



Department of Instruction: General Education ; Course Number: NTS1300; Section: 01  
 Course Name: New Testament Survey; Hours Credit: 3  
 Syllabus Registration Period: Spring 2009, Location: VS W108; Tue/Thur 8:00-9:20 p.m.  
 Instructor: Bill Snodgrass, BSEd, MS, EdS., MDiv (IP); Office Number: W112; Phone Contact: 901-351-9362  
 email: [bsnodgrass@visibleschool.com](mailto:bsnodgrass@visibleschool.com)

**VISIBLE SCHOOL FOUNDATIONAL STATEMENTS**

**MISSION STATEMENT**

VISIBLE SCHOOL exists to train and equip artists, technicians, ministers, and business professionals in skill and character for effective service in the arts industries and in the church.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course will provide an overview of the literary, historical, geographical, and religious dimensions of the New Testament. Special attention is given to the following subjects: the historical setting (political, social, and religious) of the first century Palestine; the Gospels, focusing upon the life and ministry of Jesus Christ, His death and resurrection; the growth of the new church as found in Acts; the ministry of Paul through his missionary journeys and epistles; the challenges of opposition from the Roman Empire, pagan culture, and the Jews; the continued delay of the return of Jesus Christ; and the rise of the second generation of leaders within the church. All study will be completed with a view towards application of principles discovered to each person's life in the world today. **Additional attention will be given to the use of exegetical tools, particularly for the purposes of understanding issues related to the original Greek texts.**

**COURSE TEXT, RESERVE, AND SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS:**

Elwell, Walter A. and Robert W. Yarbrough. *Encountering the New Testament: A Historical and Theological Survey, Second Edition.* Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker Academic, 2005.

Perschbacher, Wesley J., ed. *The New Analytical Greek Lexicon.* New York: Hendrickson, Incorporated, 1990.

Brown, Robert K., and Philip W. Comfort, trans. *The New Greek-English Interlinear New Testament.* Ed. J. D. Douglass. New York: Tyndale House, 1990.

A variety of additional readings may be provided to supplement texts.

**GOALS FOR THIS COURSE:**

1. Students will develop a basic understanding of the process of canonization which resulted in the Christian Bible.
2. Students will develop an understanding of the genre, context, and major themes for each of the New Testament books in the Christian canon.
3. Students will learn to use Greek texts to find broader contextual definitions of the words from which the English translations were created.
4. Students will develop skills related to scholarly writing.
5. Students will demonstrate appropriate cooperative learning and class discussion practices.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES AND REQUIREMENTS OF THE COURSE:**

Learning Outcome: Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:	Related Goal(s)	Assignment	Assessment Rubric	% of Grade	Points Possible	Due Date
Demonstrate basic skills in the use of the Greek language and Greek exegetical tools.	2, 3	Weekly/daily Greek Quizzes	Objective	5%	Up To 2500	Quizzes will be given each (or most) class(es).
Demonstrate the ability to integrate class discussion with the readings and the students' life experiences.	1, 2	Class Journal	Informal Writing Rubric and specific guidelines to be provided	75%	4 @ 100 each. 400 total	2/5/2009 3/12/2009 4/7/2009 5/7/2009

Demonstrate how course content is relevant to the student and the students' personal goals. Demonstrate understanding of culture as it applies to the creation of writings, particularly the New Testament. Demonstrate understanding of the methods and limitations related to study and interpretation of Biblical texts.	1, 2, 3, 4	Summary Reflection	Numeric Examination Rubric	20%	100	TBA
Discuss readings and interact with students in class discussion.	12345	Class Discussion: Students are expected to participate in discussions throughout the course. Journals will be assessed with the possibility that contribution to discussion can augment grade.	Class Participation	Special	Special	On-Going

ALL ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE EMAILED TO [BSNODGRASS@VISIBLESCHOOL.COM](mailto:BSNODGRASS@VISIBLESCHOOL.COM) IN ELECTRONIC FORM, EITHER RTF, WORD@ OR PAGES@ FORMAT.

Paper Requirements: VISIBLE SCHOOL has adopted the Turabian (Chicago) style of paper formatting and documentation. Please see the *VISIBLE SCHOOL Paper Writing Guide, A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations, Seventh Edition: Chicago Style for Students and Researchers (Chicago Guides to Writing, Editing, and Publishing)* by Kate L. Turabian, Wayne C. Booth, Gregory G. Colomb, and Joseph M. Williams (April 15, 2007), or *The Chicago Manual of Style by University of Chicago Press Staff (Hardcover - Aug 1, 2003)* for further information.

#### **COURSE OUTLINE:**

The following outline is a *plan* for the course that *may be adjusted, expanded, and otherwise altered*. For details, refer to the document, *Course Outline*, which is an official extension of this syllabus. The students will be advised of changes to *Course Outline*, and an updated version will be maintained and readily available to the students.

DATE	TOPIC	ASSIGNMENT
Jan 20, 2009	Class Orientation and Introduction	
		For Next Class: Refer to Course Outline Document
Jan 22, 2009	Refer to Course Outline Document	
		For Next Class: Refer to Course Outline Document
Jan 27, 2009	--- Class Does NOT Meet ---	
		For Next Class: Refer to Course Outline Document
Jan 29, 2009	Refer to Course Outline Document	
		For Next Class: Refer to Course Outline Document
Feb 3, 2009	Refer to Course Outline Document	
		For Next Class: Refer to Course Outline Document
Feb 5, 2009	Refer to Course Outline Document	
		For Next Class: Refer to Course Outline Document
Feb 10, 2009	--- Winter Retreat—Class Does NOT Meet ---	
		For Next Class: Refer to Course Outline Document
Feb 12, 2009	--- Winter Retreat—Class Does NOT Meet ---	
		For Next Class: Refer to Course Outline Document
Feb 17, 2009	Refer to Course Outline Document	
		For Next Class: Refer to Course Outline Document

Feb 19, 2009	Refer to Course Outline Document	
		For Next Class: Refer to Course Outline Document
Feb 24, 2009	Refer to Course Outline Document	
		For Next Class: Refer to Course Outline Document
Feb 26, 2009	--- Hebrew Herritage—Class Does NOT Meet ---	Refer to Course Outline Document
Mar 3, 2009	Refer to Course Outline Document	
		For Next Class: Refer to Course Outline Document
Mar 5, 2009	Refer to Course Outline Document	
		For Next Class: Refer to Course Outline Document
Mar 10, 2009	Refer to Course Outline Document	
		For Next Class: Refer to Course Outline Document
Mar 12, 2009	Refer to Course Outline Document	
		For Next Class: Refer to Course Outline Document
Mar 17, 2009	--- Spring Break—Class Does NOT Meet ---	Refer to Course Outline Document
Mar 19, 2009	--- Spring Break—Class Does NOT Meet ---	
Mar 24, 2009	Refer to Course Outline Document	
Mar 26, 2009	Refer to Course Outline Document	
		For Next Class: Refer to Course Outline Document
Mar 31, 2009	Refer to Course Outline Document	
Apr 2, 2009	Refer to Course Outline Document	
		For Next Class: Refer to Course Outline Document
Apr 7, 2009	Refer to Course Outline Document	
		For Next Class: Refer to Course Outline Document
Apr 9, 2009	--- Easter Holiday—Class Does NOT Meet ---	Refer to Course Outline Document
Apr 14, 2009	Refer to Course Outline Document	
		For Next Class: Refer to Course Outline Document
Apr 16, 2009	Refer to Course Outline Document	
		For Next Class: Refer to Course Outline Document
Apr 21, 2009	Refer to Course Outline Document	
		For Next Class: Refer to Course Outline Document
Apr 23, 2009	Refer to Course Outline Document	
		For Next Class: Refer to Course Outline Document
Apr 28, 2009	Refer to Course Outline Document	
		For Next Class: Refer to Course Outline Document
Apr 30, 2009	Refer to Course Outline Document	
		For Next Class: Refer to Course Outline Document
May 5, 2009	Refer to Course Outline Document	
		For Next Class: Refer to Course Outline Document
May 7, 2009	Refer to Course Outline Document	
		For Next Class: Refer to Course Outline Document
May 12, 2009	Refer to Course Outline Document	

		For Next Class: Refer to Course Outline Document
May 14, 2009	Refer to Course Outline Document	
		For Next Class: Refer to Course Outline Document
TBA	Exam Session	

**OTHER VITAL POLICIES:**

Please refer to the current Academic catalog for college-wide policies concerning the following:

- *ATTENDANCE POLICY*
- *GRADING SCALE*
- *ACADEMIC DISHONESTY*
- *DISABILITY POLICY*
- *NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY*
- *COMPUTER USE POLICY*

Please note: Distributed to the class at the beginning of the semester, the syllabus is an agreement between the faculty member and the student that affords protection to both the student and faculty member against academic abuse. Academic abuse is defined as improper use of educational authority, academic goodwill or maltreatment of faculty by students, or students by faculty. Due to unforeseen circumstances or tailoring the course to the class, some changes in course calendar and assignments may occur. This will never increase the workload, however it may be diminished due to unpredictable changes.