

**LIDLAW COLLEGE**  
*Te Wananga Amorangi*

**140.515 New Testament: Introduction**  
**Course Assessment and Delivery Outline**

**Campus:** Auckland  
**Lecturer:** Mark Keown

Semester 2, 2014  
NQF Level: 5, 15 credits

**CONTENT OVERVIEW**

- 1) Introduction to the Course.
- 2) The historical, religious and political setting of the New Testament.
- 3) The Gospels, their relationships and distinctives
- 4) The Kingdom of God (with reference to Mark's Gospel)
  - a) The Presence of the Kingdom
  - b) The Person of the King (Christology)
  - c) The Power of the Kingdom (Miracles)
- 5) The Lifestyle of the Kingdom
  - a) The Parables of the Kingdom
  - b) The Lifestyle of the Kingdom (Ethics and Discipleship)
  - c) The Expansion of the Kingdom (Mission)
- 6) The Kingdom of God
  - a) The Passion of the King
  - b) The Resurrection of the King
  - c) The Consummation of the Kingdom (Return and Consummation)
- 7) Acts 1-8
- 8) Acts 9-28
- 9) Introducing Paul's life, mission and strategy
- 10) Paul's letters (Including Exploration of Two of Paul's Letters)
- 11) The General Epistles of the New Testament (Including Exploration of Two General Epistles)
- 12) Revelation

**ASSESSMENT TASKS AND DUE DATES**

**Summary**

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| 1. Content Quiz: (see below for details)                     | 5%  |
| 2. New Testament Study Mark or Acts (see below for details)  | 25% |
| 3. New Testament Exegetical Activity (see below for details) | 25% |
| 4. Essay (see below for details)                             | 45% |

**LEARNING HOURS (ENGLISH OPTION)**

|                                    |                  |
|------------------------------------|------------------|
| Lectures                           | 36 hours         |
| Content Test                       | 4 hours          |
| New Testament Study:               | 30 hours         |
| New Testament Exegetical Activity: | 30 hours         |
| Essay:                             | 50 hours         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                       | <b>150 hours</b> |

## ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Assessment tasks involve the following:

### 1. Content Quiz

The first assignment is a content test which is done online on Moodle. It is worth 5% of your mark and it tests your knowledge of the NT. You have one go at the quiz but can take as long as you like and can have your bible with you as you do the test. The quiz will have questions on these parts of the NT: Matt 1–7; John; Romans; 1 Corinthians; 2 Corinthians; Ephesians; Philippians; Colossians; 1 Thessalonians; 2 Thessalonians; Philemon; James; 1 Peter; 1 John.

|                    |              |                           |
|--------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
| Due date:          | Exam Week 1: | (Friday 11.55pm, June 12) |
| Weighting:         | 5%           |                           |
| Time allocation:   | 4 hours      |                           |
| Learning outcomes: | 1            |                           |

### 2. New Testament Study: Mark or Acts

The New Testament survey consists of one assignment, **either** a study on **Mark's Gospel** or one on **Acts**. The assignment should take about 30 hours to complete. The assignments are based on your observation of the text and carefully reading four additional readings listed below. Each assignment requires you to write an assignment in which you engage with the questions below. The instructions below outline the steps you need to take as you work through the assignment. The assignment should be 1200 words in length. A model assignment is provided in the course pack.

#### Readings for Mark:

**Note:** *Mark's Gospel is considered by most scholars the first of the Gospels, which Matthew and Luke used as a basis for their later Gospels. Remember this as you go about your work.*

**Reading 1:** The Gospel of Mark in the Bible: When doing biblical studies, reading the bible itself is critical and you should begin with Mark's Gospel. After familiarising yourself with the assignment expectations below, first **read through the Gospel of Mark itself** from start to finish noting things that stand out for your assignment (NIV 2011; NRSV; or ESV recommended).

**Reading 2:** Chapter Five in the Lecture notes, Mark J. Keown, *New Testament Introduction*, Understanding Mark's Gospel, op. 72–102.

**Reading 3:** Chapter Five in David A. DeSilva, *An Introduction to the New Testament: Contexts, Methods & Ministry Formation* (Downers Grove, Ill: IVP Academic, 2004), 194–233.

**Reading 4:** Chapter Four in D. A. Carson & Douglas J. Moo, *An Introduction to the New Testament* (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition; Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1992, 2005), 169–197.

**Reading 5:** Chapter Three in Frank Thielman, *Theology of the New Testament* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2005), 57–83.

#### Readings for Acts:

**Note:** *Acts is part 2 of Luke's two part work, Luke-Acts. As such, students should be aware that scholars often discuss them together. As such, considering both Luke and Acts together can be helpful in understanding Acts. Keep this in mind as you go about your work.*

**Reading 1:** *The Acts of the Apostles in the Bible:* After familiarising yourself with the assignment expectations below, first **read through the Acts of the Apostles itself** from start to finish noting things that stand out for your assignment (NIV 2011; NRSV; or ESV recommended).

**Reading 2:** Pages 119–123 and 338–346 which introduce Luke and then Acts in the Lecture notes, Mark J. Keown, *New Testament Introduction*.

**Reading 3:** Chapter Eight in David A. DeSilva, *An Introduction to the New Testament: Contexts, Methods & Ministry Formation* (Downers Grove, Ill: IVP Academic, 2004), 348–390.

**Reading 4:** Chapter Seven in D. A. Carson & Douglas J. Moo, *An Introduction to the New Testament* (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition; Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1992, 2005), 285–330.

**Reading 5:** Chapter Five in Frank Thielman, *Theology of the New Testament* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2005), 111–149.

## **Instructions**

After reading the readings above, write an assignment of 1200 words covering these areas noting where there are significant differences among scholars:

1. **Setting for Mark/Acts:** Who wrote it? When was it written? From where was it written? Who was it written to? What significant events in the world and Israel were going on at the time that likely affected the writing?
2. **Purpose of Mark/Acts:** Why did the author write Mark/Acts? What is its overall purpose(s)?
3. **Structure of Mark/Acts:** What is the structure of Mark/Acts? How is it arranged to meet the purpose of the author?
4. **Themes of Mark/Acts:** What are the main themes developed in Mark/Acts? What main theological ideas are highlighted?
5. **Distinctive Features of Mark/Acts:** What interesting features do you or scholars note concerning Mark/Acts?
6. **The message of Mark/Acts:** In your own words, summarise the message of Mark.
7. **Reflection:** What have you learned from your study of Mark/Acts? What has challenged you? What do you like about Mark/Acts? What challenges you?

|                    |          |                            |
|--------------------|----------|----------------------------|
| Due dates:         | Week 4:  | (Friday 11.55pm, March 20) |
| Weighting:         | 25%      |                            |
| Time allocation:   | 30 hours |                            |
| Learning outcomes: | 1, 3     |                            |

### **Grading criteria**

- Content (the elements noted above are completed)
- Critical skill
- College requirements met (word count, bibliography, footnotes)
- Quality of writing (spelling, grammar, formatting, skill)

### **3. New Testament Exegetical Activity Galatians 3:1–9**

In this assignment, you are required to explore one passage in some detail: Galatians 3:1–9. The instructions below outline the steps you need to take as you work through the assignment. You are not required to give an in-depth analysis of the passage. Instead you should explain what you believe it means *in its original setting* and then reflect on it from what you have learned. A model assignment is provided in the course pack. 30 hours are assigned to this task.

## **Instructions**

### **1) Analysis**

This section is preparatory. Take notes as you go.

- a. **Read through Galatians 3:1-9:** First, read through the chosen passage in one translation (ESV, NIV 2011, NRSV recommended) pausing to note anything that stands out.
- b. **Read through all of Galatians:** Second, read through Galatians. Remember ancient letters were written with a purpose. Look for the purpose, the “story behind the story” so to speak. Consider how the chosen passage 3:1-9 fits into the overall letter argument and especially the flow of Paul’s argument into that passage and where he goes next.
- c. **Read through Galatians 3:1-9** Again: This time read the passage comparing at least two translations (ESV, NIV 2011, NIV) and with all of Galatians in mind, take notes on what you think Paul is saying to the Galatians and why he might be saying it.
- d. **Set Readings:** Having read through Galatians and the passage closely, read through the three readings listed below. The first (DeSilva) looks at all of Galatians to help you consider the whole letter. The other two look more closely at the text (Fee, McKnight, ADD). Consider how these scholars read and interpret the text. Note the points of difference of opinion. Make notes on what you learn.

## 2) **Writing**

- a. Write your assignment with the following things in mind (1200 words):
- b. Part One: Write 300 words introducing Galatians noting who wrote it and when, to whom it was written, what is the problem the author is dealing with, and the overall argument of the writer in the letter. For this section of the assignment, DeSilva and Keown’s material will be important.
- c. Part Two: In 100 words explain how 3:1-9 fits into the argument of the whole letter (wider context) and the passages immediately before and after (intermediate context).
- d. Part Three: Go through 3:1-9 verse by verse and drawing on your own thinking and the readings, explain what Paul is saying to the Galatians in this passage. This should take 600 words. Fee and McKnight’s commentary sections will be important for this work.
- e. Application: Write a final 200 word application. In this application note how what you have learnt speaks to your own life, ministry, the church, or the world. This can be thoughtfully personal but should still show that you have thought deeply about Galatians 3:1–9 and applied it thoughtfully to life.

## **Required Readings**

- Chapter 24, pages 455–474 in the lecture notes, Mark J. Keown, *New Testament Introduction*.
- Chapter Twelve in David D. DeSilva. *An Introduction to the New Testament: Contexts, Methods & Ministry Formation* (Downers Grove, Ill: IVP Academic, 2004), 493–536.
- Fee, Gordon D. *Galatians*. Pentecostal Commentary Series. Dorset: Dio Publishing, 2007, pages 1–10, 103–17.
- McKnight, McKnight, *Galatians*. The NIV Application Commentary. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1995, pages 135–64.
- Morris, L. *Galatians: Charter of Christian Freedom*. Leicester, Eng.: IVP, 1996, pages 92–102.

Due date:                      Week 8:                      Galatians (Friday 11.55 pm, May 8).  
 Weighting:                      25%  
 Time allocation:              30 hours  
 Learning outcomes:        1, 3

## **Grading criteria**

- Understanding of the background and setting for Galatians
- Understanding of the place of 3:1–9 in the context of Galatians
- Exegesis of Gal 3:1–9
- Engagement with Readings
- Critical Skill

- Adherence to College expectations: The format, footnotes, and bibliography all align with college expectations.

#### 4. Essay

Choose one of the following topics.

1. Using Mark's Gospel as the *primary* point of reference, explain what Jesus meant by the 'Kingdom of God' and especially how it related to the expectations of the day, how his life and ministry fitted into the notion, and suggest implications for Christian life today.
2. Choose one of these Pauline epistles and explain its message with reference to its historical setting and any critical issues important to the study of your chosen letter. Briefly outline lessons that today's church can learn from this epistle. You can choose from one of the following: Ephesians, Philippians, 1 Thessalonians, or Colossians.
3. Explore and explain the nature of Revelation and the different approaches adopted to its interpretation. In summary form, show how your chosen perspective is worked out in the structure of Revelation. Briefly explain the implication your preferred approach might have for our understanding of eschatology?

Detailed instructions for the essay can be found in "Appendix One: Writing a thematic New Testament essay" in your learning guide for this course. An annotated bibliography for the essay can be found below.

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| Due date:          | End of week 12 (Friday, 11.55pm, June 5) |
| Length:            | 2000 words                               |
| Weighting:         | 45%                                      |
| Time allocation:   | 45 hours                                 |
| Learning outcomes: | 1, 2, 3, 4                               |

Grading criteria:

- The topic/questions has been directly addressed: The student has broken down the question or theme and answered it with good argument.
- Critical skill: The student shows an ability to recognise the more important aspects of the theme and recognised different ideas, outline them and weight them.
- Reading and research: The student consults at least five appropriate readings from the given bibliographies.
- Quality of Application: The student applies their learnings appropriately and thoughtfully to today's context.
- Structure: Clear and logical arrangement of ideas; valid conclusions, good argumentation.
- Communication & Presentation: Clarity of writing, correct spelling and grammar; format, footnoting and bibliography as per the college expectations.

#### ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY FOR THE ESSAY

- 1) **Using Mark's Gospel as the primary point of reference, explain what Jesus meant by the 'Kingdom of God', how his life and ministry fitted into the notion, and briefly suggest implications for today.**

#### Helpful Works

Achtemeier, Paul J. et al, *Introducing*, 214-223.

- Beasley-Murray, G. R. *Jesus and the Kingdom of God*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1986.
- Bartholmew, Craig G. & M. W. Goheen, *Finding Our Place in the Biblical Story*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2011, esp. 'Act 4, The Coming of the King: Redemption Accomplished.'
- Black, C. C. 'Mark as Historian of God's Kingdom.' *Catholic Biblical Quarterly* 71.1 (2009), 64-83.
- Caragounis C. C. 'Kingdom of God, Kingdom of Heaven' in Green, J.B. et al. (eds), *The Dictionary of Jesus and the Gospels*, 417-430.
- Chiang, W. S. 'To What Extent Does Jesus' Teaching About the Kingdom of God Provide a Helpful Basis for Christian Socio-Political Thinking Today?' *Evangelical Quarterly* 83.4 (2011), 308–20.
- Drane, J. *Introducing the New Testament*. San Francisco: Harper & Row, 1986,1999, 111-166 (Ch's 6-9).
- Garland, D. *Mark. From Biblical Text... To Contemporary Life*. NIVACS. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1996.
- Garroway, J. 'The Invasion of a Mustard Seed: A Reading of Mark 5:1-20.' *Journal for the Study of the New Testament* 32.1 (2009), 57-75.
- Guy, Laurie. 'The Interplay of the Present and Future in the Kingdom of God (Luke 19:11-44).' *Tyndale Bulletin* 48.1 (1997), 119-137.
- Horsley, Richard A. *Jesus and the Empire: The Kingdom of God and the New World Disorder*. Minneapolis: Fortress, 2003.
- Kangas, Ron. 'The Kingdom of God in the New Testament: A Panoramic View. *Affirmation & Critique*, 14.1 (Spring 2009), 3-14.
- Keown, M. *Lecture Notes*.
- Ladd, G. E. *The Kingdom and the Church in A Theology of the New Testament*. Cambridge: Lutterworth Press, 1974, 115-119.
- Maloney, E.C. *Jesus' Urgent Message for Today: The Kingdom of God in Mark's Gospel*. New York: Continuum, 2004.
- Marshall, C. D. *Kingdom Come*. Auckland: Impetus, 1993.
- Marshall, C. D. 'Kingdom of God', *Reality* 64
- Marshall, I. H. *A Theology of the New Testament. Many Witnesses, One Gospel*. Downers Grove: IVP, 2004.
- Saucy, Mark. 'Miracles and Jesus' Proclamation of the Kingdom of God.' *Bibliotheca Sacra* 153.6 (1996) 281–307.
- Stanton, G., *The Gospels and Jesus*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1989, 203-217 (Ch 12).
- Tillman, William M, Jr (Editor). "The Kingdom of God," *Southwestern Journal of Theology* 40.2 (1998), p 3-98.
- Wenham, D. & S. Walton, *Exploring the New Testament. Volume 1. The Gospel and Acts*. London: SPCK, 2001, 155-186 (Ch 8).
- Wright, N. T. *Mark for Everyone*. London: SPCK, 2001.
- Wright, N. T. 'The Challenge of the Kingdom.' In idem, *The Challenge of Jesus: Rediscovering Who Jesus Was and Is* (Downers Grove: IVP, 1999), 34-53.
- Young, Brad H. *Jesus*, Chapter 5-11, 18 (49-128, 197-205).

**2) Choose one of these Pauline epistles and explain its message with reference to its historical setting and any relevant critical issues. Briefly outline lessons that today's church can learn from this epistle. You can choose from one of the following: Romans, 1 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, 1 Thessalonians, Colossians.**

The first point of reference is THE CHOSEN EPISTLE itself. Your answer should interact dynamically and critically WITH THE TEXT as the primary source. Where you work with the text, consult key commentaries to enhance your work with critical insight.

I also recommend that you consult the article on the chosen epistle from one of these dictionaries:

Hawthorne, G. F. et al (eds.) *Dictionary of Paul and His Letters*. Downers Grove: IVP, 1993.

Martin, R. P. et al (eds). *Dictionary of the later New Testament and its Developments*. Downers Grove: IVP, 1997).

The relevant article in *The Anchor Bible Dictionary*.

Also read the relevant chapter in standard NT Introductions and theologies such as:

Carson, D & D. Moo, *An Introduction the New Testament*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1992, 2005.

Achtemeier, P. & J. B. Green & M. M. Thompson *Introducing the New Testament. Its Literature and Theology*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2001.

Ladd, G. E. *A Theology of the New Testament*. Cambridge: Lutterworth, 1974.

Marshall, I. H. *A Theology of the New Testament. Many Witnesses, One Gospel*. Downers Grove: IVP, 2004.

You should also consult key commentaries or works and especially their *introductions* for the epistle chosen. Here are some helps:

## **Ephesians:**

### **Intro Level**

Foulkes, F. *The Epistle of Paul to Ephesians: An Introduction and Commentary*. TBC. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1989.

Snodgrass, K. *Ephesians. From Biblical Text... To Contemporary Life*. NIVACS. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1996.

Stott, J. *The Message of Ephesians: God's New Society*. BST. Leicester: IVP, 1979.

Wright, N. T. *Paul for Everyone: The Prison Letters: Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians and Philemon*. London: SPCK, 2003.

### **Others**

Best, E. *A Critical and Exegetical Commentary on Ephesians*. ICC. Edinburgh: T&T.Clark, 1998.

Bruce, F. F. *The Epistles to the Colossians, to Philemon, and to the Ephesians*. NICNT. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1984.

Lincoln, A. T. *Ephesians*. WBC 42. Dallas: Word, 1990.

Martin, R. P. *Ephesians, Colossians, and Philemon*. Interpretation. Atlanta: John Knox, 1991.

O'Brien, P. T. *The Letter to the Ephesians*. Pillar NTC. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1999.

## **Philippians:**

### **Intro Level**

- Cousar, Charles B. *Reading Galatians, Philippians, and 1 Thessalonians : A Literary and Theological Commentary*. Reading the New Testament Series. Macon, GA: Smyth & Helwys Publishing, 2001.
- Bockmuehl, M. *The Epistle to the Philippians*. BNTC. Peabody: Hendrickson, 1998.
- Fowl, S. *Philippians*. THNTC. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2005.
- Keown, M. *Congregational Evangelism in Philippians*. Milton Keynes: Paternoster, 2008, Ch2 & conclusion.
- Marshall, I. H. *The Epistle to the Philippians*. Epworth Commentaries. London: Epworth, 1992.
- Martin, R. *The Epistle of Paul to Philippians: An Introduction and Commentary*. TBC. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1987.
- Melick, R. *Philippians, Colossians, Philemon*. NAC. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1991.
- Motyer, A. & D. Prior. *The Message of Philippians. Jesus Our Joy*. BST. Leicester: IVP, 1984.
- Thielman, F. *Philippians. From Biblical Text... To Contemporary Life*. NIVACS. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1995.
- Witherington, B. *Friendship and Finances. The Letter of Paul to the Philippians*. Valley Forge: Trinity, 1994.
- Wright, N. T. *Paul for Everyone: The Prison Letters: Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians and Philemon*. London: SPCK, 2003.

### **Others**

- Fee, G. *Paul's Letter to the Philippians*. NICNT. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1995.
- O'Brien, P. T. *The Epistle to the Philippians: a commentary on the Greek Text*. NICNT. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1991.

## **Colossians:**

### **Intro Level**

- Garland, D. *Colossians, Philemon. From Biblical Text... To Contemporary Life*. NIVACS. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1998.
- Lucas, D. *Fullness and Freedom: The Message of Colossians and Philemon*. BST. Leicester: IVP, 1993.
- Melick, R. *Philippians, Colossians, Philemon*. NAC. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1991.
- Stott, J. *The Message of Ephesians: God's New Society*. BST. Leicester: IVP, 1979.
- Thompson, M. *Colossians & Philemon*. THNTC. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2005.
- Walsh B. and S.C. Keesmaat, *Colossians Remixed: Subverting the Empire*. Downers Grove: IVP, 2004.
- Wright, N. T. *Colossians & Philemon*. TBC. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1986.
- Wright, N. T. *Paul for Everyone: The Prison Letters: Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians and Philemon*. London: SPCK, 2003.



## Others

- Bruce, F. F. *The Epistles to the Colossians, to Philemon, and to the Ephesians*. NICNT. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1984.
- Dunn, J. D. G. *The Epistles to the Colossians and to Philemon: a Commentary on the Greek Text*. NIGTC. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1996.
- Martin, R. P. *Ephesians, Colossians, and Philemon*. Interpretation. Atlanta: John Knox, 1991.
- Moo, D. J. *The Letters to the Colossians and to Philemon*. Pillar New Testament Commentary. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2008.
- O'Brien, P. T. *Colossians, Philemon*. WBC 44. Waco: Word, 1982.

## 1 Thessalonians:

### Intro Level

- Cousar, Charles B. *Reading Galatians, Philippians, and 1 Thessalonians : A Literary and Theological Commentary*. Reading the New Testament Series. Macon, GA: Smyth & Helwys Publishing, 2001.
- Holmes, M. *1 & 2 Thessalonians. From Biblical Text... To Contemporary Life*. NIVACS. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1998.
- Marshall, I. H. *1 and 2 Thessalonians*. NCBC. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1983.
- Martin, D. Michael. *1, 2 Thessalonians*. The New American Commentary. Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 1995.
- Morris, L. *The First and Second Epistles to the Thessalonians*. NIC. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1991.
- Stott, J. *The Message of Thessalonians*. BST. Leicester: IVP, 1991.
- Wright, N. T. *Paul for Everyone: Galatians and Thessalonians*. London: SPCK, 2003.

## Others

- Best, E. *The First and Second Epistles to the Thessalonians*. BNTC. London: Black, 1972.
- Bruce, F. F. *1 and 2 Thessalonians*. WBC 45. Waco: Word, 1982.
- Green, Gene L. *The Letters to the Thessalonians*. The Pillar New Testament Commentary. Grand Rapids, MI; Leicester, England: W.B. Eerdmans Pub.; Apollos, 2002.
- Richard, E. J. *First and Second Thessalonians*. SP 11. Collegeville, Minn.: The Liturgical Press, 1995.
- Wannamaker, C. *The Epistles to the Thessalonians: a commentary on the Greek Text*. NIGTC. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1990.

**3) Explore and explain the nature of Revelation and the different approaches adopted to its interpretation. In summary form, show how your chosen perspective is worked out in the structure of Revelation. Briefly explain the implication of your preferred approach might have for our understanding of eschatology?**

## Some books to Consult

Standard Introductions and Theologies to the NT give good outlines. For example:

Carson, D et al. *An Introduction the New Testament*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1992, 2005.  
Achteemeier, P.J; Green, J.B; Thompson, M.M. *Introducing the New Testament. Its Literature and Theology*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2001.  
Ladd, G.E. *A Theology of the New Testament*. Cambridge: Lutterworth, 1974.  
Marshall, I. H. *A Theology of the New Testament. Many Witnesses, One Gospel*. Downers Grove: IVP, 2004.

## **Standard Commentary Introductions**

### **Intro Level**

Gregg, S. *Revelation, Four views: A Parallel Commentary*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1997.  
Hughes, P. E. *The Book of Revelation: A Commentary*. Leicester: IVP, 1990.  
Keener, C. *Revelation. From Biblical Text... To Contemporary Life*. NIVACS. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2000.  
Morris, L. *The Book of Revelation: An Introduction and Commentary*. TBC. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1987.  
Patterson, L. Paige. *Revelation*. New American Commentary. Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 2012  
Wilcock, M. *Essential Vision: The Message of Revelation*. BST. Leicester: IVP, 1989.

### **Others**

Aune, D. E. *Revelation 1-5*. WBC. Dallas: Word, 1997.  
Aune, D. E. *Revelation 17-22*. Dallas: Word, 1998.  
Aune, D. E. *Revelation 6-16*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1998.  
Beasley-Murray. G. R. *The Book of Revelation*. NCC. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1981.  
Beale, G. K. *The Book of Revelation: A Commentary on the Greek Text*. NIGTC. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1999.  
Boring, M. E. *Revelation*. Interpretation. Louisville: John Knox, 1989.  
Hughes, P. E. Johnson, A.F. *Revelation*. BSC. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1983.  
Ladd, G. E. *A Commentary on the Revelation of John*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1972.  
Michaels, J. R. *Revelation*. Downers Grove (Ill): IVP, 1997.  
Mounce, R. H. *The Book of Revelation*. NICNT. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1977.  
Mounce, R. H. *What Are We Waiting For? A Commentary on Revelation*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1992.  
Reddish, M. G. *Revelation*. Macon (GA): Smyth and Helwys, 2001.  
Strelan, John G. *Where Earth Meets Heaven: A Commentary on Revelation*. Adelaide: Openbook, 1994.  
Trafton, J.L. *Reading Revelation: A Literary and Theological Commentary*. Macon (GA): Smyth & Helwys, 2005  
Wall, R.W. *Revelation*. NIBC. Peabody (MA): Hendrickson, 1991.  
Thomas, R.L. *Revelation 1-7: An Exegetical Commentary*. Chicago: Moody, 1992.  
Thomas, R.L. *Revelation 8-22: An Exegetical Commentary*. Chicago: Moody, 1995.  
Weinrich, W.C. *Revelation*. Downers Grove (Ill): IVP, 2005.

- Giblin, C.H. *The Book of Revelation: The Open Book of Prophecy*. Collegeville (Minn): Liturgical Press, 1991.
- Hindson, E.E. & Couch, M. *The Book of Revelation: Unlocking the Future*. Chattanooga (TN): AMG Publishers, 2002.

### Other Works on Revelation

- Barr, D.L. *Reading the Book of Revelation: A Resource for Students*. Atlanta (GA): SBL, 2003.
- Bauckham, R. *The Theology of the Book of Revelation*. Cambridge: CUP, 1993.
- Bewes, R. *The Lamb Wins! A Guided Tour Through the Book of Revelation*. Fearn: Christian Focus, 2000.
- Eller, V. *The Most Revealing Book of the Bible: Making Sense Out of Revelation*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1974.
- Metzger, B. M. *Breaking the Code: Understanding the Book of Revelation*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1993.
- Ellul, J. *Apocalypse: The Book of Revelation*. New York: Seabury Press, 1977.
- Fleming, D. C. *Bridge Bible Handbooks: Explaining the Books of the Bible for the People of Today's World*. Brisbane: Bridgeway, 1988.
- Gilbertson, M. *God and History in the Book of Revelation: New Testament Studies in Dialogue with Pannenberg and Moltmann*. Cambridge: CUP, 2003.
- Keck, L. *The New Interpreter's Bible: General Articles & Introduction, Commentary & Reflections for Each Book of the Bible Including the Apocryphal/Deuterocanonical Books in Twelve Volumes*. Volume 12. Nashville: Abingdon, 1994-2002.
- Malina, B. J. & Pilch, J. J. *Social Science Commentary on the Book of Revelation*. Minneapolis: Fortress, 2000.
- Michaels, J. R. *Interpreting the Book of Revelation*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1992.
- Pate, C. Marvin. *Four Views on the Book of Revelation*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1998.
- Paul, Ian. *How to Read the Book of Revelation*. Cambridge: Grove, 2003.
- Poythress, V. S. *The Returning King: A Guide to the Book of Revelation*. Phillipsburg (NJ): P&R, 2000.
- Rossing, B. L. *The Rapture Exposed: The Message of Hope in the Book of Revelation*. Boulder (Co): Westview Press, 2004.
- Spilsbury, P. *The Throne, the Lamb and the Dragon: A Readers' Guide to the Book of Revelation*. Downers Grove: IVP, 2002.

### LEARNING HOURS

140.515 is a 15 credit course consisting of 150 learning hours. In this assessment and delivery track the assignment tasks and learning hours are as follows.

| <b>Task</b>                       | <b>Weight</b> | <b>Hours</b>    |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Core class periods (12 x 3 hours) |               | 36 hours        |
| Reading and reflection            |               | 10 hours        |
| Content tests                     | 10%           | 24 hours        |
| New Testament Survey              | 45%           | 45 hours        |
| Essay                             | <u>45%</u>    | <u>35 hours</u> |

Full attendance at class periods is expected. Unsatisfactory attendance (less than 80%) is grounds for failure of the course.

Although this guideline regarding learning hours is not intended to be applied rigidly, it should help ensure a balanced workload.

## COURSE MATERIALS

All students will be provided with access to the New Testament: Introduction course area in Moodle. The resources available there are maintained by Dr Mark Keown.

In addition, students will receive a printed learning guide and some CD-ROMs containing the course reader and some electronic media resources.

## SET TEXT:

DeSilva, David. *An introduction to the New Testament: contexts, methods & ministry formation*. Downers Grove Ill. ; Leicester, England: InterVarsity Press ; Apollos, 2004.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

### Recommended NT Introductions, Theologies and Surveys

*Below are a list of good introductions, theologies and surveys which introduce the NT. They have strengths and weaknesses.*

Carson, D, Moo, D. *An Introduction to the New Testament*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2005.

*This is an excellent resource introducing the core critical issues related to each book in the New Testament. It comes from a conservative point of view, defending apostolic authorship, early dating and has an apologetic historical feel. There is a lack of thematic work such as 'Kingdom of God', 'miracles' etc, the book focusing on introductions to the books of the NT.*

De Silva, David A. *An Introduction to the New Testament: Contexts, Methods and Ministry Formation*. Leicester: IVP, 2004.

*This is an excellent resource which gives a really good introduction to the world of the New Testament in particular, taking a stronger interest in the socio-rhetorical setting for the New Testament. The first few chapters are particularly interesting to help students get a feel for the world in which the New Testament was formed. ADD Theology.*

Elwell, W.A. & R.W. Yarbrough, *Encountering the New Testament. A Historical and Theological Survey*. 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1998, 2005.

*A good resource for the whole NT. It has a great CD with it that gives good maps, photos and videos to help familiarise yourself with the world. It has brief articles on most of the key critical issues in the NT. It lacks depth for degree level work but the articles give the main thing to be aware of.*

Drane, J. *Introducing the New Testament*. San Francisco, CA: Harper & Row, 1999.

*Some would argue that this resource is a little below degree level and they have a point. However, this is a strength in that Drane's work helps students get into the main concepts and teaching of the NT without complication. The book also has a good chapter on important themes which is very helpful e.g. Kingdom of God, Miracles. It is a really good basic book to work with alongside the course notes.*

Johnson, Luke Timothy. *The Writings of the New Testament. An Interpretation.* Minneapolis: Fortress, 1999.

*This book is more complex than some of the others. It has great bibliographies for each section. The first few chapters looking at Judaism and the Greco-Roman world are very good for getting the feel for the NT. There is no real thematic work, it goes book by book. The appendix on the New Approaches to the New Testament is helpful for understanding modern biblical study. Similarly, the appendix on the Historical Jesus is a good summary. It also has a CD.*

Marshall, I. H. *A Theology of the New Testament. Many Witnesses, One Gospel.* Downers Grove: IVP, 2004.

*This book is written by one of the evangelical legends of NT study. It gives us a theological picture of each book. Helpful as a resource.*

Marshall, H; S. Travis  
& I. Paul *Exploring the New Testament. Volume 2. The Letters and Revelation.* London. SPCK, 2002.  
Wenham, D & S. Walton, *Exploring the New Testament. Volume 1. The Gospels and Acts.* London: SPCK, 2001.

#### Recommended Bible Dictionaries

The IVP Dictionary Series is highly recommended. They have great articles concerning most aspects of New Testament study. It is also available electronically through Logos software.

Hawthorne, G.F. *Dictionary of Paul and His Letters.* Downers Grove: IVP, 1993.

Green, JB; S. McKnight  
& I.H. Marshall, *Dictionary of Jesus and the Gospels.* Downers Grove: IVP, 1992.

Martin, R.P. & P.H. Davids, *Dictionary of the Later New Testament and Its Developments.* Downers Grove: IVP, 1997.

Evans, C.A. & S.E. Porter, *Dictionary of the New Testament Background.* Downers Grove: IVP, 2000.

#### Other NT Introductions, Theologies and Surveys

*These are good works in their own right but have not been included in the recommended section as they tend to be older, more concerned for detailed critical issues and/or more broad theologically. This should not stop students consulting them as they give different viewpoints which enrich our thinking.*

Achtemeier, P.J; Green,  
J.B & Thompson, M.M. *Introducing the New Testament. Its Literature and Theology.* Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2001. *(Quite a good read, not as conservative or as thorough as Carson and Moo, good to get a grasp of issues)*

Barnett, Paul *Bethlehem to Patmos: The New Testament Story.* London: Hodder & Stoughton, 1989. *(Basic, not a true intro, more telling the story, not strong on critical issues at all, a good background read)*

- Brown, R. *An Introduction to the New Testament*. New York: Doubleday, 1997. (Critical, extensive, not conservative but thorough [Brown is a Catholic], no themes)
- Freed, Edwin D. *The New Testament. A Critical Introduction*. London: SCM Press, 1986, 1991. (Liberal, critical but in-depth)
- Guthrie, D. *New Testament Introduction*. Leicester: IVP, 1990. (Conservative; Extensive, non-thematic, thorough, becoming dated, strong grasp of basic older critical issues in particular)
- Gromacki, Robert G. *New Testament Survey*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1974. (Conservative, old, basic, solid)
- Stott, J & S. Motyer, *The Story of the New Testament. Men with a Message*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1951, 1994, 2001. (Very Basic Intro)
- Varughese, A. Ed. *Discovering the New Testament. Community and Faith*. Kansas City: Beacon Hill Press, 2005. (Very basic and general)

#### Other Works of Note for this Course

- Marshall, Chris D. *Kingdom Come*. Auckland: Impetus, 1993. (Excellent introduction to the idea of the Kingdom of God. Lacks the futuristic dimension)

#### Electronic Resources

There are a huge range of electronic biblical study resources coming on the market.

For Mac users there is Accordance 8 which has a wide range of biblical resources including original languages and lexical aids. See <http://www.accordancebible.com/>.

For PC uses there is Logos Bible Software (Libronix) which similarly has a wide range of biblical resources including biblical languages, lexical aids, dictionaries and commentaries. See <http://www.logos.com/> or <http://logos.co.nz/> or the Bible Society of NZ (<http://biblesociety.org.nz/>).