COURSE DESCRIPTION
“This introduction to the field of New Testament studies highlights central New Testament themes, issues, events, and persons” (online course description).

COURSE OBJECTIVES
1. To grow in the knowledge of the content of the New Testament.
2. To learn to read the New Testament in light of its original context. Looking at the “context” of New Testament writings has many facets, including the first century historical and cultural context (both Jewish and Greco-Roman), the historical context that gave rise to a particular document, and the larger biblical, canonical context.
3. To grow in our ability to see the Old Testament background of the New Testament, and to wrestle with the question of how the Old Testament and the New relate to one another.
4. To reflect on certain aspects of New Testament theology, and to see the biblical foundation of key theological concepts such as atonement, justification by faith and union with Christ.
5. To become cognizant of various literary features of the text that affect interpretation, and to learn how to interpret the various New Testament genres.
6. To become familiar with a variety of methods used in New Testament interpretation, including higher critical methods such as source criticism, redaction criticism, etc.
7. To wrestle with several debated issues in New Testament interpretation.

TEXTS
An English Bible such as the ESV or NIV. I highly recommend students get the ESV Study Bible.


COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION
1. Attendance at all class sessions. If a student has an illness or an emergency and cannot attend class, contact the professor immediately. Every hour of unexcused absence will reduce the student’s final grade by one-half of a letter grade.
2. Completion of all assigned reading. All students must read the entire New Testament, all of Carson and Moo, and pertinent chapters from Fee and Stuart (see reading assignments under Course Schedule). Students will be asked on the final exam how much of the reading for the course they have completed. Completing the assigned reading is worth 10% of your final grade. In addition, questions from the reading, including Bible content questions, will be part of each exam.
3. Three exams, each worth 25% of the final grade. These exams will cover material from the lectures and the reading, including Bible content questions that we may not have been covered in class. Each exam is due by the end of the day on the Friday three weeks after our weekend class.
meetings (Feb. 19, March 18, and April 22). Students must identify a proctor and a place to take the exam, and give that information to the instructor well in advance of the exam due date.

4. A final integrative essay, worth 15% of the final grade. This essay will reflect on and integrate the New Testament’s teaching on eschatology (what is the basic eschatological outlook of New Testament writers, how does this outlook inform what they write, how do we understand key New Testament passages in light of this outlook, etc.). This essay will be a maximum of 3000 words (do not go over). This essay should reflect good scholarship. But it is not a scholarly research paper. The essay is due by the end of the day on Friday, April 29.

5. Students must submit all exams and the essay on time. If anything is submitted late, I will deduct one letter grade from that assignment for each day that it is late.

6. Students are welcome to bring computers to class to take notes, make use of Bible software and other uses that are appropriate for in class academic use. Computers may not be used during lecture and discussion times to check email, surf the web, check scores, or anything else that is not related to what is going on in class. We will have frequent breaks and students are welcome to use their computers however they want during the breaks. All students will be asked to sign an internet usage statement at the beginning of the semester.

COURSE SCHEDULE
(Note: All numbers in the assignment section indicate chapters, not pages.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weekend</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Material Covered and Assigned Reading</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1)</td>
<td>January 29-30</td>
<td>General Introduction; Historical Background; Gospels</td>
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<td>Assignment: Matthew-John; CM, 1-6; FS, 1,2,7-8</td>
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<td>2)</td>
<td>February 26-27</td>
<td>Acts and Paul</td>
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<td>Assignment: Acts; Pauline Epistles; CM, 7-18; FS, 3-4, 6</td>
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<td>3)</td>
<td>April 1-2</td>
<td>General Epistles and Revelation</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Assignment: General Epistles; Revelation; CM, 19-26; FS, 13</td>
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Syllabus Addendum

Academic Standards
Cheating and plagiarism are considered serious breaches of personal and academic integrity. Cheating involves, but is not necessarily limited to, the use of unauthorized sources of information during an examination or the submission of the same (or substantially same) work for credit in two or more courses without the knowledge and consent of the instructors. Plagiarism involves the use of another person’s distinctive ideas or words, whether published or unpublished, and representing them as one’s own instead of giving proper credit to the source. Plagiarism can also involve over dependence on other source material for the scope and substance of one’s writing. Such breaches in academic standards often result in a failing grade as well as other corrective measures. For more information, please consult the Student Handbook.

ADA Policy
The seminary complies with the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act. A student with a qualifying and authenticated disability who is in need of accommodations should petition the seminary in accordance with the stated guidelines in the Student Handbook.

Cancellation of Class
In the event the seminary has to cancel a class meeting (impending storm, professor illness, etc.), the Registration Office will send out an email (via the GCTS email account) notification to all students registered in the respective course. If the cancelation occurs the day of the scheduled meeting, the Registration Office will also attempt to contact students via their primary phone contact on record. The professor will contact the students (via GCTS account) regarding make-up. If a weekend class is cancelled, the class will be made up during the scheduled Make-Up weekend (see the academic calendar for the designated dates). For more info, consult your Student Handbook.

Extension Policy
Arrangements for submission of late work at a date on or before the end date for the semester as noted on the seminary’s Academic Calendar are made between the student and professor. Formal petition to the Registration Office is not required in this case. This includes arrangements for the rescheduling of final exams.

However, course work (reading and written) to be submitted after the publicized end date for the semester must be approved by the Registration Office. An extension form, available online, must be submitted to the Registration Office prior to the stated date. Requests received after this date will either be denied or incur additional penalty. For a full discussion of this policy, please consult the Student Handbook.

Grades
Faculty have six weeks from the course work due date to submit a final grade. Grades are posted on-line within twenty-four hours of receipt from the professor. Students are expected to check their CAMS student portal in order to access posted grades (unless instructed otherwise). Those
individuals who need an official grade report issued to a third party should put their request in writing to the Registration Office.

**Returned Work**
Submitted hard-copy course work will be returned to the students if they provide a self-addressed and postage-paid envelope with their final work. Work submitted without the appropriate envelope will be destroyed after the grade has been assessed and issued.

**Virtual Writing Center**
Free assistance in writing papers is available to students through the Virtual Writing Center at Gordon Conwell. The Virtual Writing Center is staffed by Gordon Conwell graduates, or writing tutors with specialized knowledge in writing and/or ESL. Generally, this service is available to students who have completed or are currently enrolled in one of the following three classes:

- CT500 (Introduction to Theological Research)
- CO501 (Introduction to Counseling Research)
- IS502 (Theological Research and Writing)

If you enrolled in GCTS before Fall 2008, you were not required to take one of the three prerequisites above, and you may request access to the Virtual Writing Center. Also, ESL writing tutors are available to ESL students even if they are not currently enrolled in a degree program. If you do not meet one of these qualifications, but feel you would benefit from using the Virtual Writing Center, contact us and we will evaluate your status.

Email [writingcenter@gordonconwell.edu](mailto:writingcenter@gordonconwell.edu) for more information.