

## Course Syllabus

- Course title:** ET 512 New Testament Introduction
- Course description:** This course introduces the student to the major issues regarding the New Testament Scriptures including canon, synoptic issues, textual criticism, and authorship. A brief overview of most of the NT books will be covered.
- Course instructor:** Michael Emadi holds a Master of Divinity (MDiv) from Reformed Baptist Seminary and a Master of Arts in Biblical Languages (MABL) from Houston Baptist University. He has served as the Biblical Languages professor for Covenant Baptist Theological Seminary (CBTS) since 2013 teaching both beginning and advanced Hebrew and Greek. Michael is also working as a church planter in County Louth, Republic of Ireland. He and his wife, Ashley, have three children.
- Contact information:** [michael.emadi@gmail.com](mailto:michael.emadi@gmail.com)
- Course credit:** 3 credits
- Course requirements:** Student must satisfactorily complete the following course requirements:
- (1) Lectures** The student must listen to or watch the **26 lectures** associated with this course. These are available on the online campus.
  - (2) Reading** The student must complete the following assigned reading **in its entirety**:

Köstenberger, Andreas J., L. Scott Kellum, and Charles L. Quarles. *The Cradle, the Cross, and the Crown: An Introduction to the New Testament*. Nashville, TN: B & H Academic, 2009.

The student must read the following New Testament books from the ESV, NASB, RSV, KJV, or NIV: Matthew, Acts, Romans, 1-2 Corinthians, Ephesians, Philippians, 1-2 Timothy, Philemon, Hebrews, James 1-2 Peter, 1-3 John, Jude, Revelation.If the student has any questions, he should contact the instructor, Michael Emadi ([michael.emadi@gmail.com](mailto:michael.emadi@gmail.com)).
  - (3) Study Questions** The student should complete the "Study Questions" from *The Cradle, the Cross, and the Crown* at the end of the following chapters: 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 21.
  - (4) Final Exam** The final exam will be comprised of questions deriving from both the material covered in the "Study Questions" from the chapters listed above (roughly 75%) as well as the lectures (roughly 25%). The student should learn the material well prior to taking the exam as textbooks, notes, or use of Internet will NOT be allowed. The final exam constitutes 40% of the student's grade. The student will have 90 minutes to take the exam.
  - (5) Term Paper** The student may select one of the options below as a topic for the paper. If a student wishes to write on another topic related to the New Testament, that topic must be approved by the instructor ([michael.emadi@gmail.com](mailto:michael.emadi@gmail.com)) prior to beginning the paper.
    - 1. A Defense of Pauline Authorship of the Pastoral Epistles**

This paper should provide a brief summary and evaluation of the arguments against Pauline authorship of each book. After analyzing the arguments, a defense of Pauline authorship should be offered.



## **2. A Theological View of Canonicity**

This paper should provide an analysis and critique of Sundberg's basic definition of canon as a closed, fixed list of books. Attention should also be paid to the assertion that the canon was closed in the 4th century (see Athanasius's 39th Festal Letter). After critiquing Sundberg's view, the student should provide a brief biblical-theological view of canonicity.

## **3. Apparent Gospel Contradictions**

This paper should begin by providing an evaluation of what is and is not a contradiction. The student should then go on to analyze some of the (apparent) contradictions between the gospels and provide a cogent biblical answer to their reconciliation. The paper should include an analysis of the following parallel accounts though the student may choose more if space allows:

- 1) How many angels - Matt 28:2-7/John 20:11-12
- 2) Staff or no Staff - Matt 10:9-10/Mk 6:8-9/Lk 9:3
- 3) Time of Jesus' death - Mk 15:25/Jn 19:14-16
- 4) Jairus's Daughter dead or dying - Matt 9:18/Mk 5:22-23/Lk 8:41-42

## **4. Jesus: Another dying-and-rising god?**

This paper should seek to explain the relationship between the Old Testament-Jewish view of resurrection and Jesus's resurrection. Special attention should be paid to Paul's understanding of the inauguration of the New Creation and the coming of God's kingdom as it relates to the resurrection of Jesus.

The paper must be **10 to 12 pages** and/or **3,500 to 4,200 words** in length (double-spaced) with at least 2 pages of bibliography and should conform to the term paper standards set forth in the RBS "Guidelines & Expectations for Students" and more fully in *A Manual for Writers of Term Paper, Theses, and Dissertations*, 8<sup>th</sup> edition by Kate L. Turabian. An MS Word Turabian template is provided on the online campus.

The instructor shall deduct points from papers that fall short or exceed the parameters of length or that fail to conform to the seminary's writing and formatting standards specified above.

### **Course grading:**

Lectures = 10%; Reading = 15%  
Exam over Study Questions = 40%  
Final Paper = 35%