

**BTS Mission: Providing sound Biblical and practical theological training to equip leaders for Christ’s Church.**

2200 Briarwood Way • Birmingham, Alabama 35243 • (205) 776-5650

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| Semester: | September 18-20, 2025 Intensive |  | Course: | NT 1105 New Testament Studies I Gospels & Acts |
| Day & Time: | Thu 9/18 6:00-9:00 pm  Fri 9/19 6:00-9:00 pm  Sat 9/20 9:00 am-3:00 pm |  | Room: | V/C |
| Professor: | Pastor Mike Jones |  | Credits: | 2 Hours |
| E-mail: | [harvestcpc@aol.com](mailto:harvestcpc@aol.com) |  | Phone: | 205-531-8743 |

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

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| The purpose of this course is to familiarize the student with the four Gospels – Matthew, Mark, Luke and John – and the Book of Acts in the New Testaments. It is to cause them to know and understand the content of each book, their relationship to each other, and their relationship to the rest of scripture. The student should know how to outline each book, to declare the themes of each book, to show the major divisions of each book, and to know where to find key subject matters in each book. |

**COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

* The student will be able to describe the formation of the New Testament canon.
* The student will be able to discuss issues of criticism in New Testament scholarship.
* The student will be able to articulate an overview of major New Testament doctrines.
* The student will be able to recognize the covenantal approach to understanding the New Testament.

**REQUIRED COURSE TEXTS AND MATERIALS**

Bailey, Kenneth E. Jesus Through Middle Eastern Eyes: Cultural Studies in the Gospels.

InterVarsity Press / PO Box 1400 / Downers Grove, IL 60515. ISBN: 978-0-8308-2568-4

Walton, Steve and Wenham, David. Exploring the New Testament, Volume 1: A Guide to the Gospels & Acts. InterVarsity Press / PO Box 1400 / Downers Grove, IL 60515. ISBN: 978-0-8308-2557-8.

The Holy Bible. Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Acts

**COURSE EXPECTATIONS**

All work must be submitted on the prescribed due dates. Carefully **proofread** your work before

submitting, all submissions must be error free.

This class will meet weekly students are expected to set aside a minimum of 2-3 hours each week

in preparation for the 2-hour class time. That figure includes readings, writing assignments, and

work on your final paper. Note that each lesson may not require the same amount of time designated

for coursework. Read the syllabus thoroughly; Proper Prior Planning Prevents Poor Performance.

Unless the instructor has stated otherwise, the students should submit their own work, independent of artificial intelligence tools, and of course, they are expected not to plagiarize, as always. To do otherwise would be an academic integrity violation, which would result in a zero on the assignment &/or a lowered letter grade administered by the professor, and even further sanctions administered through the Academic Committee.

**BTS Format, Style, and Writing Standards:**

All research papers must be formatted in accordance with Turabian Chicago standards including the title page. All papers are to be #12 font Times New Roman and Double-Spaced. Any paper not conforming to these standards will automatically be dropped one letter grade. Please see the BTS Turabian Style Guide for more information on turning in papers and assignments.

The BTS Turabian Style Guide and other resources are available on the BTS Writing Center webpage: <https://www.btswritingcenter.net/>

In addition, the Writing Center runs 2-3 Writing Workshops every semester. They are very helpful and highly recommended.

**BTS Plagiarism / Generative AI Policy**

In addition to the BTS plagiarism policy, BTS is implementing a new Generative AI policy. Unless clearly directed by the instructor, the students should submit their own work, independent of artificial intelligence tools. Use of generative AI to write papers or to write significant portions of assignments is considered an ethical violation of our Student Code of Conduct and to be a violation of general academic integrity, which could result in a zero on the assignment and/or a lowered letter grade for the course by the professor. If determined to be an egregious violation, it could lead to further sanctions administered through the Academic Committee, including expulsion from BTS.

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|  | 1. **Five Short (2-3 page) papers:**   These papers are short. There is no room for “smoke blowing.” Be concise and precise.  This assignment is about content, but also about written communication (a necessary skill for ministry today). Each paper should be an outline and synopsis for each book presenting the major themes and concepts found in the gospels of **Matthew**, **Mark**, **Luke**, **John**, and **Acts**. |
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|  | **Five Book Charts:**  Develop a book chart giving the major theme, major divisions, key chapters, key passages, time frame, and chapter titles for each of the gospels and the book of Acts. This book chart should be the result of reading and personal study, rather than looking at what others have done. An example book chart will be given in class. |
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|  | 1. **Book Critique:**   **“*Jesus Through Middle Eastern Eyes”****;* a **critique** is much more than a summary or a book report it is an assessment of your understanding of the materials and your personal growth. (2-3 pages)  Follow the steps below to evaluate the books strengths and weaknesses   * Begin your critique with **the bibliographic information** (Title, author, publisher, place, and date of publication) of the book. * Write a brief **summary** of the **main** theme and any **major secondary themes** of the author. Provide enough detail to show that you have read and digested the material. * Include your **analysis** of the arguments the authors set forth. Your analysis should be focused upon how faithfully **you think** the authors have interpreted and applied the Scripture. * **Evaluate** how the authors either succeeded or failed in taking into account all of Scripture (in other words, is it a systematic argument or simply a use of some isolated proof texts?) **citing instances** from the book to support your evaluation. * **Explain** why you agree or disagree with their conclusion(s), using the Scriptures to support your views. * Conclude with a paragraph that states what you have gained **personally** and **professionally** from reading this book. |
|  | 1. **Final Exam**   The exam will be comprehensive covering all reading material, assignments and lectures. |  |

**GRADING WEIGHT & COMMENTS**

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| **COURSE REQUIREMENT** | **GRADE WEIGHT** | **COMMENTS** |
| Class readings and preparedness | 20% | Class participation is a vital assessment |
| Papers | 20% |  |
| Charts | 20% |  |
| Book Critique | 20% |  |
| Final Exam | 20% |  |
| Total | 100% |  |

**COURSE SCHEDULE**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **DAY** | **DATE** | **AGENDA / TOPIC** |
| **Thursday** | **9/18** | Class Orientation  **Matthew Lecture** |
| **Friday** | **9/19** | **Mark & Luke Lectures** |
| **Saturday** | **9/20** | **Luke, John & Acts Lectures** |

**BTS FORMAT, STYLE, AND WRITING STANDARDS**

BTS has adopted Turabian as the standard form and style for writing formal papers. However, professors retain discretion in determining how “formal” a paper must be. Students should reference Kate Turabian’s *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations, 9th Edition*. A Turabian Supplement is available through the seminary. Students should also refer to the BTS Student Handbook on academic integrity/plagiarism. Below is a Paper Grading Rubric for formal papers:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **A­ to A-** | **B­ to B-** | **C­ to C-** | **D­ to D-** |
| Correct spelling and grammar/punctuation | Minor errors in spelling or grammar/punctuation | Many errors in spelling or grammar/punctuation | Difficult to read due to English writing errors |
|  |  |  |  |
| Smooth writing that provides for effective and efficient reading | Writing is acceptable, but not as organized and coherent | Writing is not smooth, sometimes confusing and inconsistent | Writing lacks clarity, focus, structure, and is incoherent |
|  |  |  |  |
| Person and format are proper for assignment | Person and format are inconsistent | Person and format are not appropriate | Person and format are totally inappropriate |
|  |  |  |  |
| Scripture, paraphrases, quotes, and summaries are appropriately used, cited, and clearly supports main argument | Scripture, paraphrases, quotes, and summaries are appropriate but need more depth and use of critical thinking | Scripture, paraphrases, quotes, and summaries are inadequate for main argument and do not reflect understanding | Scripture, paraphrases, quotes, and summaries are improperly used, overused, under used, or cited in error |
|  |  |  |  |
| Paper completely conforms to Turabian’s *Manual for Writers* | Paper generally conforms to Turabian’s *Manual for Writers* | Paper somewhat conforms to Turabian’s *Manual for Writers* | Paper does not conform to Turabian’s *Manual for Writers* |

**ATTENDANCE POLICY**

Students are expected to demonstrate punctuality and attend all class sessions. Any absences should be communicated to the professor and/or seminary office prior to the absence. In the absence of professor approval, a student will be permitted two absences per semester in a course. Tardiness may be recorded and three unexcused tardies will be counted as one unexcused absence. Unexcused absences and tardies exceeding the allowance may result in the student being dropped from the course with an “F” grade.

**CLASS POLICIES & PROCEDURES**

Refer to Student Handbook:

<https://bts.education/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/Student-Handbook-2016-Current.pdf>

**Video Conference Policies and Procedures:**

* Please utilize the BTS “Best VC (Video Conference) Practices” information for the course.
* Laptops/Desktops are the preferred method of attending a video conference course. Information will be shared on the screen, so phones will be less useful.
* In Video Conference, it is preferrable for the student to keep their video on (when possible) so that students and faculty may engage with one another. Extended periods of dark screen will result in follow-up and potential removal from class.
* Other electronics should be used sparingly.
* [**Professor may add any additional policies specific to their class**]

**ANNOTATED SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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| **New Testament Studies Bibliography** 1. Textual Criticism Black, D. A. New Testament Textual Criticism: A Concise Guide. G.R.: Baker, 1994.  Burgon, Dean John William. *The Revision Revised*. 1997 edition. ISBN: 1888328010.  Greenlee, J. H. Introduction to New Testament Textual Criticism. Peabody: Hendrickson, 1995.  Hills, Edward Freer. ***The King James Version Defended*.** Christian Research Pr; 4th edition 1984. ISBN: 0915923033.  Metzger, B. M. A Textual Commentary on the Greek New Testament. London & N.Y.: United Bible Societies, 1994.  Omanson, R.L. A Textual Guide to the Greek New Testament. Stuttgart: German Bible Society, 2006.  Wegner, P. D. A Student’s Guide to Textual Criticism of the Bible: Its History, Methods and Results. Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 2006. 2. Grammar Black, D. A. It’s Still Greek to Me. G.R.: Baker, 1998.  Blass, F., A. Debrunner, and R. Funk. A Greek Grammar of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1961.  Mounce, W. D. The Morphology of Biblical Greek. G.R.: Zondervan, 1994.  Porter, S. E. Idioms of the Greek New Testament. Sheffield, UK: Sheffield Academic Press, 1992.  Scrivener, F.H.A. *The New Testament in Greek*. 1949 edition. Cambridge University Press. **ASIN:** B000GRA6P6.  Wallace, D. B. The Basics of New Testament Syntax. G.R.: Zondervan, 2000.  Wallace, D. B. Greek Grammar Beyond the Basics. G.R.: Zondervan, 1996.  Young, R. A. Intermediate New Testament Greek. Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 1994. 3. Introduction Achtemeier, P. J., J. B. Green, and M. M. Thompson. Introducing the New Testament: Its Literature and Theology. G.R.: Eerdmans, 2001.  Brown, R. E. An Introduction to the New Testament. N.Y.: Doubleday, 1997.  deSilva, D. A. An Introduction to the New Testament: Context, Methods and Ministry Formation. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 2004.  Elwell, W. A. and Yarbrough, R. W. Encountering the New Testament and Readings from the First-Century World [with CD-ROM]. G.R.: Baker, 1998.  Gundry, R. A Survey of the New Testament. G.R.: Zondervan, 1994.3  Guthrie, D. New Testament Introduction. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1990.4  Wenham, D. and S. Walton. Exploring the New Testament, vol. 1: A Guide to the Gospels & Acts. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 2001; Marshall, I. H., Travis, S. and Paul, I., vol. 2: A Guide to the Epistles and Revelation (2002). 4. Historical BackgroundA. Lexical Analysis Balz, H. and G. Schneider, ed. Exegetical Dictionary of the New Testament, 3 vols. G.R.: Eerdmans, 1990-93.  Bauer, W. (Danker/Arndt/Gingrich). A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2000.3  Brown, C., ed. The New International Dictionary of New Testament Theology, 3 vols. G.R.: Zondervan, 1975-1978.  Green, J.P. Jr. *The Interlinear Greek-English New Testament*. ISBN: 1565639790.  Kittel, G. and G. Friedrich, ed. Theological Dictionary of the New Testament, 10 vols. G.R.: Eerdmans, 1964-76.  Kittel, G. and G. Friedrich; ed. and abridged by G. Bromiley. TDNT, 1 vol. edition. G.R.: Eerdmans, 1985.  Liddell, H. G. and R. Scott. A Greek-English Lexicon, 9th ed. Oxford: Clarendon, 1925-40; repr. 1968 [for classical Greek].  Louw, J. P. and E. A. Nida. A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament Based on Semantic Domains, 2 vols. New York: United Bible Societies, 1988.  Marshall, I. H., ed. Moulton and Geden Concordance to the Greek New Testament. New York: Continuum, 2002.6  Mounce, W. D., ed. Mounce’s Complete Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words. G.R.: Zondervan, 2006. B. History and Religion Barnett, P. Jesus and the Rise of Early Christianity. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1999.  Evans, C. A. and S. E. Porter, eds. Dictionary of New Testament Background. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 2000.  Ferguson, E. Backgrounds of Early Christianity. G.R.: Eerdmans, 1993.2  Jeffers, J. S. The Greco-Roman World of the New Testament Era. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1999.  Keener, C. S. The IVP Biblical Background Commentary: New Testament. Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 1993.  Skarsaune, O. In the Shadow of the Temple: Jewish Influences on Early Christianity. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 2002.  Witherington, B., III. New Testament History: A Narrative Account. G.R.: Baker, 2001.  Wright, N. T. The New Testament and the People of God. Minneapolis: Fortress, 1992. C. Primary Source Material DeSilva, D. A. Introducing the Apocrypha. G.R.: Baker, 2002.  Evans, C. A. Ancient Texts for New Testament Studies: A Guide to the Background Literature. Peabody: Hendrickson, 2005.  Helyer, L. R. Exploring Jewish Literature of the Second Temple Period. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 2002.  Jobes, K. H. and M. Silva. Invitation to the Septuagint. G.R.: Baker, 2000.  VanderKam, J. C. An Introduction to Early Judaism. G.R.: Eerdmans, 2001. 5. Theology Caird, G. B. (Completed and edited by L. D. Hurst). New Testament Theology. Oxford: Clarendon, 1994.  Goppelt, L. Theology of the New Testament. 2 vols. G.R.: Eerdmans, 1981-1982.  Guthrie, D. New Testament Theology. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1981.  Hurtado, L. Lord Jesus Christ: Devotion to Jesus in Earliest Christianity. G.R.: Eerdmans, 2003.  Ladd, G. E. A Theology of the New Testament. G.R.: Eerdmans, 1993.2  Marshall, I. H. New Testament Theology. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 2004.  Thielman, F. New Testament Theology. G.R.: Zondervan, 2005. 6. Dictionary / Encyclopedia Bromiley, G. W., ed. The International Standard Bible Encyclopedia, revised, 4 vols. G.R.: Eerdmans, 1979-86.  Evans, C. A. and S. E. Porter, eds. Dictionary of NT Background. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 2000.  Freedman, D. N., ed. The Anchor Bible Dictionary, 6 vols. New York: Doubleday, 1993.  Green, J. B., S. McKnight, and I. H. Marshall, eds. Dictionary of Jesus and the Gospels. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1992.  Hawthorne, G. F., R. P. Martin, and D. G. Reid, eds. Dictionary of Paul and His Letters. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1993.  Martin, R. P. and P. H. Davids, eds. Dictionary of the Later New Testament and Its Developments. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1998.  Ryken, L. et al., eds. Dictionary of Biblical Imagery. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1998.  Sakenfeld, K. D., ed. New Interpreter’s Dictionary of the Bible, 6 vols. Nashville: Abingdon, 2006- .  Vanhoozer, K. J., ed., Dictionary for Theological Interpretation of the Bible. G.R.: Baker, 2005. |

**GRADING CRITERIA AND ASSESSMENT RUBRIC**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **A to A-** | **B to B-** | **C to C-** | **D to D-** |
| Correct spelling and grammar/punctuation | Minor errors in spelling or grammar/punctuation | Multiple errors in spelling or grammar/punctuation per page | Difficult to read due to English writing errors |
|  |  |  |  |
| Smooth writing that provides for effective and efficient reading | Writing is acceptable, but not as organized and coherent | Writing is not smooth, sometimes confusing and inconsistent | Writing lacks clarity, focus, structure, and is incoherent |
|  |  |  |  |
| Person and format are proper for assignment | Person and format are inconsistent | Person and format are not appropriate | Person and format are totally inappropriate |
|  |  |  |  |
| Scripture, paraphrases, quotes, and summaries are appropriately used, cited, and clearly supports main argument | Scripture, paraphrases, quotes, and summaries are appropriate but need more depth and use of critical thinking | Scripture, paraphrases, quotes, and summaries are inadequate for main argument and do not reflect understanding | Scripture, paraphrases, quotes, and summaries are improperly used, over used, under used, or cited in error |
|  |  |  |  |
| Paper completely conforms to Turabian’s *Manual for Writers* | Paper generally conforms to Turabian’s *Manual for Writers* | Paper somewhat conforms to Turabian’s *Manual for Writers* | Paper does not conform to Turabian’s *Manual for Writers* |

**BTS Outcomes Evaluation**

**Please rank each outcome on a scale of 1-5**

**1: this outcome is not covered in this class**

**2: this outcome is only touched on in this class**

**3: this outcome is discussed in conjunction with class material**

**4: this outcome lightly assessed as part of course assessment (one assignment)**

**5: this outcome is fully integrated into the assessment of this course (multiple assignments)**

1. Scripture: Students will effectively articulate the truth of Scripture and Scripture as truth, engaged with learning biblical knowledge and reformed principles of the supremacy of Scripture as God’s word.
2. Reformed Theology: Students will be able to engage and reproduce the primary and essential elements of Reformed Theology.
3. Local Church:  Students will be engaged in applied ministry projects in the local church
4. Wisdom: Students will grow in character; increasing in their demonstration of wisdom and its fruits.
5. Discipleship:  Students will be able to understand and articulate the nature and importance of discipleship–both ordinary (means of grace) and extraordinary (biblical counseling).
6. Communication: Students will grow in the efficacy of their communication (articulation, teaching/speaking, and preaching—respective to various departments) both in content knowledge and rhetorical strategies.
7. Worldview:  Students will demonstrate a growing ability to apply God’s word to all spheres of life, evidenced through class discussion and other assigned assessments.
8. Leadership: Students will grow in their understanding of godly leadership and ability to lead others in service of the local church.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Outcome | Rank | Rational (one sentence) |
| Scripture | 5 | Strong emphasis |
| Reformed Theology | 3 | Exposure but not emphasis |
| Local Church | 3 | Discuss using in local church |
| Wisdom | 4 | Emphasize teaching of Jesus |
| Discipleship | 5 | Highlight Jesus’ discipleship |
| Communication | 4 | Present Book Charts, write papers |
| Worldview | 4 | Stress a Christian worldview |
| Leadership | 3 | Discuss Jesus’ leadership |



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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Semester: | Fall 2024 |  | Course: | NT 1105 New Testament Studies I Gospels & Acts |
| Day & Time: | Fri. 6:00-8:00 am |  | Room: | V/C |
| Professor: | Pastor Mike Jones |  | Credits: | 2 Hours |
| E-mail: | harvestcpc@aol.com |  | Phone: | 205-531-8743 |

**STUDENT SIGNATURE**

Your signature below indicates that you have read this syllabus, understand it, and willing to accept the requirements and responsibilities for successfully completing this course.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Student Signature: |  | Date: |  |