



# INDIANAPOLIS THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

BI 614

## JOHANNINE THEOLOGY

Spring 2018

Tuesdays 7–10pm; Feb 6<sup>th</sup>–May 1<sup>st</sup>

Castlevew Church

8601 Hague Road, Indpls 46256

2 credits

### **Professor Information**

Nicholas G. Piotrowski, Ph.D.

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317.966.1990

Office hours by appointment

### **Course Information**

BT 614      Johannine Theology      2 credits

A detailed study of the writings of the Apostle John: The Gospel of John and 1 John–Revelation. Focus will be on introductory material, salient literary features, theology, canonical contribution, and contemporary debates.

### **Course Objectives**

By the end of the course, the student should be able to:

1. Understand the contours of recent Johannine scholarship and various critical methods.
2. Situate the Johannine writings within their original socio-historical contexts.
3. Employ various theoretical methods to interpreting the Johannine writings.
4. Demonstrate a holistic comprehension of the structures and theologies of the Johannine texts.
5. Articulate the role that one passage in the Johannine corpus plays in developing the structure and theology of its book as a whole.
6. Reflect on the contemporary application of a scholarly study of Johannine theology.

## Course Outcomes

Within the ITS Learning Outcomes, this course contributes to shaping students' aptitude in:

### Hermeneutics & Biblical Theology

proficient at reading and interpreting biblical Hebrew and Greek, appreciating the rhetorical functions of the biblical books in their original social contexts, comprehending the contours of redemptive history within a covenantal framework, and possessing a very high biblical literacy and trenchant understanding of the gospel.

### Practical Integration

able to powerfully articulate the gospel both in conversation and preaching, skilled at clear written and oral communication, understanding the central role of the local church in missions and evangelism, effective at personal discipleship, and committed to the sufficiency of scripture.

### Spiritual Transformation

continually growing in Christ-likeness and bringing forth the fruits of the Spirit, having been transformed by the gospel, and living by grace, applying the gospel to all of life.

## Teaching Method

This course is premised on the conviction that the Bible is the inspired word of God and contains everything necessary for life and salvation. In part, that means it contains a consistent, cogent and practical worldview that, when believed and obeyed, is able to conform sinners into the image of Christ who are then equipped to lead the church, engage subversive cultural trends, and confront the vanity of unbelief. Thus, close-reading and careful attention to the texts as well as the historical settings in which they were written are imperative, as is careful and deliberate reflection on contemporary life.

The bulk of class time will be spent reviewing current scholarly debates, and giving attention to the primary texts. As a Master's level course, students are also responsible for their own learning through reading, research and writing. Punctual attendance at every class meeting is expected. Classroom technologies are to be used in ways that contribute to the learning process. Bring your Bible to every class.

## Course Readings:

### Required:

Bauckham, Richard. *The Theology of the Book of Revelation*. New Testament Theology. Cambridge/New York: Cambridge University Press, 1993.

Beale, G. K. *A New Testament Biblical Theology: The Unfolding of the Old Testament in the New*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2011. \*[No need to purchase; professor will provide pdf of necessary chapters.]\*

Blomberg, Craig L. *The Historical Reliability of the Gospels*. 2d ed. Downers Grove: IVP Academic, 2007. \*[No need to purchase; professor will provide pdf of necessary chapter.]\*

Brown, Jeannine K. "Creation's Renewal in the Gospel of John." *Catholic Biblical Quarterly* 72.2 (2010): 275–290. \*[No need to purchase; professor will provide pdf.]\*

- Dumbrell, William J. *The End of the Beginning: Revelation 21–22 and the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1985; repr. Eugene, Oregon: Wipf and Stock, 2001.
- Enz, Jacob J. “The Book of Exodus as a Literary Type for the Gospel of John.” *Journal of Biblical Literature* 76.3 (1957): 208–215. \*[No need to purchase; professor will provide pdf.]\*
- Kruger, Michael J., ed. *A Biblical-Theological Introduction to the New Testament: The Gospel Realized*. Wheaton: Crossway, 2016.
- Ladd, George Eldon, *A Theology of the New Testament*. Revised Edition. Edited by Donald A. Hagner. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1993, 2000.

## Course Assignments

### Reading:

For every chapter/article assigned (**see the schedule below**) the student is to answer the following questions:

- What question is the author trying to answer/problem trying to solve?
- What is the thesis of the chapter/article?
- What is the most significant data/evidence to make this case?
- What are the theological & practical results/consequences?

Each question will require no more than 5 sentences to answer (though some, like Blomberg, could require more). They will be graded on how well the answer evinces the student’s understanding of the reading and careful reflection. Due throughout the semester (**see the schedule below**).

25% of the final grade. [Objectives 1, 2, 3, 6]‡

### Paper:

Each student will write an 8–10 page paper detailing the role that one Johannine passage plays in the literary and theological development of its larger book context. Sufficient space should be given to considering any pertinent historical and redemptive-historical contextual issues. One page should also be given to reflections on how the passage would be preached today. Passage to be chosen and approved by the professor before Spring Break. Due **May 15<sup>th</sup>**.

30% of the final grade. [Objectives 3, 4, 5, 6]

### Final Exam:

On **May 1<sup>st</sup>** students will take an exam covering the cumulative content of the course. Questions will come from the in-class lessons and the readings. Part of the final will involve reproducing from memory the outlines provided in class of John and Revelation (alternative outlines can be used if approved by the professor).

30% of the final grade. [Objectives 1, 2, 4, 6]

### Reading Report:

Students are to read the entirety of John, Revelation and the Johannine Epistles *during* the semester. At the end of the semester each student will report how much he/she has read *during* the semester. This report is to be emailed to the professor no later than **May 15<sup>th</sup>**.

15% of the final grade. [Objectives 2, 3]

‡Greek Students:

See the professor for translation assignments that can substitute for *some* reading questions.”

**Course Schedule**

| <b>Class:</b> | <b>Date:</b> | <b>Topic:</b>   |   | <b>2° Reading:</b>                  | <b>Assignment:</b>                  |
|---------------|--------------|---|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1             | Feb 6        | Syllabus<br>Introduction to<br>Johannine<br>Scholarship | 1. Syllabus<br>2. Hist of Joh.<br>scholarhip<br>3. Author,<br>Dates, &<br>Backgrounds | Kruger 4<br>Blomberg 5<br>Ladd 17   |                                     |
| 2             | Feb 13       | Gospel of John  | 1. Outline<br>2. 1:1–18<br>3. 1:19–51   | Beale 19<br>Brown<br>Enz            | Kruger 4<br>Blomberg 5<br>Ladd 17   |
|               | Feb 20       | No class  |   |                                     |                                     |
| 3             | Feb 27       | Gospel of John  | 1. Chs. 2–4<br>2. Chs. 5–6<br>3. Chs. 7–10  | Ladd 18–20                          | Beale 19<br>Brown<br>Enz            |
| 4             | Mar 6        | Gospel of John  | 1. Chs. 11–12<br>2. Chs. 13–16<br>3. Ch. 17   | Ladd 21–23                          | Ladd 18–20                          |
| 5             | Mar 13       | Gospel of John  | 1. Chs. 18–19<br>2. Ch. 20<br>3. Ch. 21   | Kruger 23<br>Ladd 44                | Ladd 21–23                          |
| 6             | Mar 20       | 1, 2, 3, John   | 1. Outlines<br>2. 1 John<br>3. 2 & 3 John   | Kruger 25<br>Beale 11<br>Bauckham 1 | Kruger 23<br>Ladd 44                |
|               | Mar 27       | No class—Spring Break                                   |   |                                     |                                     |
| 7             | Apr 3        | Revelation  | 1. Outline<br>2. Ch. 1<br>3. Chs. 2–3   | Ladd 45<br>Bauckham 2–4             | Kruger 25<br>Beale 11<br>Bauckham 1 |
| 8             | Apr 10       | Revelation  | 1. Chs. 4–7<br>2. Chs. 8–11<br>3. Chs. 12–14  | Bauckham 5–7<br>Dumbrell 1–2        | Ladd 45<br>Bauckham 2–4             |
| 9             | Apr 17       | Revelation  | 1. Chs. 15–16<br>2. Chs. 17–19<br>3. Chs. 20–22                                       | Dumbrell 3–5                        | Bauckham 5–7<br>Dumbrell 1–2        |
|               | Apr 24       | No class—study for the Final Exam                       |   |                                     | Dumbrell 3–5                        |
| 10            | May 1        | FINAL EXAM  |   |                                     |                                     |

## Grading Scale

|        |         |        |    |            |      |
|--------|---------|--------|----|------------|------|
| Letter | Percent | Points | C  | 74–76      | 2.00 |
| A      | 96–100  | 4.00   | C- | 71–73      | 1.67 |
| A-     | 92–95   | 3.67   | D+ | 69–70      | 1.33 |
| B+     | 88–91   | 3.33   | D  | 67–68      | 1.00 |
| B      | 84–87   | 3.00   | D- | 65–66      | 0.66 |
| B-     | 80–83   | 2.67   | F  | < 65       | 0.00 |
| C+     | 77–79   | 2.33   | I  | Incomplete | 0.00 |

## Course Policies

Attendance in class is absolutely critical for learning the necessary material. Students are, therefore, expected to attend every class session, including colloquia. ITS understands, however, that unexpected and unavoidable emergencies do occur in the course of study. Two absences in one course will not result in a lower grade. Three or four absences, however, will result in lowering the student's grade by one letter. Five absences will result in an automatic F.

Incompletes can be granted at the professor's discretion based on the likelihood that the student can complete the necessary coursework with no more than one month of extra time, and given that the student is currently passing the course at the time of the request. The regular attendance policy still applies. Students are, therefore, encouraged to withdraw if more than four classes will need to be missed.

Plagiarism and cheating will be grounds for an immediate F in any given course. A second occurrence will result in expulsion from the school.

## Bibliography

The following bibliography is representative of entrées into big-picture issues (trying not to list multiple works covering the same ground) and commentaries/studies that the professor has found the most helpful.

† This mark denotes reference works the professor recommends students purchase for their own personal libraries.

### INTRODUCTION TO NEW TESTAMENT SCHOLARSHIP (HISTORY AND METHODS)

Bauckham, Richard, ed. *The Gospels for All Christians: Rethinking the Gospel Audiences*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1998.

Black, David Alan and David S. Dockery, editors. *Interpreting the New Testament: Essays on Methods and Issues*. Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 2001.

Carson, D. A. *Exegetical Fallacies*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1996.

† \_\_\_\_\_. *New Testament Commentary Survey*. 5<sup>th</sup> ed. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2001.

† Carson, D. A. and Douglas J. Moo. *An Introduction to the New Testament*. 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2005.

† Currid, John D. and David P. Barrett. *Crossway ESV Bible Atlas*. Wheaton: Crossway, 2010.

Fee, Gordon D. *New Testament Exegesis: A Handbook for Students and Pastors*. 3<sup>rd</sup> edition. Louisville: WJK, 2002.

- †Hagner, Donald A. *New Testament Exegesis and Research: A Guide for Seminarians*. Pasadena: Fuller Seminary Press, 1999.
- Keener, Craig S. *The Historical Jesus of the Gospels*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2009, 2012.
- Licona, Michael R. *Why Are There Differences in the Gospels?: What We Can Learn from Ancient Biography*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2017.
- Metzger, Bruce M. *The Text of the New Testament: Its Transmission, Corruption, and Restoration*. 4<sup>th</sup> edition. Bart D. Ehrman edited. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2005.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *The Canon of the New Testament: Its Origin, Development, and Significance*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1987.
- McKnight, Scot and Grant R. Osborne. *The Face of New Testament Studies: A Survey of Recent Research*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2004.
- Neil, Stephen and N. T. Wright. *Interpretation of the New Testament 1861-1986*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1988.
- Pennington, Jonathan T. *Reading the Gospels Wisely: A Narrative and Theological Introduction*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2012.
- Perrin, Nicholas. *Lost in Transmission?: What We Can Know About the Words of Jesus*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 2007.
- Powell, Mark Allan. *Jesus as a Figure in History: How Modern Historians View the Man from Galilee*. 2d ed. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2013.
- Strimple, Robert B. *The Modern Search for the Real Jesus: An Introductory Survey of the Historical Roots of Gospels Criticism*. Phillipsburg: P&R, 1995.
- Wenham, J. W. *Christ and the Bible*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1994.
- Witherington, Ben III. *The Jesus Quest: The Third Search for the Jew of Nazareth*. New exp. ed. Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 1997.

## HISTORICAL CONTEXTS

- Bailey, Kenneth E. *Jesus Through Middle Eastern Eyes: Cultural Studies in the Gospels*. Downers Grove: IVP Academic, 2008.
- Barnett, P. *Jesus and the Rise of Early Christianity: A History of New Testament Times*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 2002.
- Evans, Craig A. *Noncanonical Writings and New Testament Interpretation*. Peabody, Mass.: Hendrickson, 1992.
- †Evans, C. A., and S. E. Porter, eds. *Dictionary of New Testament Background: A Compendium of Contemporary Biblical Scholarship*. Downers Grove, Ill.: InterVarsity, 2000.
- †Ferguson, Everett. *Background of Early Christianity*. 3<sup>rd</sup> edition. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2003.
- Hurtado, Larry W. *Destroyer of Gods: Early Christian Distinctiveness in the Roman World*. Waco: Baylor University Press, 2016.
- Nickelsburg, G. *Jewish Literature Between the Bible and the Mishnah. A Historical and Literary Introduction*. Philadelphia: Fortress, 1981.
- Piotrowski, Nicholas G. "The Concept of Exile in Late Second Temple Judaism: A Review of Recent Scholarship." *Currents in Biblical Research* 15.2 (2017).
- Vanderkam, James C. *The Dead Sea Scrolls Today*. 2d ed. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2010.
- Wright, N. T. *The New Testament and the People of God*. Minneapolis: Fortress, 1992.

## GOSPELS

- Bauckham, Richard. *Jesus and the Eyewitnesses: The Gospels as Eyewitness Testimony*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2006.
- Blomberg, Craig L. *Jesus and the Gospels: An Introduction and Survey*. Nashville: B&H, 1997.

†Green, Joel B., Jeannine K. Brown, and Nicholas Perrin, eds. *Dictionary of Jesus and the Gospels: A Compendium of Contemporary Biblical Scholarship*. Downers Grove: IVP Academic, 2013.  
 Hays, Richard B. *Echoes of Scripture in the Gospels*. Waco: Baylor University Press, 2016.  
 Ladd, George Eldon. *The Gospel of the Kingdom: Scriptural Studies in the Kingdom of God*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1959, 1990.  
 \_\_\_\_\_. *The Presence of the Future: The Eschatology of Biblical Realism*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1974, 1996. Originally *Jesus and the Kingdom* (New York: Harper and Row, 1964).  
 Perrin, Nicholas. *Jesus the Temple*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2010.  
 Moo, Douglas J. *The Old Testament in the Gospel Passion Narratives*. Sheffield: Almond, 1983.  
 Wright, N. T. *Jesus and the Victory of God*. Minneapolis: Fortress, 1996.

## JOHANNINE THEOLOGY

Köstenberger, Andreas J. *A Theology of John's Gospel and Letters: The Word, the Christ, the Son of God*. Biblical Theology of the New Testament. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2009.

## JOHN

Bauckham, Richard. *Gospel of Glory: Major Themes in Johannine Theology*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2015.  
 Blomberg, Craig L. *The Historical Reliability of John's Gospel: Issues & Commentary*. Downers Grove: IVP Academic, 2001, 2011.  
 Carson, D. A. *The Gospel According to John*. Pillar New Testament Commentary. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans/Cambridge: Apollos, 1991.  
 Culpepper, R. A. *Anatomy of the Fourth Gospel: A Study in Literary Design*. Philadelphia: Fortress, 1983.  
 Ridderbos, Herman. *The Gospel of John: A Theological Commentary*. Translated by John Vriend. Grand Rapids/Cambridge: Eerdmans, 1997.

## 1, 2, 3 JOHN

Candlish, Robert. *1 John*. Geneva Series of Commentaries. Edinburgh: Banner of Truth, 1994.  
 Jobes, Karen H. *1, 2, & 3 John*. Zondervan Exegetical Commentary on the New Testament. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2014.  
 O'Donnell, Douglas Sean. *1–3 John*. Reformed Expository Commentary. Wheaton: Crossway, 2015.

## REVELATION

Alexander, T. Desmond. *From Eden to the New Jerusalem: An Introduction to Biblical Theology*. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2008.  
 Bauckham, R. *The Climax of Prophecy: Studies on the Book of Revelation*. Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark, 1993.  
 Beale, G. K. *The Book of Revelation*. New International Greek Testament Commentary. Grand Rapids/Cambridge: Eerdmans/Carlisle: Paternoster, 1999.  
 \_\_\_\_\_, with David Campbell. *Revelation: A Shorter Commentary*. Grand Rapids/Cambridge: Eerdmans, 2015.  
 †Clouse, Robert G., ed. *The Meaning of the Millennium: Four Views*. Downers Grove: IVP, 1977.  
 Hendriksen, William. *More than Conquerors: An Interpretation of the Book of Revelation*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1940, 1967, 2015.

## NEW TESTAMENT & BIBLICAL THEOLOGY

- †Alexander, T. Desmond, et al. *New Dictionary of Biblical Theology*. Downers Grove: IVP Academic, 2000.
- Balla, P. *Challenges to New Testament Theology: An Attempt to Justify the Enterprise*. WUNT 2/95. Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 1997.
- †Beale, G. K., and D. A. Carson, eds. *Commentary on the New Testament Use of the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2007.
- Caird, G. B. and L. D. Hurst. *New Testament Theology*. Oxford: Clarendon, 1994.
- Goldsworthy, Graeme. *Gospel-Centered Hermeneutics: Foundations and Principles of Evangelical Biblical Interpretation*. Downers Grove: IVP Academic, 2006.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Christ-Centered Biblical Theology: Hermeneutical Foundations and Principles*. Downers Grove: IVP Academic, 2012.
- Ridderbos, Herman N. *Redemptive History and the New Testament Scriptures*. 2d ed. Phillipsburg: Presbyterian and Reformed, 1988.
- Schreiner, Thomas R. *New Testament Theology: Magnifying God in Christ*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2008.

## GREEK

- NA28. (Nestle-Aland. *Novum Testamentum Graece*. 28<sup>th</sup> edition. Stuttgart: Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft, 2012.)
- UBS5. (*The Greek New Testament*. 5<sup>th</sup> edition. New York: United Bible Society, 2015.)
- BDAG. (Danker, Frederick William, revised and edited. *A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature*, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2000).
- Campbell, Constantine R. *Basics of Verbal Aspect in Biblical Greek*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2008.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Advances in the Study of Greek: New Insights for Reading the New Testament*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2015.
- Metzger, Bruce M. *A Textual Commentary of the Greek New Testament*. 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. New York: United Bible Societies, 1994.
- Moule, C. F. D. *An Idiom Book of New Testament Greek*. 2nd edition. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1959.
- Trenchard, Warren C. *Complete Vocabulary Guide to the Greek New Testament*. Rev. Ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1998.
- †Wallace, Daniel B. *Greek Grammar Beyond the Basic: An Exegetical Syntax of the New Testament*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1996.
- Zerwick, Max and Mary Grosvenor. *A Grammatical Analysis of the Greek New Testament*. 5<sup>th</sup> rev. ed. Chicago: Loyola Press, 1996.
- Accordance 11*. “Original Languages Collection” (\$299) or higher. *Accordance* charges a lot more for additional texts (especially in their original languages) but includes other important study tools.
- BibleWorks 10*. (\$389) *BibleWorks* is a much better value if your goal is to work with original languages and texts.