

Study Guide/Syllabus
Wesley Theological Seminary Course of Study
for the
General Board of Higher Education and
Ministry
Summer Hybrid Weekend 2020

CS-521 Bible V: Acts, Epistles, and Revelation

Faculty: Jamie Coles Burnette

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Meeting Times:

Thursday, August 6th and 20th 6-8:30 p.m. online

Saturday, August 8th and 22nd 9:00-11:30 a.m. online

Link to join online meeting will be sent out prior to the first day of class.

Friday, September 11, Time & Location TBD

Saturday, September 12, Time & Location TBD

Course Description

This course focuses on the content and context of these writings, and the theological emphases of their writers. In addition to Acts and Revelation, Romans, 1 Corinthians, James, and 1 John will receive special attention. Students will articulate a theology of scripture.

Objectives

1. Improvement of the student's ability to effectively use scripture in the preparation of sermons and Bible studies
2. Deepening of the student's understanding of the various assigned biblical studies
3. Strengthening of the student's skills in using critical methods for biblical study
4. Development of a rationale for the hermeneutical task
5. Relating of the process of exegesis with sound hermeneutical methods for the student's pastoral role
6. Assisting the student in relating the eternal biblical message to the context of ministry

Texts:

[B] Bassler, Jouette. *Navigating Paul*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2007.

[CL] Carter, Warren and Amy-Jill Levine. *The New Testament: Methods and Meanings*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2013

[W] Wright, N.T. *Revelation*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2012.

****Any other required readings/articles will be assigned and posted on Blackboard.****

Students are encouraged to build a library of commentaries on the various books of the New Testament. There are many one volume and series commentaries in existence differing greatly in content, style, and level of difficulty. Suggested commentaries include the following:

Harper's Bible Commentary. San Francisco: HarperCollins, 1988.
Interpretation: A Bible Commentary for Teaching and Preaching. Louisville: Westminster/John Knox, 1982--.
New International Biblical Commentary. Peabody, Mass.: Hendrickson, 1992--.
The New Interpreter's Bible. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1994--.
The Oxford Bible Commentary. New York: Oxford U.P., 2001.

Textbooks: You may order books on-line directly from Amazon, Cokesbury or any other bookseller, or borrow from friends.

Assignment Instructions

All assignments and instructions will be available on Blackboard no later than July 1, 2020, and should also be submitted via Blackboard by the due date specified there. Instructions on posting to Blackboard are on the COS webpage. If you run into trouble, please contact blackboardsupport@wesleyseminary.edu and they will help you.

If you are new to Course of Study at Wesley, please be sure to check Blackboard **once you receive your logon information from our IT department**. Please check with the COS office regarding when Blackboard access will be available.

****Be sure to include your name, course number and annual conference on each page of your paper. ****

Format:

Papers should have one-inch margins on all sides, be double-spaced, and use a 12-point Times New Roman font. Please proofread papers carefully, avoiding as much as possible spelling, typographical, and grammatical errors, which can easily diminish the effectiveness of your writing.

Grading:

Students should be clear from the start that good, solid work, fulfilling the assignments responsibly, deserves the "B" grade. The "A" is awarded only for work that is excellent.

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism is regarded as a serious offense and will result in substantial penalties, including the possibility of academic dismissal. The faculty regards the following as forms of plagiarism or dishonesty:

Copying from another student's paper

Giving or receiving unauthorized assistance to or from another person

Using unauthorized material during an examination

Borrowing and presenting as one's own (i.e., without proper attribution) the composition or ideas of another

If in doubt, ask in advance. Do not risk the possibility that your work will not be accepted due to an issue of plagiarism.

Note that you must provide proper bibliographical citations for works you consult. For my pre-course work, MLA parenthetical citations are preferred. See below for more information on citations. *More on Citations:*

Within your work you **MUST** give credit to the sources of your information. However, the work should **NOT** be quote heavy. If you quote something from your textbook, then you must **ENGAGE** that quote. Why did you quote the scholar? Do you agree with what they said? If so, why? If not, why is their statement a problem for you?

The point of this work is for you to engage the textbooks and the perspectives and information offered regarding the New Testament. You do **NOT** have to reference other sources such as dictionaries, commentaries, encyclopedias, or other textbooks. Simply use the assigned textbooks, your Bible, and your own thoughts to answer the questions. When you do quote from the textbooks or include an idea you read from the textbooks, use MLA Style parenthetical citations. This information is included within the body of your paper and includes within parenthesis: (1) Author's last name; and, (2) page number. Below is an example of how to properly quote and cite from a textbook. Given that I already know the textbooks, you do **NOT** need to include a Works Cited page. If you do not properly cite the sources of the information you include in your work, it is considered plagiarism! Again, the work should **NOT** be quote heavy! You are to **ENGAGE** the information and demonstrate you understand what is being said.

Example: "One of the major goals in the book is to explore the religious theological dimensions of the New Testament writings" (Holladay 2).

Course Schedule (This is an overall roadmap. It may change based on need.):

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Thurs. 8/6 | Introductions; Acts; Acts & the Gospels, Pauline Letters |
| Sat. 8/8 | Introduction to Paul: Key Concepts |
| Thurs. 8/20 | Romans |
| Sat. 8/22 | 1 Corinthians |
| Fri. 9/11 | Introduction to The Catholic Epistles; James & 1 John |
| Sat. 9/12 | Revelation |

Grading

The Wesley Course of Study School follows the grading scale of the Seminary. Grades are assigned on the following scale:

A = 4.0
A- = 3.7
B+ = 3.3
B = 3.0
B- = 2.7
C+ = 2.3
C = 2.0
C- = 1.7
F = 0.0

Academic Policies

Attendance: Students are expected to attend all classes in their entirety. Faculty members have the authority to set attendance policies for particular courses and those policies will be included in the course syllabus. Deviation from the attendance policy may result in reduction of grade or loss of credit for the course.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is regarded as a serious offense and will result in substantial penalties, including the possibility of academic dismissal. The faculty regards the following as form of plagiarism or dishonesty:

- Copying from another students paper
- Giving or receiving unauthorized assistance to or from another student during an examination □
Using unauthorized material during an examination
- Borrowing or presenting as one's own (i.e. without proper attribution) the composition or ideas of another.

Please refer to your Wesley Student Handbook (on-line) for more information about Wesley's academic policies or contact the Course of Study office at 202-885-8688.

Students should sign up for WesleyAlerts by sending an email to wesleyalerts@wesleyseminary.edu This will ensure that any changes in the course structure or status of the school being opened or closed due to federal or city mandate will reach, you the student in a timely fashion.