

New Testament Bible

A. Course Description

This course is to acquaint students with the general doctrinal contents and a broad outline of each of the 27 books of the New Testament. This is not a course in Isagogics in the technical sense. The purpose is simply to have students become (more) literate with regard to the New Testament at an early point in their studies.

B. Course Goals

1. General: Students will

- a. Engage in personal study and application of the Scriptures, the Lutheran Confessions and other theological devotional writings in their personal and public life.
- b. Understand the New Testament and be able to apply the Scriptures effectively to their own lives and the lives of others.
- c. Understand Lutheran doctrine and practice, and explain the same clearly and without defensiveness.
- d. Integrate their learning from study in the theological disciplines (biblical, systematic, historical and practical) in their life and work.

2. Specific: Students will

- a. Cultivate a remembrance of location of important and well-known passages of Scripture--such as the location of the Sermon on the Mount, Mary's Magnificat, the parable of the prodigal son, Jesus' Bread of Life discourse, his High Priestly Prayer, the great (physical) resurrection chapter, and so on.
- b. Have knowledge of chief personages appearing on the pages of the New Testament.
- c. Recognize principle cities and provinces of the Holy Land and the Roman World.
- d. Know the general flow of New Testament history, including the itinerary of Paul on his three missionary journeys, as mentioned in the Book of Acts.
- e. Have a grasp of the structure of books and their doctrinal themes.
- f. Acquire other information to help them understand the New Testament account.

C. Suggested Texts/Materials

1. Bethel Bible Study
2. Concordia Self Study Bible (NIV)
3. Crossways Bible Study
4. Martin Franzmann, The Word of the Lord Grows (a New Testament Introduction), CPH
5. Walter Maier, Concordia Theological Seminary DELTO course "New Testament Bible"
6. Walter Maier, New Testament Bible Supplemental Class Notes, CTS Printshop

D. Suggested Units of Instruction

Unit 1 - the Gospels of Matthew and Mark.

Unit 2 - the Gospels of Luke and John.

Unit 3 - the Book of Acts, together with a study of Pauline chronology.

Unit 4 - Paul's Epistle to the Romans, and 1 and 2 Corinthians.

Unit 5 - Paul's Epistles to: Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, 1 and 2 Thessalonians, 1 and 2 Timothy, Titus, and Philemon.

Unit 6 - Hebrews, James, 1 and 2 Peter.

Unit 7 - 1, 2, and 3 John, Jude, Revelation.

E. Competency Exam

All students, whether or not they have a formal course dealing with the contents of the New Testament, must pass the synodical entrance-level competency exam with a 70% or better score in order to fulfill the requirements of this syllabus.