



Wayland Baptist University Mission Statement

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

MNST 5160 VC 01 – Spiritual Disciplines: The Christian Calendar, Spring 2023

Name of Instructor: Dr. Jacob West, Adjunct Professor

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Office Hours, Building, and Location:

By Appointment

Class Time and Location: Virtual Campus – WBU Blackboard

Catalog Description: Introduction to one or more spiritual disciplines oriented toward the growth of Christian community, practiced within a weekly spiritual formation small group of M.Div. students.

Prerequisite: RLED/RLGN 5354 Spiritual Disciplines and Christian Spirituality

Required Textbook and Resource Material:

1. Robert Webber, *Ancient-Future Time: Forming Spirituality through the Christian Year*, Baker Books, 2004. (ISBN-13: 9780801091759)
2. Bible, any modern translation recognized by mainstream Christianity
3. Internet Equipped Computer
 - a. Must conform to [minimum recommended settings](#) identified by Virtual Campus
 - b. Should use compatible browser and have [correct settings](#) as recommended by Blackboard
 - c. Must utilize WBU [student email account](#) for official university communications
4. WBU Blackboard Course Management Software
 - a. [Blackboard website](#)
 - 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

Access to WBU Learning Resources: Click on link at left entitled "Wayland Library"; Email Distance Librarian Sally Quiroz (lrcref@wbu.edu) about having books mailed to you.

Email: All students will need to set up and use their Wayland student email account.

Course Outcome Competencies: Students will be able to

1. Detail the major seasons on the Christian calendar.
2. Demonstrate an appreciation for the practical implications of the seasons upon the Christian way of life.
3. Reflect on how disciplines of worship, study, celebration, and community interact with the Christian calendar.

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 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 Requirements and Grading Criteria:

1. The course will be composed of reading assignments and corresponding exercises/projects each week as well as interacting with fellow colleagues via Blackboard discussion forums,
2. Participation (80 points) Our interaction will be through Blackboard Discussion Board forums. Discussion Board participation is measured by posting at least three substantial comments per forum—1 response to the week's topic and 2 replies interacting with class colleagues.
3. Weekly Journal/Sermon Sketch/Verbatim (80 points) Throughout the course, students will read assigned articles and course textbook. Students will write **five** journal entries (200 to 350 words) reflecting on the week's assigned readings. Students are asked to reflect on readings in relation to the course theme of corporate spiritual formation. The assigned journal entry should be typed and submitted to the Assignments link in the course site. Students will also produce **two**

sermon sketches on a course topic. Students will also produce **one** verbatim detailing a fellowship opportunity within a group.

Course Evaluation (Method of Determining Grade)

Although this one-hour course is a credit/noncredit class, grading within the class will be based on the following scale: Students will have the opportunity to accumulate up to 200 points during the semester. This is how they can be earned:

Blackboard Discussion Board Participation = 80 points

Weekly writing assignments = 80 points

To receive credit for the class, the student must earn 112 points or higher (70%). No grades will be given except credit or noncredit.

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.

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.”

Course Outline	Reading	Assignment
Week 1 – 1/16-1/20	Webber, Introduction and Ordering Spiritual Life	Journal Entry Discussion Board
Week 2 – 1/23-1/27	Webber, Chapter 2 Advent	Sermon Sketch – John 1:9-18 Discussion Board
Week 3 – 1/30-2/3	Webber, Chapter 3 Christmas	Journal Entry Discussion Board
Week 4 – 2/6-2/10	Webber, Chapter 4 Epiphany	Journal Entry Discussion Board
Week 5 – 2/13-2/17	Webber, Chapter 5 Lent	Sermon Sketch – Psalm 103 Discussion Board
Week 6 – 2/20-2/24	Webber, Chapter 6 The Great Triduum	Journal Entry Discussion Board
Week 7 – 2/27-3/3	Webber, Chapter 7 Easter	Devotional Discussion Board
Week 8 – 3/6-3/10	Webber, Chapter 8 Pentecost	Journal Entry Discussion Board