

LIDLAW COLLEGE

Te Wananga Amorangi

143.715 New Testament: Gospel of John Course Assessment and Delivery Outline

CDL/Bishopdale Theological College
Tutor: Richard Drury

Semester 1, 2015
NQF Level: 7 15 credits

1. COURSE OVERVIEW

The current state of Johannine studies.

- b) John and the Synoptics.
- c) Authorship, purpose and audience.
- d) Themes and structure of the Gospel.
- e) Literary and rhetorical features of John.
- f) Johannine Theology.
- g) Exegesis of the English (or Greek) text of selected portions of John
- h) Hermeneutical issues arising from a study of the Gospel.

ASSESSMENT – ENGLISH OPTION

1. John survey: 'Temple Moments'

Trace the 'Temple Moments' through the Gospel and explain how these relate to the structure of the Gospel. Illustrate your discussion with a time-line, graph, or chart.

- **Weight: 15% of course grade**
- **Length: 1500 words**
- **Due date:** Sunday end of semester week 4, 11.55pm
- L/O 2, 3

2. Exegetical Essay

You are required to write an exegetical essay on ONE of the passages listed below:

- John 5:1-18.
- John 6:1-21
- John 10:1-21
- John 12:9-26
- John 15:1-18

Students should include in their essays some reflection upon the significance of the chosen passage for Christian life and ministry today.

- **Weight: 45% of course grade**
- **Length: 2500 words**
- **Due date:** Sunday end of semester week 8, 11.55pm
- L/O 2, 3

3. Thematic Essay

The thematic essay is an exercise in the identification and exploration of a distinctive Johannine motif or theme as reflected in the Gospel of John. The essay will be selected from the questions below:

1. How do the accounts and descriptions of various ‘signs’ contribute to the presentation of the gospel in the Gospel of John? After consideration of the terminology of ‘*semeion*’ in John, and their place within the overall structure of the Gospel, the essay should identify one passage describing such a ‘sign’ and explore it as a case study of the theological significance of such ‘signs’. This passage should not overlap with the passage treated in the exegetical essay.
2. What is the significance of ‘abiding’ in the Gospel of John? What might the relevance of such a theme be in the context of Jesus’ ministry to his disciples, to believers at the time of the writing the Gospel of John, and followers of Christ today?
3. What range of senses are reflected in how the Gospel of John refers to the ‘world’? What is God’s attitude to the ‘world’ (in its various senses), and what is the place of believers in relation to the ‘world’?
4. Most of the action in John takes place in Jerusalem and in particular around the temple. Discuss the significance of the temple in John, and Jesus’ relationship with the temple. In what sense does Jesus replace the temple in John?

- **Weight: 40% of course grade**
- **Length: 2500 words**
- **Due date:** Sunday end of exam week 1, 11.55pm
- L/O 1, 2, 4, 5

GRADING CRITERIA - ENGLISH OPTION

John Survey

- Demonstrated understanding of a major theme in relation to the structure of John’s Gospel, and a familiarity with the Gospel as a whole
- Clear portrayal of the literary structure, theological themes and purpose of the Fourth Gospel

Exegetical Essay

- Utilisation of appropriate tools and resources (commentaries and other academic studies of John’s Gospel) consistent with exegesis at level 7
- Clarity and depth of critical analysis
- Demonstration of advanced exegetical competence in handling the text
- Coherence, development and presentation of argument
- Communication and Presentation: Clarity, format, spelling, grammar; annotation and bibliography.

Thematic Essay

- Utilisation of appropriate tools and resources (commentaries and other academic studies of John’s Gospel) consistent with research at level 7
- Clarity and depth of analysis to an advanced level.

- Demonstration of critical theological analysis and synthesis
- Coherence, development and presentation of argument
- Communication and Presentation: Clarity, format, spelling, grammar; annotation and bibliography.

LEARNING HOURS – ENGLISH OPTION

Attendance:

A minimum of 80% attendance at scheduled classes is required for successful completion of the course.

Tutorials:	24 hours
Reading:	21 hours
Survey:	20 hours
Exegetical Essay:	45 hours
Thematic Essay:	40 hours
TOTAL	150 hours

ASSESSMENT – GREEK OPTION

1. Translation and structural analysis of John

Students are required to attend weekly Greek reading tutorials during August and September. Students are required to write a *critical translation* of THREE selected passages of the Gospel of John. This translation should include footnotes, explaining the choices *where it is needed* and where there are textual variants and *issues*. The translation should be prepared for a general English speaking competent reader in today's NZ context. This can be done in conjunction with tutorials reading through the text of these chapters through the semester. The student will also be required to prepare a *structural analysis and translation* of ONE of these passages, and a '*dynamic equivalent*' translation of ONE OTHER of the passages. The passages to be worked with will be notified to the students prior to the start of the semester.

- **Weight: 20% of course grade**
- **Length: 3 passages**
- **Due dates:** Sunday end of weeks 3, 6, 9, 11.55pm
- L/O 4

2. Exegetical Essay

You are required to write an exegetical essay on ONE of the passages listed below:

- John 5:1-18.
- John 6:1-21
- John 10:1-21
- John 12:9-26
- John 15:1-18

Students should include in their essays some reflection upon the significance of the chosen passage for Christian life and ministry today.

- **Weight: 40% of course grade**
- **Length: 2500 words**
- **Due date:** Sunday end of semester week 8, 11.55pm

- L/O 1, 3, 4

3. Thematic Essay

The thematic essay is an exercise in the identification and exploration of a distinctive Johannine motif or theme as reflected in the Gospel of John. The essay will be selected from the questions below:

1. How do the accounts and descriptions of various ‘signs’ contribute to the presentation of the gospel in the Gospel of John? After consideration of the terminology of ‘*semeion*’ in John, and their place within the overall structure of the Gospel, the essay should identify one passage describing such a ‘sign’ and explore it as a case study of the theological significance of such ‘signs’. This passage should not overlap with the passage treated in the exegetical essay.
2. What is the significance of ‘abiding’ in the Gospel of John? What might the relevance of such a theme be in the context of Jesus’ ministry to his disciples, to believers at the time of the writing the Gospel of John, and followers of Christ today?
3. What range of senses are reflected in how the Gospel of John refers to the ‘world’? What is God’s attitude to the ‘world’ (in its various senses), and what is the place of believers in relation to the ‘world’?
4. [*Greek exegesis students only*] Most of the action in John takes place in Jerusalem and in particular around the temple. Discuss the significance of the temple in John, and Jesus’ relationship with the temple. In what sense does Jesus replace the temple in John?

- **Weight: 40% of course grade**
- **Length: 2500 words**
- **Due date:** Sunday end of exam week 1, 11.55pm
- L/O 1, 2, 4, 5

GRADING CRITERIA – GREEK OPTION

Translation exercise

- *Accurate Translation:* That the translation is true to the Greek text USB 4th Edition.
- *Critical Notes:* That the translation is well supported with notes.
- *Contemporary Appropriateness:* That the translation reads well for English speakers in NZ today.
- *Textual Variants:* That note is made of the major textual variants and the reasons for the choices made (see especially Metzger, *A Textual Commentary*).
- *Structural analysis:* That the analysis recognises the syntactical markers and connectors that shape the direction and form of the unit as a whole
- *Dynamic equivalence:* That the translation reflects a greater awareness of ‘thought for thought’ equivalence, including (where appropriate) some equivalent colloquial phrases.

Exegetical Essay

- Utilisation of appropriate tools and resources (commentaries and other academic studies of John's Gospel) consistent with exegesis at level 7
- Clarity and depth of critical analysis
- Demonstration of advanced exegetical competence in handling the text
- Coherence, development and presentation of argument
- Communication and Presentation: Clarity, format, spelling, grammar; annotation and bibliography.

Thematic Essay

- Utilisation of appropriate tools and resources (commentaries and other academic studies of John's Gospel) consistent with research at level 7
- Clarity and depth of analysis to an advanced level.
- Demonstration of critical theological analysis and synthesis
- Coherence, development and presentation of argument
- Communication and Presentation: Clarity, format, spelling, grammar; annotation and bibliography.

LEARNING HOURS - GREEK OPTION

Attendance:

A minimum of 80% attendance at scheduled lectures and Greek translation classes is required for successful completion of the course.

Tutorials:	24 hours
Greek tutorials:	10 hours
Reading:	21 hours
Greek Translations	10
Exegetical Essay:	45 hours
Thematic Essay:	40 hours
TOTAL	150 hours

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Text Book:

The primary textbook for this subject is the Gospel of John itself. Students should read the text through at one sitting during the first week of study, and continue to immerse themselves in the text by studying in detail the portions allocated for each Week.

.

The following commentaries are highly recommended:

Brown, Raymond E *The Gospel according to John: introduction, translation and notes* 2 Vols. Garden City: Anchor 2nd ed 1981

Burge, G. M. *John* (NIVAC). Zondervan, 2000

Carson, D.A. *The Gospel According to John*. Leicester: IVP, 1991

Keener, Craig S., *The Gospel of John: A Commentary*. 2 Vols. Peabody: Hendrickson, 2003

- Köstenberger, Andreas J, *John*. BECNT. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2004
- Kruse, C.G. *The Gospel According to John*. Leicester: IVP, 2003.
- Malina, Bruce & Richard Rohrbaugh. *Social-Science Commentary on the Gospel of John*. Fortress, 1998.
- Michaels, J Ramsey, *The Gospel of John*. NICNT. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2010
- Moloney, Francis J. *The Gospel of John*. Sacra Pagina 4. Liturgical Press, 1998
- Morris, Leon, *The Gospel of John*. NICNT. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1971
- Whitacre, R. A. *John*. NTC. InterVarsity, 1999
- Witherington, Ben, III. *John's Wisdom*. Westminster/John Knox, 1996.
- Other studies:**
- Ashton, John (ed.), *The Interpretation of John* Edinburgh, 2nd ed 1997
- Bauckham, Richard, *Testimony of the Beloved Disciple, The: Narrative, History, and Theology in the Gospel of John*. Baker Academic, 2007
- Bauckham, Richard and Carl Mosser (eds), *The Gospel of John and Christian Theology*. Eerdmans, 2008
- Bauckham, Richard (ed.), *The Gospels for All Christians: Rethinking the Gospel Audiences* Grand Rapids: Eerdmans 1998.
- Beirne, Margaret M. *Women and Men in the Fourth Gospel: A Genuine Discipleship of Equals* JSNTS 242 New York 2003
- Carter, Warren, *John: Storyteller, Interpreter, Evangelist*. Hendrickson, 2006
- Carter, Warren, *John and Empire: Initial Explorations*. T. & T. Clark, 2008
- Culpepper, R Alan, *Anatomy of the Fourth Gospel: A Study in Literary Design*. Fortress, 1983.
- Culpepper, R Alan, *Exploring the Gospel of John*. Westminster John Knox Press, 1996
- Culpepper, R. Alan, ed. *The Johannine Literature*. Sheffield New Testament Guides. Sheffield Academic Press, 2000
- Kysar, Robert. *John, the Maverick Gospel*. Rev. ed. Westminster John Knox, 1993.
- Martyn, J. Louis. *History & Theology in the Fourth Gospel*. Rev. ed. Abingdon, 1979.
- Pryor, John W, *John: Evangelist of the Covenant People: The Narrative and Themes of the Fourth Gospel* Downers Grove: IVP, 1992
- Fortna, Robert T., and Tom Thatcher (eds.), *Jesus in Johannine Tradition* (Louisville 2001).

- Fortna, Robert T., *The Gospel of Signs: A Reconstruction of the Narrative Source Underlying the Fourth Gospel* SNTSMS 11 Cambridge: CUP, 1970)
- Hoskins, Paul M. *Jesus as the Fulfillment of the Temple in the Gospel of John*. Paternoster Biblical Monographs. Milton Keynes: Paternoster, 2006.
- Kerr, R. Alan. *The Temple of Jesus' Body: The Temple Theme in the Gospel of John*. JSNTSS 84. London: Sheffield Academic Press, 2002.
- Segovia, Fernando F., ed. "What is John?" Vol. I: *Readers and Readings of the Fourth Gospel*. Scholars Press, 1996.
- Segovia, Fernando F., ed. "What is John?" Vol. II: *Literary and Social Reading of the Fourth Gospel*. Press, 1998.
- Smalley, Stephen C, *John: Evangelist and Interpreter*. Downers Grove: IVP, 1998
- Smith, D. Moody. *John among the Gospels: The Relationship in Twentieth Century Research*. Fortress, 1992.
- Smith, D. Moody. *The Theology of the Gospel of John*. Cambridge University Press, 1995.
- Talbert, Charles H. *Reading John: A Literary and Theological Commentary on the Fourth Gospel and the Johannine Epistles*. Crossroad, 1992.
- Thatcher, Tom, *Why John WROTE a Gospel: Jesus—Memory—History*. Louisville 2006
- Thompson, Marianne Meye, *The God of the Gospel of John* Grand Rapids 2001.
- Tovey, Derek, *Narrative Art and Act in the Fourth Gospel* JSNTSup, 151. Continuum, 1997
- Tovey, Derek, *Jesus, Story of God: John's Story of Jesus*. ATF, 2007
- Vanier, Jean, *Drawn into the Mystery of Jesus through the Gospel of John*. John Garrett, 2004
- Wallace, Daniel B., 'The Gospel of John: Introduction, Argument, Outline', available online at <http://bible.org/seriespage/gospel-john-introduction-argument-outline>
- Winter, Sara C. 'Little Flags: The Scope and Reconstruction of the Signs Gospel' in Fortna/Thatcher, *Jesus* 219-35