



BI520 New Testament Survey

Short Syllabus

Instructor: Michael Morrison, PhD

Course description

This course gives students an overview of the New Testament documents: the authors, dates, places, genre, structure, and themes. Attention is given to individual documents, and how the documents work together for canonical unity.

To do well in this course, we expect that you will need to spend about 11-12 hours each week, for 12 weeks.

Required textbooks

Textbook change being considered.

The New Testament. About 300 pages. Use a modern committee-made translation, such as the NRSV, NIV, ESV, or NET.

Please obtain the required textbooks before the class begins – in some nations, you may need to order them before you register.

Requirements and assignments

1. **Read the lessons.** Lessons will be posted each Monday for ten weeks.
2. **Participate in forum discussions.**
3. **Read the textbooks.** They total about 100 pages each week.
4. **Papers.** These count for 60 percent of the final grade.
 - 1) For the first paper, trace a theme through the Synoptic Gospels and Acts, such as the kingdom of God, discipleship, or eating together.

- 2) The second paper involves tracing a theme through the writings of Paul, John, Hebrews and the General Epistles. This may be the same theme as you used for the first paper, or it may be another, such as the divinity of Jesus, redemption, grace, hope for the future, etc.
5. **One final exam.** This counts for 30 percent of the final grade.

Weekly topics and assignments (tentative)

Week	Topic
1	Intertestamental history and Jewish theology
2	Introduction to the Gospels, and Mark
3	Matthew, parables, and the kingdom of God
4	Luke and the historical accuracy of the Gospels
5	Acts, and an introduction to Paul
6	Romans, 1 & 2 Corinthians
7	Galatians - Philemon and pseudepigraphy
8	Hebrews and the General Epistles
9	The Gospel and epistles of John
10	Revelation