“Syllabus”

I. Course Description:

This course is not a thorough study of the New Testament but an introduction that will present a panoramic view of some of the events preceding the world that welcomed God’s written and personal revelation (The Bible and Jesus). Conscious emphasis will be placed on the political, cultural, historical, and socio-economic background of the New Testament writers and their writings. Attention is given to each book with regard to its author, theme, content, purpose, date and place of redaction.

II. Course Objectives:

At the conclusion of the course, the students should acquire a new awareness and familiarity with the world of the first century and the some of the events that shaped it including the geographical, historical and cultural background. Become familiar with the 27 books of the New Testament, their theme, message, content and literary genre. (Article 1 & 2 of GCTS Mission) The knowledge obtained should transform the lives of the participants, bring them into a closer relationship with God, and set them on the right path for contextualized and conceptualized ministry. (Article 6 of GCTS Mission)
III. Course Requirements:

To reach the intended goal, every student must fully attend and actively participate in each session. Students are expected to read in advance any assigned readings and come to class with two or three questions, concerns, and reflections from the reading materials in order to have a short discussion before each lecture. Students should devote adequate amount of time in reading before the beginning of the semester and throughout.

1. Students are expected to read the whole New Testament and write the reaction pages by the second weekend of class.
2. Read D.A. Carson, Moo and Morris, *An Introduction to the New Testament* and write a book report (2-3 pages double space); write 2 pages of reaction after reading the Gospels and Acts; 2 pages of reaction after reading (1 & 2 Thessalonians, Romans, 1 & 2 Corinthians, Galatians) “due on the first weekend of class” (25% of the final grade).
3. Read Fee & Stuart, *How to Read the Bible for All It’s Worth* and write a book report (2-3 pages double space); write 2 pages of reaction after reading the prison epistles (Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, Philemon) and the pastoral epistles (1 Timothy, Titus, 2 Timothy); 2 pages on the general epistles (Hebrew; James; 1 & 2 Peter; 1,2 & 3 John; Jude); and 1 page on Revelation, “due on the second weekend of class” (25% of the final grade)
4. A final exam (true or false, multiple choice, and fill in the blanks) on the content of the New Testament will be administered on the last day of class (30% of the final grade).
5. Complete all the assigned readings by the end of the course (5% of the final grade)
6. Faithful attendance and active participation in class are required from every student (15% of the final grade)
Required Texts:

1. The Holy Bible (Modern version).

“May the Holy Spirit grant us to have a wonderful learning semester and may He pour out His rich and abundant blessings upon all of us, our families, and our ministry.”