

Dakota College at Bottineau
Course Syllabus

Course Prefix/Number/Title:

RELS230 Introduction to New Testament (3 credits)

Course Description:

This course introduces the historical development of the literature of the New Testament and the social world of the earliest Christians. It also examines the texts of the New Testament in the social, political, and religious context of the Roman Empire. The texts are read critically as historical documents to investigate issues of central concern to the understanding of the origins of Christianity.

Course Objectives:

By the end of the course, the student will:

- Demonstrate knowledge of the historical, religious, and social context of the New Testament world.
- Demonstrate knowledge of some of the critical methods used in New Testament studies. Demonstrate an understanding of the basic content of the New Testament and its main teachings (theological content).
- Demonstrate knowledge of the canonical process and a more complete understanding of the New Testament.

Instructor:

Rev. Deborah J. Burger-Peery MDiv.

Office Hours:

Instructor will check course daily, Monday-Friday, excluding weekends and holidays.

Email:

Use course email. The instructor checks course email once a day, Monday-Friday, excluding weekends and holidays and will respond within 24 hours. However, if a message is sent on Friday afternoon, a response should not be expected until Monday. Please plan accordingly.

Lecture/Lab Schedule:

Students will view weekly lectures and videos online. This course is designed to run from Wednesday to Wednesday.

Textbooks:

1. *Anatomy of the New Testament*, 6th Ed., Spivey, Smith & Black.
ISBN: 0131907039
2. *Bible*. NASB Version. (Students may use a version if a Bible is previously owned. However, if a Bible is needed, the bookstore has the NASB version in stock.)

Course Requirements:

Syllabus Quiz. Due to the rapid pace of the class, it is important students understand expectations the first week of class. The syllabus outlines these expectations. To ensure students understand the syllabus, an untimed syllabus quiz will be available the first week of class. (25 pts.)

Weekly Readings and Content. Each week consists of course notes and objectives. It is followed by chapter readings in the textbook and/or Bible.

Weekly Videos. Each week consists of a video(s) that must be viewed.

Weekly Activities. Each week consists of a quiz that covers the chapter readings. The quizzes are multiple-choice, timed at 45 minutes, and can be taken only once. (20 pts each)

Exam. A two-hour exam is available at the end of the course. (200 pts.)

Final Report. A final report is due on the last Wednesday by noon. Each student must choose one significant event of a New Testament account. Every paper must be at least three pages of text to include: 1) Title Page, 2) Historical Background, 3) Body, 4) Practical Significance, 5) Conclusion, and 6) Bibliography. The title page and bibliography are not included in the three page requirement. More in-depth instructions are given the first week of class. (200 pts.)

Grades. Grades will be calculated by dividing total points earned by the total points possible and will be based on the following percentages:

A = 90 - 100%

B = 80 – 89%

C = 70 – 79%

D = 60 – 69%

F = 0 – 59%

Assignment	Points Possible
Syllabus Quiz	25 pts
Weekly Reviews (13 @ 20 pts ea)	260 pts
Final Exam	200 pts
Final Report	200 pts
Total Points Possible	685 pts

Tentative Course Outline

Week 1: Jan. 14 - 21

Syllabus Quiz
Instructions for Final Report
Introduction of Students

Read Chapter 1
View Video #1
Quiz Chapter 1

Week 2: Jan. 21-28

Class Discussion Chapter 1
Read Chapter 2
View Video #2
Quiz Chapter 2

Week 3: Jan 28 – Feb 4

Class Discussion Chapter 2
Read Chapter 3
View Video #3
Quiz Chapter 3

Week 4: Feb. 4 - 11

Class Discussion Chapter 3
Read Chapter 4
View Video #4
Quiz Chapter 4

Week 5: Feb. 11 – 18 (Ash Wed.)

Class Discussion Chapter 4
Read Chapter 5
View Video #5
Quiz Chapter 5

Week 6: Feb. 18 - 25

Class Discussion Chapter 5
Read Chapter 6
View Video #6
Quiz Chapter 6

Week 7: Feb. 25 – March 4

Class Discussion Chapter 6
Read Chapter 7
View Video #7
Quiz Chapter 7

Week 8: March 4 - 11

Class Discussion Chapter 7
Read Chapter 8
View Video #8
Quiz Chapter 8

(Spring Break March 16 – 20)

Week 9: March 11 – 13 NOTE Short week

Week 10: March 23- 25 NOTE Short week
Review Topics and Drafts for Final Report

Week 11: March 25 – April 1

Class Discussion Chapter 8
Read Chapter 9
View Video #9
Quiz Chapter 9

Week 12: April 1 - 8

Class Discussion Chapter 9
Read Chapter 10
View Video #10
Quiz Chapter 10

Week 13: April 8 - 15

Class Discussion Chapter 10
Read Chapter 11
View Video #11
Quiz Chapter 11

Week 14: April 15- 22

Class Discussion Chapter 11
Read Chapter 12
View Video #12
Quiz Chapter 12

Week 15: April 22 - 29

Class Discussion Chapter 12
Read Chapter 13
View Video #13
Quiz Chapter 13

Week 16: April 29 – May 6

Review for Final Exam

Week 17: May 6- 13

(Final Exams May 12 – 15)

Classroom Policies:

Work must be submitted on time to receive full credit.

Weekly Course Access:

It is essential to build culture and community in the online environment in order that students collaborate together to build a network of learners. To foster and develop this community, COMMUNICATION is ESSENTIAL. Since the course is a three-credit course, it is reasonable to ask students to log in to the course a minimum of three times each week. This means three separate days (of the student's choice according to their schedule) a student is expected to access the course to check materials, updates, and participate in partner chats.

Quality of Work:

At the college level of learning, it is expected that all work submitted is free of spelling, grammar and punctuation errors. Participation in the course is expected and taken into account when determining course grades. Discussions and information must be thought-out, in-depth, and incorporate new vocabulary and concepts learned during the course.

Academic Integrity:

The academic community is operated on the basis of honesty, integrity and fair play. Occasionally, this trust is violated when cheating occurs, either inadvertently or deliberately. This Code will serve as the guideline for cases where cheating, plagiarism or other academic improprieties have occurred.

1. The primary responsibility of the students, faculty and administration is to create an atmosphere where the honesty of individuals will not be questioned.

- a. Faculty members are responsible for providing guidelines concerning cheating and plagiarism at the beginning of each course, and should use precautionary measures and security in cases where cheating is likely to occur.
- b. Students are responsible for submitting their own work. Students who cooperate on oral or written examinations or work without authorization share the responsibility for violation of academic principles and the students are subject to disciplinary action even when one of the students is not enrolled in the course where the violation occurred.

View the [Plagiarism Tutorial-Pearson Education](#) to learn more about plagiarism, citing sources, etc.

Disabilities and Special Needs:

Please inform the instructor within the first week of classes if any assistance is required due to disabilities or special needs.