

REL 2443
Introduction to the New Testament
Fall Semester 2011
Northeastern State University
College of Liberal Arts

Instructor:

Gary Cheatham, M.Div., M.S.L.S.

Office: L307

Phone: 918.444.3265

cheatham@nsuok.edu

<http://arapaho.nsuok.edu/~cheatham/>

Class Days and Time:

Class meets Monday and Wednesday from 1:00-2:15 p.m., in FA 303.

Prerequisites:

None.

Course Description:

A study of the background of the New Testament including origin, growth, social, economic, and religious development of central concepts, leading personalities, and the process by which it has come to us as viewed in the light of modern scholarship.

Student Learning Outcomes:

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

- °Discuss what contemporary scholarship says about the origin, authorship, date, context, purpose, and message of each of the New Testament texts.
- °Understand the development of the New Testament canon.
- °Discuss the New Testament in its historical and theological context.
- °Locate the New Testament in the diverse world of early Christianity.

Instructional Materials (Required Textbooks):

°Bart D. Ehrman, *Lost Scriptures: Books that Did Not Make It into the New Testament*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2003.

°Julie Galambush, *The Reluctant Parting: How the New Testament's Jewish Writers Created a Christian Book*. New York: HarperCollins, 2005.

°*The New Oxford Annotated Bible*. 4th ed. New York: Oxford University Press, 2010.

Instructional Procedures:

Lectures, class discussions, video presentations, assigned readings.

Student Performance Activities (Attendance/Course Requirements):

°Students will be asked to sign an attendance sheet at each class period in order to receive credit for attendance.

°Periodic take-home assignments will be announced in class and posted on the I-drive. Completed assignments should be returned to the instructor in Microsoft Word as an e-mail attachment.

°The final exam will be based on class lectures and discussions, video presentations, and assigned readings/texts. The exam will be open note, so students are encouraged to take notes.

Assignment Due Dates:

Assignment due dates will be announced in class.

Student Evaluation:

Class attendance = 20 points

Take-home assignments = 50 points

Final exam = 30 points

Total: 100 points

Grading system:

A = 90-100 points

B = 80-89 points

C = 70-79 points

D = 60-69 points

F = 0-59 points

In addition to the above, each student will have the option of turning in one extra credit assignment valued at 20 points. The topic and format of the extra credit assignment will need to be approved by the instructor. Anyone wishing to complete an extra credit assignment is encouraged to speak with the instructor.

If you have any questions or problems, please let the instructor know as soon as possible.

Office Hours:

Monday: 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Tuesday: 9:00-10:00 a.m.; 12:00-4:00 p.m.

Wednesday: 3:00-4:00 p.m.

Thursday: 10:00-11:00 a.m.

The instructor is available other times by appointment. Students may also contact the instructor via e-mail.

Syllabi Information (Academic Misconduct, ADA Compliance, Inclement Weather/Disaster Policy, and other regulations):

<http://offices.nsuok.edu/academicaffairs/SyllabiInformation.aspx>