

PMS  
SSE 99

**Chaminade University  
Summer 1999  
Pearl Harbor Extension**

**Course:** Religion 414<sup>60</sup> Gospel of John

**Time:** Wednesdays 4:45-8:55 pm

**Instructor:** Gene Mills, Th.M., M.Div.

**Contact:** email: mills91@gte.net  
telephone: 262-8788

**Textbooks:** Countryman, L. William. 1994, *The Mystical Way in the Fourth Gospel: Crossing Over into God*, Valley Forge, PA: Trinity Press International.

Culpepper, R. Alan. 1983, *Anatomy of the Fourth Gospel: A Study in Literary Design*, Philadelphia: Fortress Press.

Smith, D. Moody. 1995, *The Theology of the Gospel of John*, Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.

Any modern translation of the Christian Scriptures (e.g., NRSV, NKJV, NASB, NJB).

**Suggested:** Thomas, John Christopher. 1991, *Footwashing in John 13 and the Johannine Community*, Journal for the Study of the New Testament Supplement Series 61, Sheffield, UK: JSOT Press.

**Course Description:**

Study of the stages and historical setting of the writing of the Fourth Gospel; theories on authorship; the structure of the Gospel; a section-by-section investigation of the major themes; special emphasis on redaction criticism. Offered alternate years. Prerequisites: RE 103, RE 215, or permission of the instructor.

**Course Objectives:**

At the end of the course, the student will be able:

\* to explain the historical setting, composition process and circumstances of the composition of the Gospel of John.

\* to explain the interpretive issues and techniques and technical terminology associated with New Testament studies.

\* to explain the literary structure, styles and forms of the Fourth Gospel and their relation to interpretation.

\* to describe the central teachings and theological themes found in the Gospel of John and relate them to contemporary existence.

**Class Format:**

The course will utilize both lecture and seminar/discussion formats. Students are required to be prepared for each class session through readings and assigned activities since the course is designed to be a cooperative learning experience with input from everyone.

**Requirements and Grading:**

Reflection Journal .....	20 points
Mid-term Examination .....	30 points
Final Examination .....	30 points
Research Paper .....	20 points

Any assignment turned in late will be lowered in grade unless prior arrangements are made with the instructor.

**Attendance Policy:**

Unexcused absences equaling 2 weeks of the course will be reported to the Dean of Arts and Sciences and the Records office. Unexcused absence of more than one week of classes will result in a lowering of the final grade in the course.

**Course Calendar:**

DATE	TOPIC	READING
7/7	Orientation and Introduction Issues in New Testament Studies	John ch. 1-7
7/14	Issues in New Testament Studies (cont.) Background to the Gospels	John ch. 8-14
7/21	Brief History of the Study of John Introduction to the Fourth Gospel	John ch. 15-21 Thomas: 61-126

		(handout)
7/28	Issues in Literary Study of Biblical Texts The Fourth Gospel as Literature	Culpepper: v-11 Culpepper: 14-49, scan 52-75
8/4	The Fourth Gospel as Literature (cont.)	Culpepper: 78-98, scan 100-202, 204- 237
8/11	<b><u>Mid-term examination</u></b> Theological Approaches to the Fourth Gospel	Smith: 1-9, scan 10- 74
8/18	Theological Approaches to the Fourth Gospel (cont.)	Smith: 75-160
8/25	Specific Readings of the Fourth Gospel	Countryman: ix-76 <b><u>Paper due</u></b>
9/1	Specific Readings (cont.)	Countryman: 77- 147, review Thomas
9/8	<b><u>Final Exam</u></b>	