
# *RLGN 1302/VC05 – New Testament History*

***Spring Term 2018***

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| Hal N. Ostrander, Ph.D. • harold.ostrander@wayland.wbu.edu • 478.278.4066 |

**Course Description**: The background, theological content, and application of the NT.

**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.”

## Outcome Competencies:

Upon completion of this course, you should be able to . . .

* Demonstrate knowledge of the historical, religious, and social context of the New Testament world
* Demonstrate knowledge of some of the critical methods used in New Testament studies
* Demonstrate an understanding of the basic content of the New Testament and its main teachings with respect to theological content
* Demonstrate knowledge of the canonical process producing a more complete understanding of the New Testament

## Requirements & Grading Percentages:

Here's what we will do during this course:

* **Read**the entirety of the New Testament.
* **Read** the posted lecture notes; *major exam questions will come ONLY*

*from the lecture notes – trust me!*

* **React** to an article that discusses the relationship between faith and reason ***(5% of your grade)***.
* **Respond** to questions; discuss them with your fellow students and me via the discussion boards posted *various weeks* ***(10% of your grade)***.

This may not necessarily be YOUR grade!

* **Pass**seven quizzes (by Saturday of each week; see schedule); all questions will come from the *assigned readings in the textbook* prior to the respective quiz (e.g., Quiz #1, *INT* Chapters 1, 2 & 3) ***(10% of your grade)***.
* **Pass**three examinations ***(75% of your grade)***.


## Textbooks:

* Mark Allan Powell, *Introducing the New Testament* (INT)
	+ Your Bible(To be read as assigned)

## Schedule of Due Dates for Readings & Assignments:

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| ***Part One:* The Background of the New Testament Period** |
| **Week #1, Ending****Saturday 3 Mar** | *INT, Chapters 1 & 2* |
| **Week #2, Ending****Saturday 10 Mar** | *INT, Chapter 3 (Quiz #1)* ***Reaction Paper to Faith & Reason*** |
| ***Part Two:* The Gospels & the Life of Christ** |
| **Week #3, Ending****Saturday 24 Mar** | *INT, Chapters 4 & 5* ***Exam #1*** |
| **Week #4, Ending****Saturday 31 Mar** | *INT, Chapter 6 (Quiz #2)* ***Discussion Board #1*** |
| **Week #5, Ending****Saturday 7 Apr** | *INT, Chapter 7 (Quiz #3)* |
| **Week #6, Ending****Saturday 14 Apr** | *INT, Chapter 8 (Quiz #4)*  |
| *Part Three:* The Apostolic Age |
| **Week #7, Ending**Saturday 21 Apr | *INT, Chapters 9, 10, 11 & 12 Discussion Board #2*  *Exam #2*  |
| **Week #8, Ending**Saturday 28 Apr | *INT, Chapters 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 & 18 (Quiz #5)* |
| **Week #9, Ending**Saturday 5 May | *INT, Chapters 19, 20, 21 & 22 (Quiz #6)* |
| **Week #10, Ending**Saturday 12 May | *INT, Chapters 23, 24, 25 & 26 (Quiz #7) Discussion Board #3*  |
| **Week #11, Ending**Saturday 19 May | *INT, Chapters 27, 28 & 29*  *Final Exam* |

## Grading Scale:

The University grading scale prevails for this course and is as follows:

**A**= 90*–*100%; **B**=80*–*89%; **C**=70*–*79%; **D**=60*–*69%; **F**=less than 60%

**Tips for Better Grades:**

Here are a few pointers for earning good grades in this class:

* Do your best to *apply* the subject material to your life situation − in your present or past work conditions, home setting, social experience, or religious situation.

* Keep your focus on the topic. I welcome discussions of moral or ethical issues, but make sure that you give attention to the course subject matter.

* Check your grades online about a week after you complete the assignments. If you don't have a grade, send me an email. This is especially critical as final exam time approaches.
* Keep me posted on absences of a week or more, ideally *before* you are absent.

* Check online **Announcements** regularly; read and act upon all of the announcements.

* Don’t wait until the last minute to submit assignments and/or take tests. Always allow for the possibility of some emergency.

* Please let me know whether you understand the subject matter. Just reading the textbook and lecture notes, doesn’t necessarily mean you really comprehend it. Biblical studies, like economics, biology, criminology, has its own set of technical terms, jargon, and such. When you don’t understand, ask questions, either by email or by posting them on the discussion board. *Maybe others are experiencing the same thing.*

**Very important note:**

The syllabus serves as a starting point for the course and all assignments pertaining to it. The online system known as Blackboard will be the delivery mechanism for the course. In addition, Blackboard will serve as the location for more detailed instructions and further expectations with respect to all course requirements, namely, the reading assignments, papers, quizzes, and exams.

**Academic Honesty:**

“University students are expected to conduct themselves according to the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to penalty includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possession of examinations or examination materials, forgery, or plagiarism. Plagiarism is the presentation of the work of another as one’s own work. It is the student’s responsibility to be familiar with penalties associate with plagiarism.” (WBU Catalog, 2012-2013, p. 91)

**Classroom Conduct:**

“Students who disrupt class will be directed to leave immediately and report to the campus dean,
who will discuss with the student the cause of the disruption. The student will only return to the class with the permission of the campus dean and the faculty member involved.” (WBU Catalog, 2012-2013, p. 92)

**Special Needs:**

“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 participa-tion 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.” (WBU Academic Catalog, 2012-2013, p. 4)

**One last thing** – **you’ll enjoy this class better . . . *if you value:***

* ***Questions*** *more than answers . . .*

* ***Humor*** *more than whatever its opposite is, and . . .*
* ***Hard work*** *with our readings and biblical texts.*

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