

**Seminari Theoloji Malaysia**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Semester, 2016**  
**New Testament Survey/Introduction: Letters & Revelation**  
Instructor: Rev Dr LIM Kar Yong  
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### **Course Description**

This course is the second installment of the 2-part course on New Testament Survey/Introduction covering Letters and Revelation. It is intended to help you begin to weave yourself through the maze of NT studies. You will be introduced to the practice of the scholarly and critical study of Pauline Epistles, Catholic Epistles and Revelation. Questions concerning authorship, date, audience, structure, and purpose of selected NT letters will be covered in greater depth compared to others. The content and theological themes of some of these books will be explored. A survey of the life of Paul and critical approaches to Pauline studies will also be given special attention in this course.

### **Course Objectives**

By the end of this course, you will be able to:

- 1) give an overall outline, the broad account of the occasion, content, and major themes of some of the NT Letters and Revelation.
- 2) begin to explore the different areas, disciplines and aspects of NT studies and learn how to do basic research and writing in NT studies.
- 3) apply the relevance of the teachings found in the Letters and Revelation in contemporary Christian living as well as the life of the church.

### **Course Requirements**

- 1) Read Letters and Revelation in an idiomatic English translation of your choice (e.g., NIV, NRSV, ESV, NET, NASB, etc)
- 2) Graded requirements:
  - a. Term Paper (60% of the grade): Write a research paper with proper footnotes and bibliography related to a defined topic, theme or area of critical NT studies related to the NT Letters or Revelation. The length of the paper should be approximately 2,500 words excluding footnotes and bibliography. Various topics will be suggested during the class. Please feel free to run by your idea with me before proceeding with your paper. The due date of the paper is on **September 27, 2016, 4pm**.
  - b. Examination: Sustain a take home examination to be due before **October 14, 2016, 4pm**. This will be a 2-hour exam. More details will be given in the lectures (40% of the grade).

**Required Textbook: Please choose one of the following:**

- 1) Howard Marshall, Stephen Travis & Ian Paul. *Exploring the New Testament Vol 2: The Letters and Revelation*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Grand Rapids/London: Baker/SPCK, 2011.
- 2) Andreas J. Kostenberger, L. Scott Kellum & Charles L Quarles. *The Cradle, the Cross, and the Crown: An Introduction to the New Testament*. Nashville: B&H Academic, 2009.
- 3) Robert Gundry. *A Survey of the New Testament*, 5<sup>th</sup> ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2012.

**Tentative Course Schedule**

The class will meet weekly on every Tuesday during the semester

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>
June 14	Introduction to the Course; Acts
June 21	Acts /
June 28	Introduction to Pauline Studies; Life of Paul
July 5	No class – Instructor away for SBL International Meeting
July 12	Pauline Letters
July 19	Pauline Letters
July 26	Pauline Letters
Aug 2	No class – Instructor away for Greek palaeography and Codicology Summer course
Aug 9	Semester Break
Aug 16	Pauline Letters
Aug 23	Pauline Letters
Aug 30	Pauline Letters
Sept 6	Catholic Letters
Sept 13	Catholic Letters
Sept 20	Catholic Letters
Sept 27	Revelation

**Select Bibliography**

***New Testament Survey/Introduction/Studies***

Achtemeier Paul J., Joel B. Green and Marianne Meye Thompson. *Introducing the New Testaments: Its Literature and Theology*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2001.

Barnett, Paul. *Jesus & the Rise of Christianity: A History of New Testament Times*. Downers Grove: InterVarsityPress, 1999.

Blomberg, Craig. *From Pentecost to Patmos: An Introduction to Acts through Revelation*. Nashville: B&H, 2006.

Boring, M. Eugene. *An Introduction to the New Testament: History, Literature, Theology*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2012.

Carson, D. A. & Douglas J. Moo. *An Introduction to the New Testament*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2005.

deSilva, David A. *An Introduction to the New Testament: Contexts, Methods & Ministry Formation*. Downers Grove: IVP Academic, 2004.

Elwell, Walter and Robert Yarbrough. *Encountering the NT: A Historical and Theological Survey*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2005. (includes multimedia, interactive CD-ROM, companion reader).

\_\_\_\_\_. *Readings from the First-Century World: Primary Sources for New Testament Study*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1998.

Gundry, Robert. *Survey of the New Testament*, 5<sup>th</sup> ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2012.

Johnson, Luke Timothy. *The Writings of the NT: An Interpretation*, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. Minneapolis: Fortress, 2010.

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

McKnight, Scot & Grant R. Osborne, eds. *The Face of New Testament Studies: A Survey of Recent Research*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2004.

### **Dictionaries**

Evans, Craig A. and Stanley E. Porter, eds. *Dictionary of New Testament Background*. Downers Grove: InterVarsityPress, 2000.

Hawthorne, Gerald F., Ralph P. Martin & Daniel G. Reid, eds. *Dictionary of Paul and his Letters*. Downers Grove: InterVarsityPress, 1993.

Martin, Ralph and Peter Davids, eds. *Dictionary of the Later New Testament and its Developments*. Downers Grove: InterVarsityPress, 1997.

### **New Testament Background/History**

Ferguson, Everett. *Backgrounds of Early Christianity*, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2003.

Hubbard, Moyer. *Christianity in the Greco-Roman World: A Narrative Introduction*. Grand Rapids: baker, 2010.

Jeffers, James. *The Greco-Roman World of the New Testament Era: Exploring the Background of Early Christianity*. Downers Grove: InterVarsityPress, 1999.

Malina, Bruce. *The New Testament World*, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. Louisville: Westminster/John Knox, 2001.

Witherington III, Ben. *New Testament History: A Narrative Account*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2002.

### **Paul and His Letters**

Barnett, Paul. *Paul: Missionary of Jesus*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2008.

Bruce, F. F. *Paul: Apostle of the Heart Set Free*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1977.

- Dunn, James D. G., ed. *The Cambridge Companion to St Paul*. Cambridge: CUP, 2003.
- Given, Mark D., ed. *Paul Unbound: Other Perspectives on the Apostle*. Peabody: Hendrickson, 2010.
- Gorman, Michael J. *Apostle of the Crucified Lord: A Theological Introduction to Paul & His Letters*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2004.
- Kirk, J. R. Daniel. *Jesus Have I Loved, but Paul?: A Narrative Approach to the Problem of Pauline Christianity*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2012.
- Murphy-O'Connor, Jerome. *Paul, A Critical Life*. Oxford: OUP, 1996.
- Polhill, John. *Paul and His Letters*. Nashville: Broadman/Holman, 1999.
- Roetzel, Calvin J. *The Letters in Context: Conversations in Contexts*. 4<sup>th</sup> ed. Louisville: WJK, 2011.
- Witherington, Ben, III. *The Paul Quest: The Renewed Search for the Jew of Tarsus*. Dowers Grove: InterVarsity, 1998.