

University of Dubuque Theological Seminary
BI550D – New Testament Introduction
Online Course – UDTSLearning.net
Spring Semester, 2010

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Course prerequisites: Greek I and II
Required for UDTS Juniors
3 Credits: letter grade only (UDTS)

DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

New Testament Introduction is an introductory survey of the literature and message of the church's most authoritative resource, the document we call the New Testament. As the outcome of this course, I envision students with 1) an increased knowledge of New Testament content and theology, 2) a sharpened ability to determine the meaning of scriptural texts through the use of basic exegetical methods, not least of which is the ability to interpret the NT within its first century Greco-Roman context, 3) an emerging grasp of the critical issues surrounding the New Testament, and 4) a heightened awareness of the formative and authoritative nature of the New Testament, especially in terms of what it says about the task of ministry.

This course helps fulfill the following UDTS M.Div. curricular goals (emphasis added):

1. *Be formed by, live in, and minister out of Scripture* and the historical and theological tradition of the Church.
2. *Interpret the Christian Scriptures through faithful exegesis and in light of the Christian tradition.*
3. *Preach the Word of God with faithfulness and clarity.*
4. Evangelize the world with faithfulness and *contextual sensitivity.*
5. *Engage contemporary theological and ethical issues with insight and humility.*
6. *Integrate theology and practice in all areas of life and ministry.*

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION

Evaluation of the student's work will be based on his/her workshop participation, written examinations at suitable intervals in the course of the term, and an exegetical or reaction paper.

BIBLIOGRAPHY (tentative)

Raymond Brown, *An Introduction to the New Testament.*
Bailey and Vander Broek, *Literary Forms in the New Testament.*
Bible, *Oxford Annotated with Apocrypha, New Revised Standard Version.*
Michael Gorman, *Elements of Biblical Exegesis*
Bible, Greek