively engage throughout each week of the course. Attendance is defined as participating in an academic activity within the online classroom which includes but is not limited to: Engaging in an online discussion; Submitting an assignment; Taking a quiz; Initiating contact with faculty member within the learning management system to discuss course content. Note: Logging into the course does not qualify as participation and will not be counted as meeting the attendance requirement.

Use of Technology

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 <u>Technology and System Requirements</u> 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 you of the responsibility of participating, turning in your assignments, or completing your class work.

Course Calendar: Reading Assignments, Assessment, and Due-Dates

Weekly Rhythm: What follows is the normal pattern, but may vary based on weekly needs. (See below.) Please spread out your Scripture and secondary readings across several days at your own discretion, but they're to be completed by Wednesday (W) so that you can complete a reading-comprehension quiz. Wednesday will also be the deadline for your initial Discussion Board posts. Most Wed. will also allow for a Zoom open-office hour so that your professor can answer questions. Group-discussion assignments will be submitted by Friday (F) (groups can determine what day works best for synchronous meetings or how to enable staggered participation through a discussion board). Other paper and discussion-board-response deadlines will be due on one of the final days of each week (F/Sa/Su), but students are welcome to submit them early to accommodate their own schedules.

The **course calendar summary below** lists our assignments and their due dates. Visit the Canvas Modules for more information about each assignment.

Week 1 Aug 28 (Mon) – Sept 3 (Sun)

Topics: Theology of Scripture + Scripture's Theological Function

READING C	HRISTIAN SCRIPTURES	REQUIRED TEXTBOOK READINGS	ASSESSMENT ITEMS / DUE-
*REQUIR	ED (unless otherwise noted)		DATES (See Canvas for details)
Gen 1;	Exodus 32–34;	(Read/Watch Introductory Canvas	M*: Discussion Board Post
Deut 6;	Psalms 19 & 145;	material for weekly module.)	W: Reading Quiz +
Prov 8;	Job 40–42;	Chs. 1 & 2 of Kelle, <i>Telling</i>	"Netiquette" Quiz
Isaiah 45;	Luke 15;	. •	F: Group "Mtg."
Rom 8;	Heb 1–2;	Ch. 1 of Wright & Bird, NT in Its	Su: Self-Inventory Due
Col 1;	Rev 4–5	World	Su: Discussion Board
		Intro. to Keen, Word of a Humble God	Responses

Week 2 Sept 4 (Mon, Labor Day: no class) – 10 (Sun) Topic: Old Testament (OT) Pentateuch

READING CHRISTIAN SCRIPTURES	REQUIRED TEXTBOOK READINGS	ASSESSMENTS /
*REQUIRED + Optional		DUE-DATES
Genesis, chs. 1–22	(Read/Watch Introductory Canvas	W: Reading Quiz
Exodus, chs. 1–6; chs. 15–23; chs.	material for weekly module.)	W: Discussion Board Post
32–34; 39:42–40:38	Ch. 3 of Kelle , <i>Telling</i>	F: Group Discussion +
		Report
Optional: Exodus, chs. 24–31;	Chs. 2 & 3 of Wright & Bird, NT in Its	Su: ¶ on passage selection
Leviticus, chs. 17–26; Numbers,	World	for Exegesis project
chs. 5-6; 11:1-14:35; chs. 22-24;	Ch. 1 of Keen, Word of a Humble	Su: Discussion Board
Deuteronomy, chs. 4–8; chs. 30–34	God	Responses

Week 3 Sept 11 (Mon) – 17 (Sun)

READING CHRISTIAN SCRIPTURES	REQUIRED TEXTBOOK READINGS	ASSESSMENTS /
*REQUIRED + Optional		DUE-DATES
Joshua, chs. 1–6	(Read/Watch Introductory Canvas	W: Reading Quiz
1 Samuel, ch. 12; chs. 16–18; ch. 31	material for weekly module.)	W: Discussion Board Post
Isaiah, chs. 42–43; chs. 52–54 Ezekiel, chs. 1–7	Chs. 4 & 5 of Kelle , <i>Telling</i>	F: Group Discussion + Report
Jonah, ALL	Ch. 4 of Wright & Bird, NT in Its World	Su: Discussion Board Responses
Optional: Lamentations; Esther; Daniel; Job, chs. 1–10; chs. 38–42; Nehemiah, chs. 1–2; 7:73–10:39; Hosea; Amos	Chs. 2 & 3 of Keen, Word of a Humble God Watch LIVE on John (Word, 1pm) arvis	Su: Submit notes <u>EG-P.I</u>
	Watch LIVE on Zoom (Wed, 1pm) or via replay, Exegetical Guidance – Part I	

Topic: OT History + Prophets

Week 4 Sept 18 (Mon) – 24 (Sun) Topics: OT Writings + OT Apocrypha (Deuterocanon)

READING CHRISTIAN SCRIPTURES	REQUIRED TEXTBOOK READINGS	ASSESSMENTS /
*REQUIRED + Optional		DUE-DATES
Psalms 9–16; 37; 104–108; 137–139	(Read/Watch Introductory Canvas	W: Reading Quiz
Proverbs, chs. 1–2; 8, 10, 16, 19	material for weekly module.)	W: Discussion Board Post
Ruth, ALL	Chs. 6 – 8 of Kelle, <i>Telling</i>	F: Group Discussion +
Ecclesiastes, chs. 1–4	. •	Report
Song of Solomon, chs. 1-2, 4, 8	Ch. 35 (only pp. 850-855), and Ch. 36	Su: Discussion Board
Apoc. – 1 Maccabees 1:1–3:2	of Wright & Bird, NT in Its World	Responses
Apoc. – 2 Maccabees 2:16–7:42	Ch. 4 of Keen, Word of a Humble	Su: Submit notes <u>EG-P.II</u>
<i>Optional:</i> Apoc. – Tobit; Apoc. –		
Susanna	Watch LIVE on Zoom (Wed, 1pm) or via	
	replay, <u>Exegetical Guidance – Part II</u>	

Week 5 Sept 25 (Mon) – Oct 1 (Sun) Topics: New Testament (NT) Narrative, Gospels & Acts

READING CHRISTIAN SCRIPTURES	REQUIRED TEXTBOOK READINGS	ASSESSMENTS /
*REQUIRED + Optional		DUE-DATES
The Gospel according to Mark (suggested: read entirely in one sitting); Matt. 1–7 Luke 1:1–4:30; chs. 14–16 John chs. 1–2; 9–11; 20–21; Acts, chs. 1–15	 (Read/Watch Introductory Canvas material for weekly module.) Ch. 9 of Kelle, Telling Chs. 5, 6, & 28 of Wright & Bird, NT in Its World 	W: Reading Quiz W: Discussion Board Post F: Group Discussion + Report Su: Discussion Board Responses
Optional: Matt 18; 20–23; 25; John 3–6; Acts 16–28 Optional: If you purchased the recommended Gospel Synopsis and would like to learn to use it, please email your professor early this week.	Chs. 5 & 6 of Keen , Word of a Humble God Watch LIVE on Zoom (Wed, 1pm) or via replay, <u>Exegetical Guidance – Part III</u>	Su: Submit notes <u>EG-P.III</u>

Topics: Ancient Epistles; NT Letters of Paul	Topics:	Ancient	Fpistles:	NT Lette	rs of Paul
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READING CHRISTIAN SCRIPTURES *REQUIRED + Optional	REQUIRED TEXTBOOK READINGS ~ Choice between two options noted	ASSESSMENTS / DUE-DATES
1 Thess., ALL Philippians, ALL	(Read/Watch Introductory Canvas material for weekly module.)	W: Reading Quiz W: Discussion Board Post
1 Cor. ch. 1, chs. 12–15 Ephesians, ALL, Philemon, ALL Optional: Romans, chs. 14–16; 2 Cor, ALL; Galatians, ALL	Chs. 7 & 16 of Wright & Bird, NT in Its World Chs. 7 & 9 of Keen, Word of a Humble God *Ch. 8 is also important but overlaps other MACM Bible class significantly. ~ EITHER: Intro., Chs. 1 & 2 of Gonzalez, Santa Biblia	F: Group Discussion + Report Su: Discussion Board Responses Su: Exegetical Project Report
	~ OR: Intro., Chs. 2–3 of Marzouk, Intercultural	

Week 7 Oct 9 (Mon) – 15 (Sun)

Topics: NT Pastoral + Catholic Epistles; Women in early Christianity

READING CHRISTIAN SCRIPTURES *REQUIRED + Optional	REQUIRED TEXTBOOK READINGS ~ Choice between two options noted	ASSESSMENTS / DUE-DATES
Hebrews, ALL 1 Peter, ALL	(Read/Watch Introductory Canvas material for weekly module.)	W: Reading Quiz W: Discussion Board Post
L John, ALL L & 2 Timothy, ALL	Chs. 29 & 30 of Wright & Bird, NT in Its World	F: Group Discussion + Report
<i>Optional:</i> James, ALL; 2 & 3 John, ALL; Jude, ALL	Chs. 10 & 11 of Keen , Word of a Humble God	F: Exegetical Explanation Video (Final) Su: Discussion Board
	~ EITHER: Chs. 3–5 of Gonzalez, Santa Biblia	Responses
	~ OR: Chs. 4–6 of Marzouk, Intercultural	

Week 8 Oct 16 (Mon) – 22 (Sun) >>> Gathering Days: Oct 16-18 <<<

Topics: Apocalyptic Literature + Christ-centered Reading of Revelation

READING CHRISTIAN SCRIPTURES *REQUIRED	REQUIRED TEXTBOOK READINGS	ASSESSMENTS / DUE-DATES
DUE by class-time Monday:	Ch. 34 of Wright & Bird, NT in Its	Due Sunday 11:59 p.m.:
Revelation, ALL	World	Summative Writing
		Assignment on the
		Nature, Authority, and
SEE CANVAS for Gathering Days schedule as the time approaches.		Use of Scripture