

NT 5100: Johannine Literature (3 hrs)

Trinity Evangelical Divinity School – Columbus Extension
Spring Semester 2020
Jan 24-25; Feb 21-22; April 3-4; May 1-2
Fridays, 7:00 – 10:00 pm, and Saturdays, 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

Dr. David B. Sloan
614-678-2032
david@davidbsloan.com

Course Description

Someone once said that the Gospel of John is both shallow enough for a child to wade in and deep enough for an elephant to swim in. This biblical book is remarkable for its ability to explain deep theological concepts in simple terms. At the same time, knowledge of its historical, literary, social, and theological background will help students go deeper in their understanding of Jesus, the gospel, Christian theology, and Christian ministry. This course is designed to give that background knowledge along with the tools for studying Scripture at a deeper level in order to help students apply the gospel more powerfully to life and to the church today.

Course Objectives

By the end of this course the student should:

1. have a greater *love for Jesus* and *passion for his Word*;
2. know the background, purpose, structure, contents, theology, and themes of *the Gospel of John*;
3. be equipped to *interpret Scripture* in its historical, literary, and theological contexts; and
4. be able to *apply Scripture* in a 21st-century context.

Required Textbooks

Gary M. Burge, *Interpreting the Gospel of John: A Practical Guide*, second edition (Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2013). ISBN: 978-0801048845. Also available electronically: <https://www.logos.com/product/32167/interpreting-the-gospel-of-john-a-practical-guide-2nd-ed>.

Michael J. Gorman, *Abide and Go: Missional Theosis in the Gospel of John*, The Didsbury Lecture Series (Eugene, OR: Cascade, 2018). ISBN: 978-1532615450.

Charles H. Talbert, *Reading John: A Literary and Theological Commentary on the Fourth Gospel and the Johannine Epistles*, rev. ed., Reading the New Testament (Macon, GA: Smyth & Helwys Publishing, 2013). ISBN: 978-1573122788. Also available electronically: <https://www.logos.com/product/7237/reading-john-a-literary-and-theological-commentary-on-the-fourth-gospel-and-the-johannine-epistles>.

Recommended Bible Software

Logos 8 Basic. Available for free at <https://www.logos.com/product/168880/basic>. (Alternatively you could purchase a package with a larger library from these options: <https://www.logos.com/basepackages>. If you contact the sales department at 800-875-6467, they may be able to offer you a discount as a Trinity student. The free version is recommended both for its Bible search capabilities and for access to the *Lexham Bible Dictionary*.)

Course Requirements

1. **Attendance, Preparation, and Participation** (30%) – Students are expected to come to class having completed the assigned readings and to participate in discussions in a manner that demonstrates a thorough knowledge of the readings. Students who miss class time or who are unfamiliar with ideas in the readings cannot get an A on this portion of their grade. A reading log is provided at the back of the syllabus for students to track their reading. Note that there is **168 pages of reading that needs to be done before our first class meeting**.
2. **Word Study** (15%) – Following the methods explained in Chapters 9-10 of *Interpreting the Gospel of John* and discussed in class, do a word study of a key word in the Gospel of John. Notify the professor beforehand which word you will study. The word study should include a printout of all the occurrences of a word/phrase and comments on how your reading of one particular passage is affected by the other occurrences of the word/phrase. A sample will be given the first week of class. ***Due the second weekend.***
3. **Exegetical Paper and Presentation** (35%) – Write an 8-to-10-page exegetical paper on a passage in the Gospel of John and lead the class in a teaching on that passage. ***Due the third weekend.*** Details will be given on the first day of class.
4. **Topical Paper** (20%) – Choose a topic related to the Gospel of John as a whole and write a 5-page paper. The paper could be a theological reflection (e.g., what modern theologies of the Holy Spirit could learn from the Gospel of John) or more practical reflection (e.g., how my church could live more missionally in the light of the Gospel of John). ***Due the final weekend.***

Grading Scale

93-100% = A	90-92.9% = A-	
87-89.9% = B+	83-86.9% = B	80-82.9% = B-
77-79.9% = C+	73-76.9% = C	70-72.9% = C-
67-69.9% = D+	63-66.9% = D	60-62.9% = D-
59.9% and below = F		

Class Attendance

Students are required to attend **each and every** session throughout the entire course period. Due to the nature of Extension classes, attendance at all sessions is especially important with weekend courses. Missing even an hour of a weekend class means a significant portion of the

required contact with the instructor and learning community has been lost. For this reason, students missing any portion (hours) of an Extension course can result in a grade reduction; missing more than one weekend class session **will** result in a grade reduction and possibly **failing** the course.

In the case of **extreme** emergency or unforeseen circumstances (family emergencies, death, etc.) the student should contact the instructor and secure the necessary permission to miss time in a class and make up the missed class time and assignments. Vacations, ministry responsibilities and travel plans are not considered emergencies and such requests will be denied. As the schedule for the Extension courses is set ahead of time, students should plan ahead to be sure they will be able to make it to all class sessions before they register. If the emergency necessitates a longer absence the student should contact the Dean of Students to request an extension of time, or in rare instances a withdrawal from the class without penalty.

Academic Integrity Policy

Any work that you submit for this class is presumed to be *your own original work* that has *not previously been submitted for credit in another course* unless you obtain prior written approval to do so from the professor. If you use words or ideas that you have found in publications, web sites, or other sources, *you must fully identify the original source* and the extent of your use of the words or ideas in this source.

Course Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topics Discussed</u>	<u>Readings Due</u>	<u>Assignments Due</u>
<i>Weekend 1: January 24-25</i>	Introductory Issues Methods of Interpretation John's Letters	Burge pp. 1-100 1-3 John (the letters) Talbert pp. 1-68	
<i>Weekend 2: February 21-22</i>	John 1-4	Burge pp. 101-182 John 1-4 Gorman pp. 1-26 Talbert pp. 69-126	Word Study
<i>Weekend 3: March 9-10</i>	John 5-12	Burge pp. 183-212 John 5-12 Talbert pp. 127-196 Gorman pp. 27-70	Exegetical Paper and Presentation
<i>Weekend 4: April 13-14</i>	John 13-21 Living the Gospel of John	John 13-21 Talbert pp. 197-274 Gorman pp. 71-202	Topical Paper

Weekend 1 Reading Log**Name** _____

Check off the readings as you do them and then turn this in at the beginning of class:

Gary M. Burge, *Interpreting the Gospel of John*

- Chapter 1: History of Interpretation (pp. 1-33)
- Chapter 2: Who Wrote the Gospel of John (pp. 34-56)
- Chapter 3: How the Fourth Gospel Was Built (pp. 57-80)
- Chapter 4: Johannine Style (pp. 81-100)

John's Letters

- First John Chapters 1-5
- Second John
- Third John

Charles H. Talbert, *Reading John*

- Introduction (pp. 1-7)
- A Personal Argument (pp. 9-17)
- Walking in the Light (pp. 19-28)
- Discerning the Spirits (pp. 29-37)
- Perfect Love and Proper Belief (pp. 39-51)
- Bases for Christian Confidence (pp. 53-59)
- Introduction to the Gospel of John (pp. 61-68)

Signature _____

Date _____

Weekend 2 Reading Log**Name** _____

Check off the readings as you do them and then turn this in at the beginning of class:

Gary M. Burge, *Interpreting the Gospel of John*

- Chapter 5: The Text (pp. 101-117)
- Chapter 6: The Literary Context (pp. 118-126)
- Chapter 7: Building a Bibliography (pp. 127-139)
- Chapter 8: The Cultural Context (pp. 140-149)
- Chapter 9: Word Studies in John: Part 1—Word Searches (pp. 150-165)
- Chapter 10: Word Studies in John: Part 2—Word Meanings (pp. 166-182)

Gospel of John

- Chapters 1-4

Charles H. Talbert, *Reading John*

- A Revealing, Empowering Presence (pp. 69-82)
- Creator of New Community (pp. 83-97)
- Proponent of a New Birth (pp. 99-109)
- The Object of the Baptist's Praise (pp. 111-116)
- The Savior of the World (pp. 117-126)

Michael J. Gorman, *Abide and Go*

- Chapter 1: Reading John Missionally and Theotically (pp. 1-26)

Signature _____

Date _____

Weekend 3 Reading Log

Name _____

Check off the readings as you do them and then turn this in at the beginning of class:

Gary M. Burge, *Interpreting the Gospel of John*

- Chapter 11: The Problem of Horizons (pp. 183-198)
- Chapter 12: Preaching from John (pp. 199-207)
- Chapter 13: Commentaries (pp. 208-212)

Michael J. Gorman, *Abide and Go*

- Chapter 2: Missional Theosis in John: Structure, Theme, and Chapters 1-12 (pp. 27-70)

Gospel of John

- Chapters 5-12

Charles H. Talbert, *Reading John*

- Dutiful Apprentice of the Father (pp. 127-135)
- The Bread of Life (pp. 137-147)
- Water of Life/Light of the World (pp. 149-168)
- The Door/The Good Shepherd (pp. 169-183)
- The One Whose Hour Has Come (pp. 185-195)

Signature _____

Date _____

Weekend 4 Reading Log**Name** _____

Check off the readings as you do them and then turn this in at the beginning of class:

Gospel of John

- Chapters 13-17
- Chapters 18-21

Charles H. Talbert, *Reading John*

- Washer of the Disciples' Feet (pp. 197-206)
- The Way, the Truth, and the Life (pp. 207-217)
- The True Vine (pp. 219-230)
- The Intercessor (pp. 231-239)
- The Enthroned King (pp. 241-256)
- The Living Lord (pp. 257-274)

Michael J. Gorman, *Abide and Go*

- Chapter 3: Abide and Go: Missional Theosis in John 13-16 (pp. 71-107)
- Chapter 4: As the Father Has Sent Me (I): Missional Theosis in John 17 (pp. 108-132)
- Chapter 5: As the Father Has Sent Me (II): Missional Theosis in John 20-21 (pp. 133-155)
- Chapter 6: Extreme Missional Theosis: John's Implicit Ethic of Enemy-Love (pp. 156-178)
- Chapter 7: Conclusions and Hermeneutical Reflections (pp. 179-202)

Signature _____

Date _____