COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE INFORMATION

Format: 16 weeks
Course ID: BIBL 1203
Course Title: Sacred Scripture (New Testament)
College: Steelman Library
Prerequisites: None
Credit Hours: 3

Instructor: See the online course in MyFIRE for instructor contact information and availability.

Course Description

This course studies the images and themes of the New Testament as revealed literature, which has been the single most fruitful source for knowledge of things human and divine. It focuses on the Bible's historical, moral, and theological significance through careful reading and a literary and theological methodology.

Intended Learning Outcomes

As a result of reading, study, and assessments in this course, the student should be able to give:

- Describe the life of Christ and His historical impact on early Christianity.
- Identify and evaluate critical methods used in New Testament analysis.
- Summarize the Apostle Paul's journeys and their significance.
- Analyze the history and development of the early Church.
- Examine key themes in major New Testament books and their theological importance.

SOUTHEASTERN POLICIES

Academic Policies

View this link to see Southeastern's Policies regarding SEU's Mission and Vision Statements, Title IX Statement, Student Services, Class Participation, Official Email, MyFIRE Use, Technical Difficulties, Technical Support, Disability Statement, Academic Honesty, Course Evaluation, Official Withdrawal, Grading Scale, and Netiquette.

Late Work

Late Assignments will not be accepted. Students who request an extension must do so AT LEAST 48 HOURS BEFORE THE ASSIGNMENT is due. Extensions will be granted at the instructor's discretion.

Assessments

This course is completed in an assessment based style in which students will select an essay from the provided prompts and submit artifacts of learning to demonstrate mastery of the intended learning outcomes at a college level. These assessments will be graded by your college professors and feedback provided to justify the grade assigned to each assessment.

Assessment 1 | Due Date: Tuesday of Week 3 at 11:59pm EST | 100 total points

Assessment 1 demonstrates competency of the following course intended learning outcomes:

- **ILO #1:** Describe the life of Christ and His historical impact on early Christianity.
- **ILO #2:** Identify and evaluate critical methods used in New Testament analysis.

In this assignment, you will choose one of the provided essay prompts to write a **1,000-word analytical essay** on selected passages from the New Testament. This essay invites you to explore the life of Christ and early Christian context through a critical lens, applying the interpretive methods discussed in class. Your analysis should demonstrate a clear grasp of the text, thoughtful engagement with the prompt, and strong argumentation supported by textual evidence. Be sure to use cited references to the text and any relevant course resources to back up your insights.

Essay Prompts (choose one):

1. **The Historical Jesus:** Analyze a specific event or teaching from the life of Christ as portrayed in one of the Gospels. How does this event reflect the socio-political and

religious context of the time? Discuss how modern historical-critical methods help us better understand the significance of this event in early Christianity.

2. **Gospel Narratives as Literary Portraits:** Compare two Gospel accounts of a major event in Christ's life (e.g., the Sermon on the Mount, the Last Supper). How do each author's choices in structure, emphasis, and details shape the portrayal of Jesus' character and mission? Apply literary-critical analysis to explain differences and their theological implications.

Assignment Guidelines:

Format:

- Choose either APA (American Psychological Association), MLA (Modern Language Association), or Turabian format for your paper.
- Ensure proper formatting for the title page, headers, margins, font size, and citations according to the chosen style.

Word Limit:

- The paper should be approximately 1000 words in length, excluding the title page and bibliography.
- Presentations should be approximately 8-10 minutes in length for recorded presentations.
- Slide deck presentations should be approximately 20-25 pages in length with a good balance of visuals and text.

Citations:

- Include a minimum of 3 citations from 1-3 external sources to support your essay.
- Provide in-text citations whenever you use information or ideas from external sources.
- Include a bibliography or works cited page at the end of the paper, listing all the sources used in your research.
- Follow the citation style (APA, MLA, or Turabian) consistently throughout the paper.

**Remember to consult the specific requirements outlined by your instructor and adhere to the chosen citation style diligently throughout the paper.*

Assessment 2 | Due Date: Tuesday of Week 5 at 11:59pm EST | 100 total points

Assessment 2 demonstrates competency of the following course intended learning outcomes:

- ILO #3: Summarize the Apostle Paul's journeys and their significance.
- ILO #4: Analyze the history and development of the early Church.

In this assignment, you will choose one of the provided essay prompts to write a 1,000-word analytical essay focusing on themes of early Christian mission and Church formation. This essay allows you to explore key events, figures, and theological developments within the New Testament, particularly related to Paul's missionary work and the growth of the early Church. Your analysis should demonstrate an understanding of the historical context and its influence on early Christian communities, with cited references from primary texts and relevant course materials.

Essay Prompts (choose one):

1. **Paul's Missionary Journeys and Their Impact:** Analyze the significance of one of Paul's major missionary journeys (e.g., his journey to Corinth or Ephesus). How did Paul's message address the social, religious, and cultural challenges of the communities he visited? Discuss the long-term impact of this journey on the spread of Christianity.
2. **Early Church Growth and Conflict:** Examine an early conflict or doctrinal debate within the Church (such as the Jerusalem Council or tensions between Jewish and Gentile believers). How did this event shape the structure and beliefs of early Christian communities? Analyze how these developments contributed to the Church's overall growth and unity.

Assignment Guidelines:

Format:

- Choose either APA (American Psychological Association), MLA (Modern Language Association), or Turabian format for your paper.
- Ensure proper formatting for the title page, headers, margins, font size, and citations according to the chosen style.

Word Limit:

- The paper should be approximately 1000 words in length, excluding the title page and bibliography.
- Presentations should be approximately 8-10 minutes in length for recorded presentations.
- Slide deck presentations should be approximately 20-25 pages in length with a good balance of visuals and text.

Citations:

- Include a minimum of 3 citations from 1-3 external sources to support your essay.
- Provide in-text citations whenever you use information or ideas from external sources.
- Include a bibliography or works cited page at the end of the paper, listing all the sources used in your research.
- Follow the citation style (APA, MLA, or Turabian) consistently throughout the paper.

**Remember to consult the specific requirements outlined by your instructor and adhere to the chosen citation style diligently throughout the paper.*

Assessment 3 | Due Date: Tuesday of Week 7 at 11:59pm EST | 100 total points

Assessment 3 demonstrates competency of the following course intended learning outcome:

- ILO #5: Examine key themes in major New Testament books and their theological importance.

In this assignment, you will write a 1,000-word analytical essay focusing on a central theme from one of the New Testament books. This essay allows you to explore theological concepts and their significance within the context of the New Testament canon. Your analysis should demonstrate a thorough understanding of the selected theme and its implications for Christian thought and practice, with supporting evidence from the primary text and relevant secondary materials.

Essay Prompts (choose one):

1. **The Theme of Faith in the Book of Romans:** Examine Paul's portrayal of faith in Romans, discussing how he defines it, its role in salvation, and its significance for both Jews and Gentiles. How does Paul's theological emphasis on faith shape Christian understanding of righteousness and grace?
2. **The Role of Suffering in 1 Peter:** Analyze the theme of suffering in 1 Peter and its connection to Christian identity and hope. How does the author encourage believers to view suffering, and what theological reasons are provided for enduring hardship?

Assignment Guidelines:

Format:

- Choose either APA (American Psychological Association), MLA (Modern Language Association), or Turabian format for your paper.

- Ensure proper formatting for the title page, headers, margins, font size, and citations according to the chosen style.

Word Limit:

- The paper should be approximately 1000 words in length, excluding the title page and bibliography.
- Presentations should be approximately 8-10 minutes in length for recorded presentations.
- Slide deck presentations should be approximately 20-25 pages in length with a good balance of visuals and text.

Citations:

- Include a minimum of 3 citations from 1-3 external sources to support your essay.
- Provide in-text citations whenever you use information or ideas from external sources.
- Include a bibliography or works cited page at the end of the paper, listing all the sources used in your research.
- Follow the citation style (APA, MLA, or Turabian) consistently throughout the paper.

**Remember to consult the specific requirements outlined by your instructor and adhere to the chosen citation style diligently throughout the paper.*

GRADES AND QUALITY POINTS

The following scale of letter grades is used in recording a student's academic progress:

Explanation	Grade	Explanation	Points Range	Quality Points
Outstanding (90-100)	A	Superior performance in all aspects of the course with work exemplifying the highest quality-Unquestionably prepared for subsequent courses in field.	94-100 %	4.0

	A-	Superior performance in most aspects of the course; high quality work in the remainder-Unquestionably prepared for subsequent courses in field.	90-93%	3.67
Above Average (80-89)	B+	High quality performance in all or most aspects of the course-Very good chance of success in subsequent courses in field.	87-89%	3.33
	B	High quality performance in some of the course; satisfactory performance in the remainder-Good chance of success in subsequent courses in field.	84-86%	3.0
	B-	Satisfactory performance in the course-Evidence of sufficient learning to succeed in subsequent courses in field.	80-83%	2.67
Average (70-79)	C+	Satisfactory performance in most of the course, with the remainder being somewhat substandard-Evidence of sufficient learning to succeed in subsequent courses in field with effort.	77-79%	2.33
	C	Evidence of some learning but generally marginal performance-Marginal chance of success in subsequent courses in field.	74-76%	2.0
	C-	Minimal learning and substandard performance throughout the	70-73%	1.67

		course-Doubtful chance of success in subsequent courses.		
Below Average (60-69)	D+	Minimal learning and low quality performance throughout the course-Doubtful chance of success in subsequent courses.	67-69%	1.33
	D	Very minimal learning and very low quality performance in all aspects of the course-Highly doubtful chance of success in subsequent courses in field.	64-66%	1.0
	D-	Little evidence of learning-Poor performance in all aspects of the course-Almost totally unprepared for subsequent courses in field.	60-63%	.67
No Credit (0-59)	F	Failure to meet requirements of the course-Unprepared for subsequent courses in field.	0-59%	0.0
No Credit	W	Course Withdrawal		N/A
No Credit	WF	Administrative Withdrawal		N/A
No Credit	WD	College Withdrawal		N/A
No Credit	I	Incomplete		N/A

Credit	P	Pass	N/A
No Credit	S	Satisfactory	N/A
Credit	CR	Credit	N/A
No Credit	NC	No Credit	N/A
No Credit	IP	In Progress	N/A