

Williamson Bible Institute
a Mid-Atlantic District Training Center
SYLLABUS: BIB-2033 Directed Study

New Testament Gospels

Spring 2025

COURSE GENERAL INFORMATION:

Dates: Thursdays. April 24, May 1, May 8, May 15, May 22, and May 29

Credit Hours: 3

Class Time: 10:30 AM

Class Location - ZOOM: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86597681983?pwd=LVoek0qNvbq2TOQKkbfaThmjA0s0gG.1>

Meeting ID: 865 9768 1983

Passcode: 598530

COURSE INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Kenneth L Mills; B.A. Degree, Eastern Nazarene College, 1966; M.Div. Degree, Nazarene Theological Seminary, 1969; D. Min. Degree, Boston University, 1979.

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DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE:

A study of the life and teachings of Jesus as presented in the four gospels.

Prerequisites: Introduction to the New Testament and Biblical Interpretation.

COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

The following are intended learning outcomes specific to this course:

1. Become familiar with the significant life events of Jesus.
2. Gain an understanding of the significant elements of the message of Jesus.
3. Describe the impact of the historical background of the New Testament on the message of Jesus.
4. Examine the gospel records of Jesus' ministry in order to understand the contribution of each evangelist to our understanding of Jesus and the Early Christian Church.
5. Seek to understand Jesus' message in its first environment through exegetical analysis of the historical, literary, social and theological issues in the texts.
6. Establish the principles of Jesus' message which were being taught in these texts and interpret their significance for today.
7. Establish a broad outline of the course of Jesus' public ministry.
8. Explore and assess current scholarship on issues of the historical Jesus, "Q" and archeological findings.

The following are competencies for Ministry as outlined in the *Sourcebook for Ministerial Development* that will be addressed in this course:

- Ability to identify the literary structure, theological concepts and main storyline of the New Testament. (CN3)
- Ability to describe the historical and cultural contexts of the New Testament including an ability to Biblically affirm pastoral leadership of men and women within the Church. (CN4)
- Ability to exegete a passage of Scripture using contextual, literary, and theological analysis. (CN6)

COURSE MATERIALS

Holy Bible - Any of the following translations: NASB, NRSV, NIV, TNIV, RSV, KJV, NKJV, NAB, or ESV

Blomberg, Craig L. *Jesus and the Gospels: An Introduction and Survey*. 3rd ed., B&H Publishing, 2009. ISBN: 9780805444827

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Reading:

A. **Scripture:** From an appropriate version of Scripture (NASB, NIV, NRSV, RSV) read all of the New Testament Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John).

B. **Textbook:** It might go without saying, but it is imperative in this class that you read the Textbook in its entirety.

2. Interpretation & Application Projects:

You are assigned four (4) passages of scripture (one from each of the four Gospels). Write a two to three (2-3) page paper (approximately 700-800 words) on each passage. These papers are to be exegetical in nature, summaries of your research, and should explore the following areas: general background, immediate context, exegetical observations, theological affirmations, and application of the passage.

The four passages are:

Matthew 15:21-28

Mark 9:43-48

Luke 14:26-27

John 6:53-59

3. Contemporary Application Project:

Select one (1) passage from one of the four Gospels that is of particular interest and intrigue to you, and develop a practical, contemporary resource in written form. A contemporary resource means one of the following: developing a sermon, a lesson plan, or a small group study. The project should include all the detailed work needed for it to stand on its own.

COURSE GRADING

The final grade for the course will be based on an average of the following:

1. Interpretation Passages 60% (15% each)

2. Contemporary Application Project 20%
3. Class Participation 20%
4. NO Final Exam

Note: All work is expected to be in on time unless arrangements are made with the instructor. Late work will be marked down one letter grade.

MLA Format Style:

This course uses MLA (Modern Language Association) 9th edition as the format and style guide to be used when writing papers for all courses.

For major writing assignments (e.g. exegetical papers, research papers, etc.), students must follow all the specifications of MLA formatting, including a Title page, Works Cited page, double spacing, and proper punctuation in works cited entries and parenthetical references. For weekly assignments (e.g. Reading Evaluations, Comprehension Questions, Article reviews, etc.), proper MLA formatting must be used with works cited entries and parenthetical references.

COURSE SCHEDULE & OUTLINE:

DATE	COURSE SCHEDULE/OUTLINE
April 24	An Introduction to the Four Gospels Read: Part One (Historical Background) in <i>Jesus & The Gospels</i> (Bloomberg)
May 1	A Survey of Mark Read: Part 2, Chapter 4 in <i>Jesus & The Gospels</i> (Bloomberg) Read: Part 3, Chapter 6 in <i>Jesus & The Gospels</i> (Bloomberg) Due: 1 st Interpretation Assignment
May 8	A Survey of Matthew Read: Part 2, Chapter 5 in <i>Jesus & The Gospels</i> (Bloomberg) Read: Part 3, Chapter 7 in <i>Jesus & The Gospels</i> (Bloomberg) Due: 2 nd Interpretation Assignment
May 15	A Survey of Luke Read: Part 3, Chapter 8 in <i>Jesus & The Gospels</i> (Bloomberg) Read: Part 4, Chapter 10-11 in <i>Jesus & The Gospels</i> (Bloomberg) Due: 3 rd Interpretation Assignment
May 22	A Survey of John Read: Part 3, Chapter 9 in <i>Jesus & The Gospels</i> (Bloomberg) Read: Part 4, Chapter 12-14 in <i>Jesus & The Gospels</i> (Bloomberg) Due: 4 th Interpretation Assignment
May 29	The Theology of Jesus Read: Part 4, Chapter 15-17 in <i>Jesus & The Gospels</i> (Bloomberg) Read: Part 5, Chapter 19 in <i>Jesus & The Gospels</i> (Bloomberg) Due: Contemporary Application Project