



NT 501 NEW TESTAMENT FOUNDATIONS (3 CREDIT HOURS) FALL 2006

DR PAUL SPILSBURY

CONTACT INFORMATION

Office: Room 735
Office Phone: (403) 410-2939 extension 6905
Email Address: pspilsbury@auc-nuc.ca

CLASS TIMES AND LOCATION

Class Times: Wednesdays 1:00–3:45
Class Location: Room 643

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The New Testament is a compendium of the earliest Christian writings. These writings give us vital insight into the life and thought of the first followers of Jesus while at the same time forming the basis of much subsequent Christian theology, spirituality and practice. This course lays the foundation for the study of the New Testament including its nature and origins, context, content, interpretation, and application.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- To introduce students to the world of the first Christians, including Second Temple Judaism and the wider Greco–Roman world.
- To provide a basic knowledge of the origins and content of each of the New Testament writings in the context of early Christianity.
- To give an introduction to the canonization of the New Testament documents.
- To explore ways for appropriating the message of New Testament for theology and practice today.

COURSE SCHEDULE (Subject to Change)

#	Date		Subject	Reading
1a.	September	6	Introduction to the Course	
b.			What is the New Testament?	<i>INT</i> , chapter 1
2a.		13	The World of the New Testament	<i>INT</i> , chapter 2
b.			—continued	
3a.		20	The Gospels	<i>INT</i> , chapter 3
b.			—continued	
4a.		27	Matthew	<i>INT</i> , chapter 4
b.			Mark	<i>INT</i> , chapter 5
5a.	October	4	Luke	<i>INT</i> , chapter 6
b.			—continued	
6a.		11	John	<i>INT</i> , chapter 7
b.			—continued	
7a.		18	The Historical Jesus	<i>INT</i> , chapter 8
b.			—continued	
		25	<i>No Class—Missions Emphasis</i>	
8a.	November	1	Acts	<i>INT</i> , chapter 9
b.			—continued	
9a.		8	Paul	<i>INT</i> , chapters 10 and 11
b.			—continued	<i>INT</i> , chapters, 12–19
10a.		15	—continued	
b.			—continued	
11a.		22	Hebrews	<i>INT</i> , chapter 20
b.			James	<i>INT</i> , chapter 21
12a.		29	Petrine Epistles	<i>INT</i> , chapter 22
b.			—continued	
13a.	December	6	Johannine Epistles	<i>INT</i> , chapter 23
b.			Revelation	<i>INT</i> , chapter 24
14a.		13	Canonization of the New Testament	<i>INT</i> , chapter 25
b.			—continued	
15a.	Exam Week		Final Exam	
b.			—continued	

REQUIRED TEXTS

Achtemeier, Paul J., Joel B. Green, and Marianne Meye Thompson, *Introducing the New Testament: Its Literature and Theology (INT)*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2001.

Klein, William W., Craig L. Blomberg, and Robert L. Hubbard. *Introduction to Biblical Interpretation (IBI)*. Revised and Updated. Dallas: Word, 1993.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Reading and Reflection: **Due: 18th Oct and 13th Dec**
 - a. Read the relevant portion of the New Testament in preparation for each class period as indicated in the Course Schedule above.
 - b. Read the relevant chapters of *INT* in preparation for each class period as indicated in the Course Schedule above.
 - c. Write a 2-page (double-spaced) reflection for each week's reading. These reflections should interact with one or two critical issues raised by the reading.

2. Review Essay: **15th Nov**
Read all of *IBI* (excluding chapters 8 and 9), and write a 12-page (double-spaced) review essay.

A review essay is a critical interaction with the major contributions of the book. It is not simply a description of the book's contents. Rather, it engages in a 'conversation' with the book's authors by drawing out the major themes of the book, critiquing its strengths and weaknesses, and discussing ways in which the ideas and affirmations in the book might be applied in contemporary contexts. To ensure that your conversation is well informed, you should consult a wide range of other sources as well, including journal and encyclopaedia articles and monographs.

3. Final Exam: **Exam Week**
The final exam will be based on the entire semester's work, including lectures, class discussions and all reading. It is an essay-type exam lasting 3 hours.

GRADE DISTRIBUTION

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|---------------------------|------|
| 1. Reading and Reflection | 20 % |
| 2. Interpretation Paper | 40 % |
| 3. Final Exam | 40 % |

GRADING SCALE

<i>Letter Grade</i>	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>	<i>Grade Points</i>
A+	90 and higher		4.00
A	85-89	Excellent	4.00
A-	80-84		3.70
B+	77-79		3.30

B	73-76	Good	3.00
B-	70-72		2.70
C+	67-69		2.30
C	63-66	Satisfactory	2.00
C-	60-62		1.70
D+	55-59	Poor	1.30
D	50-54	Minimal Pass	1.00
F	49 and lower	Failure	0.00

IMPORTANT NOTES

- It is the responsibility of all students to become familiar with and adhere to all academic policies as they are stated in the Student Handbook and Academic Calendar.
- Last day to enter course without permission and/or voluntarily withdraw from course without financial penalty: **15 September, 2006.**
- Last day to voluntarily withdraw from course or change to audit without academic penalty: **15 November, 2006.**
- Last day to request alternative exam: **1 December.**
- All written assignments for this class are to be submitted as Word attachments to the instructor's e-mail address.
- Assignments are due before the beginning of class on the date specified.
- Extensions beyond the published due dates will be allowed only in exceptional circumstances.
- If you feel you qualify for an extension, you must make a request to the instructor **in writing** via e-mail.
- Assignments submitted late without permission will be penalized by 5% per day, or part thereof.
- All written work must adhere strictly to the "Style Guide" below.
- All written assignments must be proof-read by a second reader (Don't just rely on your computer's spell-checker). This person's name should be included on the title-page of each assignment.
- The seminary maintains a zero tolerance policy on plagiarism and academic dishonesty. Plagiarism and academic dishonesty can result in a failing grade for an assignment, for the course, or immediate dismissal from the seminary. Even unintentional plagiarism is to be avoided. Students are expected to be familiar with the policy statements in the current academic calendar and the student handbook that deal with plagiarism, academic dishonesty (cheating), and the penalties and procedures for dealing with these matters. All cases of academic dishonesty are reported to the Academic Dean.
- Personal information, that is information about an individual that may be used to identify that individual, may be collected as part of taking this class. Any information collected will only be used and disclosed for the purpose for which the collection was intended. For further information contact the Privacy Compliance Officer at privacy@auc-nuc.ca.

Style Guide

This *Style Guide* is designed as a quick reference tool to help with some of the technical details involved in citing sources in bibliographies and footnotes in written assignments. Only the most common types of sources are covered here. Students who need more detailed or complex guidance are directed to the *SBL Handbook of Style for Ancient Near Eastern, Biblical, and Early Christian Studies* (Hendrickson, 1999), which is available in our library.

In the following examples:

1. The first entry shows how the work should be cited in the first footnote referring to that work.
2. The second entry shows how the work should be referred to in all subsequent footnotes.
3. The third entry shows how the work should appear in the bibliography.

1. A BOOK BY A SINGLE AUTHOR

¹² Paul Spilsbury, *The Throne, the Lamb, and the Dragon: A Reader's Guide to the Book of Revelation* (Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2002), 101.

¹⁵ Spilsbury, *The Throne*, 99.

Spilsbury, Paul. *The Throne, the Lamb, and the Dragon: A Reader's Guide to the Book of Revelation*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2002.

2. A BOOK BY TWO OR THREE AUTHORS

² Christopher T. Begg and Paul Spilsbury, *Flavius Josephus, Judean Antiquities 8–10* (Leiden: Brill, 2005), 237.

¹⁷ Begg and Spilsbury, *Judean Antiquities 8–10*, 23.

Begg, Christopher T., and Paul Spilsbury. *Flavius Josephus, Judean Antiquities 8–10*. Leiden: Brill, 2005.

3. A BOOK IN A SERIES

⁴ Paul Spilsbury, *The Image of the Jew in Flavius Josephus' Paraphrase of the Bible* (TSAJ 69; Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 1998), 136.

¹⁸ Spilsbury, *Image*, 136.

Spilsbury, Paul. *The Image of the Jew in Flavius Josephus' Paraphrase of the Bible*.
Texte und Studien zum Antiken Judentum 69; Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 1998.

4. A JOURNAL ARTICLE

²¹ Kyle Jantzen, "Propaganda, Perseverance and Protest: Strategies for clerical survival amid the German Church Struggle," *CH* 70 (2001): 295-327.

³⁷ Jantzen, "Propaganda," 321.

Jantzen, Kyle. "Propaganda, Perseverance and Protest: Strategies for clerical survival amid the German Church Struggle," *Church History: Studies in Christianity and Culture* 70 (2001): 295-327.

5. AN ARTICLE IN AN EDITED VOLUME

⁶ Kenneth L. Draper, "Redemptive Homes—Redeeming Choices: Saving the Social in Late-Victorian London, Ontario," in *Households of Faith: Family, Gender, and Community in Canada, 1760–1969* (ed. N. Christie; Montreal and Kingston: McGill/Queen's University Press, 2002), 177.

¹⁷ Draper, "Redemptive Homes," 203.

Draper, Kenneth L. "Redemptive Homes—Redeeming Choices: Saving the Social in Late-Victorian London, Ontario." Pages 201–221 in *Households of Faith: Family, Gender, and Community in Canada, 1760–1969*. Edited by N. Christie. Montreal and Kingston: McGill/Queen's University Press, 2002.

6. AN ARTICLE IN AN ENCYCLOPAEDIA OR A DICTIONARY

²¹ P. Spilsbury, "Messiah," *JHTC* 2:528.

³⁷ Spilsbury, "Messiah," 2:530.

Spilsbury, P. "Messiah." Pages 615-616 in vol. 2 of *Jesus in History, Thought and Culture: An Encyclopaedia*. Edited by L. Houlden. 2 vols. Oxford: ABC-CLIO, 2003.

7. A BOOK REVIEW

² Bernie A. Van De Walle, review of H.A. Harris, *Fundamentalism and Evangelicals*, *JETS* 44 (2001): 357.

⁷ Van De Walle, review of Harris, 358.

Van De Walle, Bernie A. Review of H.A. Harris, *Fundamentalism and Evangelicals*, *Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society* 44 (2001): 357-59.

8. AN INTERNET PUBLICATION

³² Andy Reimer, "Healing: Biblical Basis and Procedure," n.p. [cited 5 January 2004]. Online: http://online.cbccts.ca/alliancestudies/reimer/r/_healing.html.

³⁵ Reimer, "Healing."

Reimer, Andy. "Healing: Biblical Basis and Procedure." No pages. Cited 5 January 2004. Online: http://online.cbccts.ca/alliancestudies/reimer/r/_healing.html.

FURTHER INFORMATION

- Note that details of punctuation, indentation and italicization are part of the proper citation of sources. They should be exactly as indicated above.
- The standard font for all written work is Times New Roman, 12 point. This includes the title page.
- All written work should be double-spaced.
- Page margins should be: top and bottom: 1", left and right 1.25".
- Your paper should have a title page which looks like this:

<p>"Assignment Title" Course Name (Number) Instructor's Name Date Submitted</p> <p>Your name Your Box number</p>

- Page numbering should start on the first page of text (not the title page), and should be in the top right hand corner.
- Use footnotes rather than endnotes.