



**WAYLAND BAPTIST UNIVERSITY
VIRTUAL CAMPUS
SCHOOL OF RELIGION AND PHILOSOPHY**

Wayland Mission Statement: Wayland Baptist University exists to educate students in an academically challenging, learning-focused, and distinctively Christian environment for professional success, and service to God and humankind.

Course Title and Number: RLGN 5320 Jesus and the Gospels

Term: Fall 2017; Aug. 21 – Nov. 4, 2017

Instructor's Name, Office Phone, and Email Address:

Dr. Andrew Marquez
Assistant Executive Director/Campus Dean
Wayland Baptist University (Sierra Vista/Tucson Campus)
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Office Hours, Building, and Location:

Mon – Thur: 10am-6pm; Fri: 10am – 1pm
Wayland Baptist University - Tucson
6235 E. Broadway Blvd.
Tucson, AZ 85711

Class Meeting Time and Location:

Asynchronous interaction with specific deadlines; Virtual Campus Blackboard website.

Catalog Description: Research in the life and teachings of Jesus as presented in the canonical Gospels with an emphasis on the use of biblical criticisms in the study of Jesus and the Gospels.

Prerequisites: None

REQUIRED RESOURCE MATERIALS

1. Blomberg, Craig L. *Jesus and the Gospels: An Introduction and Survey*. Nashville: B&H Publishing Group, 2009. ISBN: 978-0-8054-4482-7 (eTextbook is acceptable).
2. Wiarda, Timothy. *Interpreting Gospel Narratives: Scenes, People, and Theology*. Nashville: B&H Publishing Group, 2010. ISBN: 978-0-8054-4843-6 (eBook is acceptable).

INTERNET EQUIPPED COMPUTER

- A. Must conform to minimum recommended settings identified by Virtual Campus:
http://www.wbu.edu/academics/online_programs/works/tech.htm
- B. Should use compatible browser and have correct settings as recommended by Blackboard: http://www.wbu.edu/academics/online_programs/works/tech.htm
- C. Must utilize WBU student email account for official university communications

WBU BLACKBOARD COURSE MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE

- A. Blackboard website URL: <https://wbu.blackboard.com>
- B. Login username: WBU student id (9 digit number, usually 3-5 zeros at beginning)
- C. Login password: first three letters of first name + first three letters of last name (unless you have used Blackboard previously and have changed your password)
- D. Technical support: 24/7 via phone, chat, ticket requests; see links on Blackboard login page

OPTIONAL MATERIALS

1. Blackboard Mobile App

Limited version of Blackboard for mobile devices—iTunes App Store or Google Play

2. Internet or Apps for Audio-Mobile NIV texts

While textbook is required for additional readings, students may also access/download one of the following web-based or app-based texts of the NIV for assisting with the reading of the assigned Bible passages (apps in iTunes App Store or Google Play)

- A. NIV Study Bible app – same material as the textbook, but realize apps do not have “page numbers” so it may be more difficult to find assigned reading material; \$19.99
- B. NIV Live app – dramatized reading; well produced; read along text available with audio; Genesis downloads for free; \$19.99 for access to entire Bible (or \$49.99 for multiple platforms/devices)
- C. Bible Gateway app and <http://biblegateway.com>– free NIV audio and text within the app; 3 options available—dramatized and two readers
- D. Other options exist for websites and apps, but remember these only provide the NIV text and not the additional reading assignments from the NIV Study Bible

COURSE OUTCOME COMPETENCIES

Students will –

1. Demonstrate knowledge of the socio-historical world of Jesus and the earliest Christian believers.
2. Demonstrate understanding of the main teachings of Jesus in light of their original contexts, and how to apply those teachings to the lives of believers and unbelievers living in the twenty-first century.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of and ability to use some of the methods scholars use in the seeking to understanding the historical Jesus and the nature of the New Testament Gospels.

ATTENDANCE POLICIES

1. Attendance for online courses is defined fully in the university catalog:
http://catalog.wbu.edu/content.php?catoid=3&navoid=80#Class_Attendance_-_Online
2. Students are expected to participate in all required instructional activities in their courses.
3. Student “attendance” in an online course is defined as active participation in the course as described in the course syllabus.
4. Students aware of necessary absences must inform the professor with as much advance notice as possible in order to make appropriate arrangements.
5. Any student absent 25 percent or more of the online course, i.e., non-participatory during 3 or more weeks of an 11 week term, may receive an F for that course.
6. Any student who has not actively participated in an online class prior to the census date for any given term is considered a "no-show" and will be administratively withdrawn from the class without record. To be counted as actively participating, it is not sufficient to log in and view the course. The student must be submitting work as described in the course syllabus.
7. When a student reaches a number of absences considered by the instructor to be excessive, the instructor will submit a Report of Unsatisfactory Progress to the student’s WBU student email account and to appropriate university personnel.

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Wayland Baptist University observes a zero tolerance policy regarding academic dishonesty. Per university policy as described in the academic catalog, all cases of academic dishonesty will be reported and second offenses will result in suspension from the university.

DISABILITY STATEMENT

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), it is the policy of Wayland Baptist University that no otherwise qualified person with a disability be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any educational program or activity in the university. The Coordinator of Counseling Services serves as the coordinator of students with a disability and should be contacted concerning accommodation requests at (806) 291- 3765. Documentation of a disability must accompany any request for accommodations.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS/REQUIREMENTS

Class Attendance/Participation

Weighting: 11%

Possible Points: 110

Due to the scope of material to be covered in this course, learners are expected to attend and participate throughout the semester. Participation points are not guaranteed. To gain points, learners must engage in the instructional activities of the course. Since facilitating the learning experience is partially dependent on peer interaction, absence from activities will result in the loss of participation points. *It is important to note that **not** all assignments are weighted equally with regard to possible participation points to be gained.*

Discussion Posts

Weighting: 14% (2% per Discussion Board)

Possible Points: 140 (20 points per Discussion Board)

Students are expected to respond to 7 discussion boards throughout the course. Each thread in the discussion board must be addressed for full credit in the assignment. These questions are reflective in nature, without a “correct” answer. They are intended to encourage thought about the readings and lectures as well as to facilitate dialogue on these topics. Sunday deadline for initial responses to instructor’s threads (questions). Students should also engage in robust discussions with their classmates about posts on discussion boards. **There is a minimal expectation of two substantive responses to classmates’ posts per week.** These interactions are due by Sunday of the week following the initial posts. All discussion posts should strive to build community and enhance the learning process.

Note: Because the university classroom is a place designed for the free exchange of ideas, we will frequently encounter the opinions of others which may seem novel and, occasionally, outlandish. We should show respect for one another in all circumstances. Part of the learning experience will be the opportunity to hear other opinions and/or interpretations of the assigned readings. Therefore, we should show respect for one another by exhibiting patience and courtesy. Persistent belligerence of another’s views will lower your class participation grade.

Book Review

Weighting: 20%

Possible Points: 200

Students are expected to compose a critical review of the Wiarda book. This review must be between 5-6 pages. It must follow the format of standard academic reviews. The professor will provide a sample review as a guide to the students.

Research Paper

Weighting: 25%

Possible Points: 250

Students will write a paper between 12-15 pages of text, excluding cover page, table of contents, appendices, and bibliography. The paper must follow the guidelines stipulated in the WBU School of Religion and Philosophy's Style Guide. The paper will be double-spaced using 12 point TNR font. The paper topic must interact with the concepts and methods discussed in class. The professor will work with the students in selecting and refining a topic.

Note: Papers must contain at least 10 academic sources: The term "academic sources" **excludes** Bibles, lexicons, full-Bible commentaries (single volume), internet articles and general dictionaries. Peer reviewed articles, multivolume commentaries (published after 1950), Bible Dictionaries (post 1950), and relevant monographs are considered "academic sources" for the purposes of this course.

Exams

Weighting: 30% (10% per Exam)

Possible Points: 300 (100 points per Exam)

Students will be required to take three closed-book exams. These exams will focus on material covered in the class lectures and reinforced in the required reading. The exams will divide the lectures in thirds and are not comprehensive. Study guides will be provided to aid in preparation for these exams.

Note 1: The first 2 exams will be "two hours" of the "four hours" of weekly "class." There will be a set of assignments after the exam those weeks. The final week will only have exam 3 as its assignment.

Note 2: The third exam **will be proctored** (monitored). Each exam is 1/3 of the exam portion of the grade. The student is responsible to secure an approved proctor: http://www.wbu.edu/academics/online_programs/proctor/proctorrequest.htm. (WBU testing sites do not require Virtual Campus approval.) Online remote proctoring is an option if time or location hinders other approved testing venues.

UNIVERSITY GRADING SYSTEM

A	90-100	I	INCOMPLETE**
B	80-89	Cr	FOR CREDIT
C	70-79	NCr	NO CREDIT
D	60-69	WP	WITHDRAWAL PASSING
F	BELOW 60	WF	WITHDRAWAL FAILING
		W	WITHDRAWAL

**A grade of incomplete is changed if the deficiency is made up by midterm of the next regular semester; otherwise, it becomes "F". This grade is given only if circumstances beyond the student's control prevented completion of work during the semester enrolled and attendance requirements have been met. A grade of "CR" indicates that credit in semester hours was granted but no grade or grade points were recorded.

COMPUTATION OF FINAL GRADE:

Attendance/participation:	110 points	11%
Discussion Posts:	140 points	14%
Book Review:	200 points	20%
Research Paper:	250 points	25%
Exams	300 points	30%
Total Possible Score:	1000 points	100%

Students shall have protection through orderly procedures against prejudices or capricious academic evaluation. A student who believes that he or she has not been held to realistic academic standards, just evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course by using the student grade appeal process described in the Academic Catalog. Appeals may not be made for advanced placement examinations or course bypass examinations. Appeals are limited to the final course grade, which may be upheld, raised, or lowered at any stage of the appeal process. Any recommendation to lower a course grade must be submitted through the Executive Vice President/Provost to the Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee for review and approval. The Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee may instruct that the course grade be upheld, raised, or lowered to a more proper evaluation.

Course Schedule

Date	Subject	Assignments
<p><u>Unit #1</u></p> <p>Week 1</p>	<p>Introduction to the Course</p> <p>Lecture One: An Introduction to the New Testament Gospels</p> <p>Lecture Two: The Gospels in Our Modern World</p>	<p><u>Complete before other assignments:</u> Read Blomberg: Introduction; Chapter 3</p>
<p>Week 2</p>	<p>Lecture Three: Palestine in the World of Jesus</p> <p>Lecture Four: The Roman Empire in the World of Jesus</p>	<p><u>Due: Discussion Board 1</u></p> <p>Read: Blomberg: Chapters 1 and 2</p>
<p>Week 3</p>	<p>Lecture Five: Source Criticism: The Q Source and Historical Jesus Research</p>	<p><u>Due: Discussion Board 2; Paper Topic & Working Hypothesis.</u></p> <p>Read Blomberg: Chapters 4, 5 10, and 18</p> <p style="text-align: center;">STUDY FOR EXAM ONE</p>
<p>Week 4</p> <p>UNIT #2</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>EXAM 1</u></p> <p>Lecture Six: The Gospel of Mark</p>	<p>Read: Blomberg: Chapter 6 Bible: Gospel of Mark</p>
<p>Week 5</p>	<p>Lecture Seven: The Gospel of Matthew</p>	<p><u>Due: Discussion Board 3; Thesis Statement with Preliminary Reasoning and Evidence</u></p> <p>Read: Blomberg: Chapter 7 Bible: Gospel of Matthew</p>

Week 6	Lecture Eight: The Gospel of Luke	<p><u>Due: Discussion Board 4</u></p> <p>Read: Blomberg: Chapter 8 Bible: Gospel of Luke</p>
Week 7	Lecture Nine: The Gospel of John	<p><u>Due: Discussion Board 5; Detailed Paper Outline & Bibliography</u></p> <p>Read: Blomberg: Chapters 9 and 19 Bible: Gospel of John</p> <p>STUDY FOR EXAM TWO</p>
Week 8 UNIT 3	<p><u>EXAM 2</u></p> <p>Lecture Ten: Jesus' Childhood & Early Ministry</p>	<p>Take Proctored Examination 2</p> <p>Read Blomberg: Chapters 11-12</p>
Week 9	<p>Lecture Eleven: The Great Galilean Ministry Part One</p> <p>Lecture Twelve: The Great Galilean Ministry Part Two</p>	<p><u>Due: Discussion Board 6; First Draft of Paper</u></p> <p>Read: Blomberg: Chapters 13-14</p>
Week 10	<p>Lecture Thirteen: Passion Week</p> <p>Lecture Fourteen: Resurrection</p>	<p><u>Due: Discussion Board 7; Book Review (Wiarda)</u></p> <p>Read Blomberg: Chapters 15-17</p> <p>STUDY FOR EXAM THREE</p>
Week 11	<p><u>EXAM 3</u></p>	<p><u>Due: Final Draft of Paper</u></p> <p>Take Proctored Examination 3</p>