What to Expect

REL 203 THE NEW TESTAMENT

This is a general course preview. The actual course syllabus may change each term.

Course Description: The New Testament course is an overview of the New Testament intended to acquaint the student with its background, content, and messages. The New Testament is read with a focus on the life of Jesus, his teaching and miracles, death and resurrection. The other major people of New Testament are also studied through their writings, especially the apostles Paul, Peter, and John. 3 credit hours.

Grading
Shared Discussions (3 per unit) 75%
Written Assignment Questions (5 per unit) 25%

Required Resources
- Students will need a study Bible. The Lutheran Study Bible is recommended. A contemporary translation such as the New International Version or the English Standard Version is expected.
- Video lectures by Dr. Paavola are in weeks 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, and 15
- Students read articles by various authors in weeks 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, and 14
- Online resources biblegateway.com and americanbible.org.

Course Units: The course has eight units
- units 1-7: two weeks each
- unit 8: one week

Each unit involves readings from the Bible and other texts, three discussion questions to be shared with others, and five questions whose answers are shared only with the instructor.

Shared Discussions: Posted answers should be 7-8 sentences. Replies to the posts of others should be about 4 sentences in length.

Written Assignment Questions: There are five private discussion questions for each unit read only by the instructor. These are to be 4-5 sentences long each.

Counts as... REL 203 is a required course for students in a church-work major. If REL 201 OT is also taken, both can be used to satisfy the REL 100 requirement for the Concordia Core Curriculum for other majors.

Technology Requirements

Hardware
- Students need a laptop or desktop with reliable broadband internet access.
- The Blackboard App should be used on tablets and mobile devices.
- (Some courses) Camera & microphone may be needed for video conferencing.
- Speakers or head phones.

Browser
- Concordia uses Blackboard Learn which runs best in Firefox or Chrome.
- Disable pop-up blockers and ENABLE coo kies.
- Check your browser compliance at: bit.ly/cuwaacheck
- Errors are OK if they are for compliance of Java, Shockwave, and Flash.

Software
- A word processor is required. Office, Pages, Google docs will work.
- Some courses will require presentation or video software (PowerPoint or equivalent).
- Students have FREE access to Microsoft Office 365 (download / instructions)

Drop Policy
- After a course begins, the student will pay for a course, even if dropped.
- The student pays based on the number of weeks completed.
  - Week 1-5 : A percent refund
  - Week 6-10 0% and ‘W’ grade
  - Week 11-16 0% and ‘F’ grade
  - ‘W’ Withdraw does not count in GPA
  - ‘F’ Counts as a 0.0 in GPA

Students need an online student orientation in Blackboard BEFORE the class begins.
- Students will be emailed a login link.
- Allow 2 hours to complete.

New students must set-up a Concordia email account
- During a term, all communication is through college email

Payment
- Students are emailed an invoice
- Payments are made online
- Concordia processes invoices for state funded students.
Course Schedule

For weeks 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13 and 15 there is extensive reading in the Old Testament. You would be wise to plan accordingly and do some of this reading in the previous week when the reading assignment is shorter.

Please post your initial answer to the discussion questions as early in the week as possible as this gives others the most time to comment on your good ideas.

Visit the online course 3-4 times a week to play an active role in these discussions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Units and Weeks</th>
<th>Readings and Videos</th>
<th>Graded Assignments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unit 1—Week 1</td>
<td>Matthew 1-28—Video 1</td>
<td>Two Discussion Questions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Unit 1—Week 2   | Article by Kolb     | One Discussion Question  
                  |                     | Five Written Assignment Questions |
| Unit 2—Week 3   | Mark 1-16—Video 2   | Two Discussion Questions |
| Unit 2—Week 4   | Article by Gaiser   | One Discussion Question  
                  |                     | Five Written Assignment Questions |
| Unit 3—Week 5   | Luke 1-24—Video 3   | Two Discussion Questions |
| Unit 3—Week 6   | Article by Kiehl    | One Discussion Question  
                  |                     | Five Written Assignment Questions |
| Unit 4—Week 7   | John 1-21—Video 4   | Two Discussion Questions |
| Unit 4—Week 8   | Article by Pack     | One Discussion Question  
                  |                     | Five Written Assignment Questions |
| Unit 5—Week 9   | Acts 1-28 and Philippians 1-4—Video 5| Two Discussion Questions |
| Unit 5—Week 10  | Article by Muhic    | One Discussion Question  
                  |                     | Five Written Assignment Questions |
| Unit 6—Week 11  | Romans, 1 and 2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Colossians, 1 and 2 Thessalonians, 1 and 2 Timothy, Philemon—Video 6| Two Discussion Questions |
| Unit 6—Week 12  | Article by Ortberg  | One Discussion Question  
                  |                     | Five Written Assignment Questions |
| Unit 7—Week 13  | Hebrews, James, 1 and 2 Peter, and Jude—Video 7 | Two Discussion Questions |
| Unit 7—Week 14  | Article by Wigoder  | One Discussion Question  
                  |                     | Five Written Assignment Questions |
| Unit 8—Week 15  | 1, 2 and 3 John and Revelation—Video 8 | One Discussion Question  
                  |                     | Five Written Assignment Questions |