



**Virtual Campus
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:

RLGN1302VC04 New Testament History

TERM:

Spring 2 2021

INSTRUCTOR:

Matt Sanders

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Office phone: NA

WBU Email: matthew.sanders@wayland.wbu.edu

Cell phone: 808-366-0121

OFFICE HOURS, BUILDING & LOCATION:

No office hours. By appointment only. Unless it is an emergency, contact me via email first, then text, and finally by telephone. I live in Hawaii. Be mindful of the time difference should you need to call.

COURSE MEETING TIME & LOCATION:

Meeting day & time: Asynchronous. Virtual campus.

CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

New Testament History is an introductory survey of the historical literature with special attention to the background and origins of Christian beliefs and practices, and to the life of Jesus Christ and the early Christian community.

PREREQUISITE:

None

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND RESOURCE MATERIAL:

Lea, Thomas D. *The New Testament: Its Background and Message*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 2003. 2nd edition. ISBN: 0805426329 or 9780805426328

New International Version (NIV) Personal Size Study Bible. Zondervan Bible Staff. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2011. ISBN: 978-0-310-43732-1

OPTIONAL MATERIALS

None

COURSE OUTCOMES AND COMPETENCIES:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of the historical, religious, and social context of the New Testament world.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of some of the critical methods used in New Testament studies.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of the basic content of the New Testament and its main teachings (theological content).
4. Demonstrate knowledge of the canonical process producing a more complete understanding of the New Testament.

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.

Because this is an online course, attendance means to participate in the course activities in a timely manner. Failure to participate in a timely manner could mean that you will be dropped from the course.

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:

Reading reports (10 percent) Keeping up with the reading is very important. Before the end of the week that the reading is assigned, go to the “Content” section on Blackboard and access the appropriate reading report. In the report, indicate the percentage of the reading that you have completed. Reading includes the textbook, other assigned reading, and audio/video files.

Reading quizzes (30 percent) Each week you will complete a quiz for the week’s reading. The quiz will be timed, approximately 1 minute per question. You should complete the reading before taking the quiz. You are allowed to use your book and notes, but there is not enough time to look up every answer.

New Testament reading journal (20 percent) You will make an entry into an online reading journal for each book of the New Testament. The entry is not a summary of what you read, but should be reflective including your opinion, insights, questions, or other thoughts related to the reading. An “A” entry will be well-written with good content and at least 500 words.

Final Exam (40 percent) You will have one final exam. It is a proctored exams. Instructions for using a proctor are available at Wayland’s main website. A summary of these instructions will be posted on Blackboard. Study guides will also be posted.

Grading

The following scale of points will determine your final grade:

A = 90 - 100	Exhibits excellent scholarship, takes initiative in exploring studies, motivates others in cooperative efforts, improves consistently.
B = 80 - 89	Exhibits accurate scholarship, benefits class with achievements, works effectively in groups, improves noticeably.
C = 70 - 79	Completes most assignments, contributes to discussions, exhibits some interest in studies, improves somewhat.
D = 60 - 69	Does not meet most assignments, exhibits indifference to studies, slows the progress of the class, improves unremarkably if at all.
F = 0 - 59	Misses class excessively, detracts from class progress, shows no improvement, fails to do assignments, plagiarizes.

Include 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

Reading is an important part of the learning process. This is even more so in an online course. Reading will provide you greater context for understanding Scripture, raise questions for further study, help you participate in online discussions, help you when reviewing for quizzes, and create a resource for future ministry. Reading assignments might include lecture notes on the topics listed in the text. You should also read the introductions to each New Testament book as assigned. The introductions are found in the NIV Study Bible. You may read and work ahead. The assignments are typically posted Sunday at midnight and due a week later.

B&M – Dr. Lea’s book; NIV – NIV Study Bible

<p>WEEK 1 – March 22-28</p>	<p>Transmission and canonicity Intertestamental period World of the New Testament</p>	<p>B&M: Chap. 1, 2, 3, 4 NIV: Matthew</p>	<p>Reading report, reading quiz, Journal entry 1 on Gospel according to Matthew</p>
<p>WEEK 2 – March 29-April 4</p>	<p>The synoptic problem Overview of the life of Jesus Overview of the Gospels Preincarnation to early ministry of Jesus</p>	<p>B&M: Chap. 5, 6, 7, 8 NIV: Mark</p>	<p>Reading report, reading quiz, Journal entry 2 on the Gospel according to Mark</p>

WEEK 3 – April 5-11	The Galilean ministry The Judean ministry Crucifixion and Resurrection	B&M: Chap. 9, 10, 11 NIV: John	Reading report, reading quiz, Journal entry 3 on the Gospel according to John
WEEK 4 – April 12-18	The birth and growth of the early church	B&M: Chap. 12, 13 NIV Luke-Acts	Reading report, reading quiz, Journal entry 4 on the NIV Gospel according to Luke, Journal entry 5 on the Acts of the Apostles
WEEK 5 – April 19-25	Paul's life, ministry, and letters	B&M: Chap. 14, 15, 16 (to page 402) NIV: Galatians, Romans, 1& 2 Thessalonians	Reading report, reading quiz, Journal entry 7 on Galatians and 1 & 2 Thessalonians, Journal entry 8 on Romans
WEEK 6 – April 26-May 2	Paul's letters (continued)	B&M: Chap. 16 (from page 403), 17 NIV: 1 & 2 Corinthians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, Philemon	Reading report, reading quiz, Journal entry 10 on 1 & 2 Corinthians, Journal entry 11 on Prison Epistles - Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, Philemon

WEEK 7 – May 3-May 9	Paul's pastoral letters General epistles	B&M: Chap. 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23 NIV: 1 & 2 Timothy, Titus, Hebrews, James, 1 & 2 Peter, 1, 2, & 3 John, Jude	Reading report, reading quiz, Journal entry 12 on Pastorals - 1 & 2 Timothy, Titus, Journal entry 13 on General Epistles – Hebrews, James, 1&2 Peter, 1, 2, &3 John, Jude
WEEK 8 – May 10-15		B&M: Chap. 24 NIV: Revelation	Reading report, reading quiz, Journal entry 14 on Revelation Final exam

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

This syllabus is a plan for the course and subject to change. As instructor, I reserve the right to alter the course material to more effectively achieve the course objectives and to alter the course requirements to more accurately assess student progress and performance.