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Chaminade University of Honolulu
Discipline of Religious Studies
RE215-01 New Testament Times and Literature

Spring Session 1999
W-F 1:00-2:20pm
Rev. Herman Gomes, ss.cc.

Course Syllabus

Course Description: Historical-Critical Method: late Judaism and the Hellenistic political and religious movement; literary analysis of the Gospels; and theological development of the identity of Christ, the end of the world, salvation of the Church.

Course Goals and Objectives:

1. To learn the historical-critical method as it is applied to the New Testament text.
2. To gain exposure to other methods of Gospel study: form and redaction criticism.
3. To develop an appreciation for the different genres of the New Testament books.
4. To gain insight into the similarities and dissimilarities between the synoptic Gospels and the Gospel of John
5. To become acquainted with the geographical spread of Christianity.
6. To understand the person and the mission of Jesus of Nazareth as articulated by the New Testament authors.
7. To gain insight into Judaic and Roman political and religious milieu.
8. To gain understanding of biblical literature and theology (Christology, Soteriology, Ecclesiology, and Eschatology)
9. To provide the student with learning tools to encourage independent and cooperative study.

Course Textbooks and Materials:

- 1. Perkins, Pheme: Reading the New Testament New York/Mahwah: Paulist Press, 1988
- 2. An English New Testament with critical apparatus. Recommended: New American Bible.
- 3. Handouts on specific topics will be distributed throughout the course.

Course Requirements:

- 1. Assigned Readings and Class Participation.....25%
- 2. Research Paper.....25%
- 3. Mid-term Examination.....25%
- 4. Final Examination.....25%

1. **Assigned Readings and Class Participation:**

All assigned readings have been scheduled into the course calendar. Class participation is expected. Periodic tests (quiz) will be announced well in advance.

2. **Research Paper:**

To cultivate research and analytical skills in order to gain a deeper understanding over a specific area in this vast study. The student will write a 5-7 page term paper. Select a passage of the New Testament; be prepared to explain and apply the passage into daily living. This project will be due April 9, 1999.

3. **Mid-term Exam:**

The exam will be approximately 60 minutes and is scheduled for the week of March 3rd.

4. **Final Exam:**

Date for the final will posted on the exam schedule. Examination questions are a compilation of those presented in the textbook and those formulated by the instructor. They will consist of a.) objective answers, b.) short answers, and c.) essays for synthesis.

Class Procedure and Participation:

To facilitate different learning styles - general lecture, seminar, and small group dynamics will be employed at different intervals throughout the course. The student is encouraged to actively participate by completing assigned readings prior to the class, ready to enter into discussion during small groups, interacting and presenting questions pertinent to the subject matter during general lectures.

Course Schedule:

Date: week of:	Topic and Text:
Jan. 13	Course Introduction Understanding the Bible as a literary work Pre-test

Jan. 20	History of Jesus of Nazareth Chapters 1-3
Jan. 27	History of Jesus II His Message, III His Death and Resurrection, and faith and the beginning of Christology Chapters 4-6
Feb. 3	The Gospel of Mark - Chapter 12
Feb. 10	The Gospel of Matthew - Chapter 13
Feb. 17	The Gospel of Luke - Chapter 14
Feb. 24	The Gospel of John - Chapter 15
Mar. 3	Mid-term Exam Emergence of Christianity I - Chapter 7
Mar. 10	Emergence of Christianity II and III Chapters 8,9
Mar. 17	Emergence of Christianity IV and V Chapters 10,11
Mar. 24	Spring Break
Mar. 31	High Priest Chapter 17
Apr. 7	Christian Directives II - Leadership Chapter 18
Apr. 14	Christian Directives III - General Epistles Chapter 19
Apr. 21	Christian Directives IV - Johanne Epistles Chapter 20
Apr. 28	Christian Directives V Eschatology The Book of Revelation Chapter 21
May 5	Course Summary - preparation for final exam