



**Trinity International University**  
Online – Undergraduate

**BI 111x / BI 120Rx:**  
**Understanding the New Testament**  
**(online)**

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Version 4.0

“For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons,  
neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth,  
nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us  
from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Romans 8:38-39

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**Note Well:** The course site will be available on the web at least *two weeks* before the course begins. However, please order your course materials at least *three weeks* before the course begins.

### **I. Trinity's Course Management System: Moodle**

To access this course, please follow these steps:

1. Visit: <http://www.moodle.tiu.edu>
2. In the upper right corner, click on the "login" button.
3. Enter your GroupWise username and password to login.
4. On the right of the page, select "Online – Undergraduate".
5. Select this course from the list of courses.
6. Enter the enrolment key – which is a one-time password that you will receive via email about three weeks before the course begins.
7. Click on "Enrol me in this course."
8. Read the instructions on the main course page and proceed as indicated.

### **II. Course Description**

An overview of the various types of literature in the New Testament (gospel, historical narrative [Acts], letter, and apocalypse), the methods of study appropriate to each with application to specific texts and to New Testament content. *Three hours.*

### **III. Course Overview**

It is impossible to overstate the significance of the New Testament (NT) throughout the history of the Western world. Whether in music, art, literature, education, or ethics, its influence is unsurpassed. With this in mind, understanding the NT is essential for developing cultural literacy of the West. For Christians, however, the NT also serves as the foundational document of their faith – guiding both their beliefs and behaviors. In short, they view the NT to be the inspired and authoritative Word of God, his gracious revelation to humanity and the ultimate standard of truth.

This course surveys the core teachings of the NT, giving particular attention to the individual books of the NT. It also highlights its storyline, key themes, and major figures, such as Jesus and the apostle Paul. Given that the NT was written nearly 2000 years ago using a number of literary forms (or genres), the student will also learn principles for interpreting its original meaning and for discerning its contemporary significance. Finally, the student will determine and discuss the relevance of the NT for his or her life.

### **IV. Course Materials**

- a. Elwell, W. A. and Yarbrough, R. W. (2005). *Encountering the New Testament: A Historical and Theological Survey* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.). Grand Rapids, MI: Baker.
- b. *The Jesus Film* (DVD) and *Acts – The Visual Bible* (DVD).  
These DVD's are not available through Trinity's course materials distributor, MBS. Please rent them from a library or video store, or purchase them from places such as Amazon.com or Buy.com.
- c. Zondervan NIV Study Bible (rev. ed.). (2008). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.  
ISBN: 978-0310938965

## V. Course Policies

### 1. APA Documentation

All written work (e.g. worksheets/essay questions, reflection papers, final projects, etc.) must conform to the APA parenthetical notation style. This includes:

- In-text citations – with author(s), date, and page number (if applicable)  
Note Well: Even discussion board postings and PowerPoint presentations, for example, must use in-text citations when you cite another person's work or ideas.
- a "References" page (it is not called a "bibliography")
- one inch margins
- 12 point font
- double spaced

Failure to use and cite others' work or ideas properly will lead to charges of academic dishonesty. See below for more information.

### 2. Academic Integrity

As a member of the Trinity community, we ask you to hold yourself and others to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Violations take many forms, which include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Plagiarism: using another's work or ideas without proper documentation, which requires citing the author or authors' name(s), date of publication, and page number (if applicable)
- Cheating: using notes, books, or crib sheets during closed-book quizzes or exams, or copying from another's student's work
- Submitting Previous Work: submitting your work that was previously turned in for credit
- Ghosting: writing a paper or taking a quiz (or any other evaluation) in place of another student
- Aiding and Abetting: helping others to commit acts of academic dishonesty, or failing to report those who have committed dishonest acts or plan to do so

Faculty members will investigate all violations of academic integrity, whether deliberate or non-deliberate. If a violation is confirmed, the student may receive an "F" for the assignment and the course. In such a case, the student may not drop the course. The faculty member will document the case of dishonesty, explaining the incident and the action taken. A copy will be placed in the student's file. In serious cases of academic dishonesty, an academic dean or administrator may choose to meet with the student and faculty member to review the case. Multiple violations may lead to a student's dismissal from the school.

### 3. Late Work

All assignments must be turned in on or before the date they are due. Any assignment turned in late will be deducted as follows:

- a. 10% off for up to one day late
- b. 20% off for up to two days late
- c. assignments more than two days late will receive a zero

An extension on the time needed to submit final course requirements will be granted only in unusual circumstances.

#### 4. Attendance Policy

For online courses, students must participate actively in all class discussion forums. Failure to do so will result in a grade reduction of one-half to a full letter grade at the discretion of the instructor.

### VI. Course Outcomes

At the end of this course, the students will be able to

1. Identify and appreciate the characteristics of the NT, in whole and in its parts, and the nature of and motivations for studying the NT.
2. Identify the historical, religious, geographical, and political contexts of both the days of Jesus and the early Church.
3. Summarize and apply the content and key themes for the majority of books in the NT.
4. Determine and discuss the relevance of the NT for their lives.

### VII. Course Schedule and Course Requirements

See course site on Moodle.

### VIII. Grading Scale

Your final course grade will be based on the total number of points that you earn throughout the course:

Percentage	Grade
92-100	A
90-91	A-
88-89	B+
82-87	B
80-81	B-
78-79	C+
72-77	C
70-71	C-
68-69	D+
62-67	D
60-61	D-
0-59	F