



Wayland Baptist University
WBU-Online
School of Christian Studies

UNIVERSITY 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 NUMBER & NAME:

THST 5321 Jesus and the Gospels

TERM:

Fall 1, 2020

INSTRUCTOR:

Dr. Andrew Marquez

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Office phone: 520-792-1506

WBU Email: Andrew.marquez@wayland.wbu.edu

OFFICE HOURS, BUILDING & LOCATION:

By appointment

COURSE MEETING TIME & 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.

PREREQUISITE:

None

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND RESOURCE MATERIAL:

1. Strauss, Mark L. *Four Portraits, One Jesus: A Survey of Jesus and the Gospels*. 2020.
2. Wiarda, Timothy. *Interpreting Gospel Narratives: Scenes, People, and Theology*. Nashville: B & H Pub, 2010.

COURSE OUTCOMES AND 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.
4. Demonstrate competency in conducting graduate level research in the field of New Testament Studies.

ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS:

As stated in the Wayland Catalog, students enrolled at one of the University's external campuses should make every effort to attend all class meetings. All absences must be explained to the instructor, who will then determine whether the omitted work may be made up. When a student reaches that number of absences considered by the instructor to be excessive, the instructor will so advise the student and file an unsatisfactory progress report with the campus executive director. Any student who misses 25 percent or more of the regularly scheduled class meetings may receive a grade of F in the course. Additional attendance policies for each course, as defined by the instructor in the course syllabus, are considered a part of the University's attendance policy.

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM & 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 REQUIREMENTS and GRADING CRITERIA:

Class Attendance/Participation

Weighting: 7%

Possible Points: 70

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.

Weekly Reading Reviews

Weighting: 14% (2% per Review)

Possible Points: 140 (20 points per Review)

The Strauss textbook will reinforce the lecture content for the course. Students are required to submit 7 weekly reading reviews on assigned chapters from the text book. Each review must summarize and evaluate assigned readings in 1-2 pages. Turabian style is required.

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 an exegetical 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. Specific details of the paper will be distributed on the first day of class.

Exams

Weighting: 20% (10% per Exam)

Possible Points: 200 (100 points per Exam)

Students will be required to take two 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 half and are not comprehensive.

Note 1: The first exam will be "two hours" of the 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 second exam will be proctored (monitored). The student is responsible to secure an approved proctor. 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:	70 points	7%
Discussion Posts:	140 points	14%
Weekly Reviews:	140 points	14%
Book Review:	200 points	20%
Research Paper:	250 points	25%
Exams:	200 points	20%
Total Possible Score:	1000 points	100%

Grade Appeal Statement: "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 Vice President of Academic Affairs/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."

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

- Week 1:** Due: Intro Wiki, Paper Passage Selection, Discussion Board 1, Reading Review 1,
Read: Strauss - Chapters 1-3, Wiarda - Intro and Section 1
Read/Watch: Lectures 1-4
- Week 2:** Due: Reading Review 2, Discussion Board 2, Exegetical Paper Part 1
Read: Strauss - Chapters 4-6, Wiarda - Section 2
Read/Watch: Lectures 5-8
- Week 3:** Due: Reading Review 3, Discussion Board 3, Exegetical Paper Part 2
Read: Strauss - Chapters 7-9, Wiarda - Section 3
Read/Watch: Lectures 9-12
- Week 4:** Due: Exam 1, Reading Review 4, Discussion Board 4, Exegetical Paper Part 3
Read: Strauss - Chapters 10-12, Wiarda - Section 4
Read/Watch: Lectures 13-14

Week 5: Due: Reading Review 5, Discussion Board 5, Exegetical Paper Part 4
Read: Strauss - Chapters 13-15, Wiarda - Section 5
Read/Watch: Lectures 15-18

Week 6: Due: Reading Review 6, Discussion Board 6, Exegetical Final Parts 1-5
Read: Strauss - Chapters 16-18, Wiarda - Section 6
Read/Watch: Lectures 19-22

Week 7: Due: Reading Review 7, Discussion Board 7, Wiarda Book Review
Read: Strauss - Chapters 18-Conclusion
Read/Watch: Lectures 23-24

Week 8: Due: Exam 2