



Course Syllabus

LBIB 261: New Testament Introduction

3 Credit hours

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

A general introduction to the various books of the New Testament with an emphasis on content and an examination of questions such as authorship, source, reliability, and canonicity.

Prerequisites: None

II. ACADEMIC MISSION

Oral Roberts University's academic mission is to transform students by the power of the Holy Spirit into whole, competent servant-leaders through liberal arts and professional education that is fully Christian. Within a Spirit-filled healing community, administration, faculty, and staff love and serve students by helping them grow in knowledge, skills, wisdom, character, and spirit.

Oral Roberts University's academic mission is to transform students by the power of the Holy Spirit into whole, competent servant-leaders through liberal arts and professional education that is fully Christian. Within a Spirit-filled healing community, administration, faculty, and staff love and serve students by helping them grow in knowledge, skills, wisdom, character, and spirit.

Student transformation is measured through the evaluation of student expression of University learning outcomes as demonstrated through accompanying proficiencies and capacities.

<i>Spiritually alive</i>	Biblical Literacy; Spiritual Formation.
<i>Intellectually alert</i>	Critical thinking, Creativity, and Aesthetic Appreciation; Global and Historical Perspectives; Information Literacy; Knowledge of the Physical and Natural World
<i>Physically disciplined</i>	Healthy Lifestyle; Physically Disciplined Lifestyle
<i>Socially adept</i>	Ethical Reasoning and Behavior; Intercultural Knowledge and Engagement; Written and Oral Communication; Leadership Capacity.
<i>Professionally competent</i>	Discipline-specific proficiencies listed under Program Outcomes.

III. PROGRAM OUTCOMES

This course fulfills the General Education “Biblical Literature” requirement for students earning a degree under the College of Theology and Ministry. It is offered by the Undergraduate Theology Department. This course aligns with the Spiritually Alive outcome of ORU’s Whole Person Assessment model. Specifically, this course addresses one proficiency:

- 1A Biblical Literacy – The ability to know, understand, and interpret the Scriptures accurately in order to better follow Christ and live a successful Spirit-filled life.

In addition, this course supports the skills needed to perform integrative tasks, including outcomes for B.A. in Theology or B.A. in Biblical Literature (New Testament) marked below in **bold text** and with an asterisk (*).

1. Students will use critical thinking and writing skills in the exegetical field of biblical studies.
2. Students will apply working knowledge of appropriate hermeneutical and language skills to biblical studies.
3. Students will demonstrate an understanding of Christian theology and life application in the context of the life of the Church.
4. **Students will use critical thinking and writing skills in the exegetical field of New Testament studies. ***
5. **Students will apply working knowledge of appropriate hermeneutical and language skills to New Testament studies. ***

IV. COURSE GOALS

The goals of this course are to provide a foundation for more in-depth study of the New Testament, to enable the student to understand how God speaks today personally and corporately through the New Testament, and to help the student utilize the New Testament for purposes of teaching and preaching in the church. This course does this by introducing the student to textual criticism, critical literary methods, and the question of the inspiration of the New Testament; examines the questions of authorship, sources, reliability, and canonicity of the New Testament materials; and provides a survey of New Testament Apocryphal writings.

V. COURSE OBJECTIVES

After successfully completing this course, you should be able to:

1. Demonstrate a basic understanding of the NT’s history, geography, personalities, and chronology, including the Jewish, Greco-Roman, and pagan backgrounds of these worlds.
2. Describe the canon, text, and literary genres of the NT and critical approaches to its study.
3. Articulate the purpose and message of each book, along with the major redemptive themes of the NT.
4. Explain the major theological concepts of the NT and the key passages that reflect these concepts.
5. Discuss how God speaks today, to both individuals and the church, through the writings of the NT.

VI. TEXTBOOK AND OTHER LEARNING RESOURCES

Before you purchase your required textbook(s), click on the ORU Bookstore link to verify whether digital texts are provided as part of your Follett ACCESS course fee. <http://www.bkstr.com/oralrobertsstore/home>

Required Materials

Textbook:

- Gundry, Robert H., 2012, *A Survey of the New Testament*, 5th ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan. (Print ISBN: 978-0310494744) (Digital ISBN: 9780310494768)
- *A Survey of the New Testament Video Lectures*. DVD or On-Demand Streaming Video. Gundry, Robert H. 2016. Grand Rapids, MI. Zondervan. (DVD ISBN 9780310529538) or (On-Demand Subscription: <https://vimeo.com/ondemand/surveyofthenewtestament>)

[Instead of buying your required two texts separately, you may buy a “*Learn the New Testament Pack: Featuring A Survey of the New Testament and Its Supporting Resources*” bundle, by Robert Gundry, consisting of the print book, the DVD and bonus charts, the ISBN is: 9780310531630]

Other Required Materials

- Study Bible
The College of Theology and Ministry recommends a good Study Bible (such as NRSV, NASB, ESV, or NIV). Other modern translations (not paraphrases) may be acceptable with the instructor's approval.
- Bible Dictionary
Students should access a good Bible Dictionary via the ORU Library Guide for Theology & Ministry: <https://oru.libguides.com/facultyresources/theology>
- Bible Atlas
Students should download this free Bible atlas in [.pdf](#) format
Ridling, Zaine. 2011. *The Zaine Ridling Bible Atlas*, Access Foundation, <https://rufflemission.org/bibles/zaine-ridling-atlas/>

VII. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

A. University Policies and Procedures

1. **Plagiarism:** The ORU Catalog explicitly addresses the issue of plagiarism. Make sure you know [ORU's policy on plagiarism](#) and [what is considered plagiarism](#).
2. **Privacy:** By law, students are entitled to privacy regarding their records. The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA), as amended and available in the [ORU University Catalog](#), sets forth requirements designed to protect the privacy of student education records. The law governs access to records maintained by educational institutions and the release of information from those records.
3. **Whole Person Assessment Requirements:**
 - a. Specify which, if any, Whole Person Assessment requirements there are for this course.
Project 6: WPA-GEN-Portraits of Jesus and the Application to Modern Society
 - b. Artifacts not submitted electronically or incorrectly submitted receive a zero for that assignment.

B. School and/or Department Policies and Procedures

1. **Participation:** Participation in each online class through discussion forums, assignments, and all other course activities count as your attendance in the course. Lack of participation can reduce a student's grade or deny credit for the course.
2. **Class Assignments**
 - a. Students need to have the appropriate textbooks, course materials, and other supplies as designated by the professor.
 - b. Professors may refuse to accept an assignment if it has inappropriate content, does not meet the assignment's criteria (e.g., not typed, incorrectly documented), is incomplete, is suspected of plagiarism, or is turned in too late.
3. **Late Work**
 - a. The student is responsible for obtaining class assignments and materials, and all work is expected to be completed as scheduled. The professor may not accept late work, or it may result in a lower grade. Computer or Internet malfunctions do not constitute an excuse for late work; students should have their work prepared in time to ensure that they can get it completed, edited, and proofread prior to the instructor's due date. These responsibilities assist the student in professional development.
 - b. Generally, assignments missed from a serious sickness or family crises can be made up and the instructor should be notified as soon as possible to reach an agreement on due dates and possible penalties. Each instructor has his or her own late-work policy. Instructors use their own judgment in accepting late work.
4. **Incompletes**
On rare occasions, the grade of "I" may be given for work that is incomplete at the time grades are

given. It is given only after the instructor and the department chair or college dean approve a petition submitted by the student that his or her work is incomplete for good cause. Good cause typically consists of a catastrophic event in which the student is prevented from completing the course requirements. It is the responsibility of the student to initiate the petition through <http://petitions.oru.edu>, make up any incomplete work, and ask the instructor to submit a grade change to the registrar. If the work is not completed by the end of the subsequent session, the incomplete will automatically convert to an "F." For graduating seniors, the degree will be awarded in the term that the student completes his or her course work, not the final term of enrollment.

5. Citations

Textbook(s) and materials for the course are listed using standard [citation style](#) (APA, MLA, Chicago, Turabian, etc.). Since other styles may be used in disciplines other than the one used in this course or school, the [ORU Citing and Documenting Sources](#) pages offer a collection of styles students may choose from. This course asks that students be consistent in whatever style they use throughout the course.

C. Online Programs Policies and Procedures

- 1. Communicating with your Instructor:** All email communication between students and faculty will be through their ORU.edu emails.
- 2. Learning Community:** Online learning community is established through active participation in the threaded weekly discussions. The mutual exchange of ideas, information, and experiences is an essential part of the learning process, and students are encouraged to use the discussion forum as virtual classroom platform.
- 3. ADA and Students with Disabilities:**
 - Click here (<http://www.brightspace.com/about/accessibility/>) to view Desire2Learn's "Accessibility Resources for Students with Disabilities."
 - Students requiring Disability Services from ORU, <https://goo.gl/dLHnnM>
 - Desire2Learn (D2L) Accessibility Guidelines and Checklist: <https://goo.gl/Ck4RwY>
 - D2L Accessibility Policy: <https://www.d2l.com/accessibility/>
- 4. Useful Links for Online Students:**
 - [Student Learning Glossary](#)
 - Library: <http://library.oru.edu>.
 - D2L Helpdesk: d2lhelp@oru.edu
 - I.T. Student Helpdesk: studenthelpdesk@oru.edu
 - [Netiquette and Online Discussions](#): <https://goo.gl/f744AY>
 - Contact the University: please [fill out this online form](#). Please first contact your instructor for assistance with any matter specific to the course.

D. Course Policies and Procedures

- 1. Evaluation Procedures:** The final grade will be based on forum discussions, projects, and a final exam. The weight of each item is included in the Course Calendar. Extra credit items are not available in this course.

Grade Weight	Category
28%	Forums
51%	Projects
21%	Quizzes
100%	Total

- 2. Grading Scale:**

A=90-100% B=80-89% C=70-79% D=60-69% F=59% and below.

- 3. Other Policies and/or Procedures**

None

VIII. COURSE CALENDAR

The Course Calendar shows the specific learning activities and assessments for this course, along with their respective grade weights. The far-right column lists the Course Objectives (CO) that support the Assessment in column 2. Further descriptions for activities and assessments are in their respective weeks in D2L.

Week	Assessments	Hours	Weight	CO*
1	HEROD & EMPIRE			
	Read/View/Listen	5.5	--	--
	Forum 1: New Testament Books	3	4%	1
	Quiz 1: The Intertestamental Period	2	3%	1
	Project 1: Geography of Palestine	7	7%	1
2	JESUS & KINGDOM	Hours	Weight	CO*
	Read/View/Listen	5	--	--
	Forum 2: The Challenge of Jesus	3	4%	3
	Quiz 2: The NT Canon	2	3%	2
	Project 2: NT History Time Line	7	7%	1
3	PETER & GOSPELS	Hours	Weight	CO*
	Read/View/Listen	7.5	--	--
	Forum 3: The Ministry of Jesus	3	4%	3
	Quiz 3: The Four Gospels	2	3%	3
	Project 3: Portrait of Jesus in Mark	6	7%	3
4	PAUL & GENTILES	Hours	Weight	CO*
	Read/View/Listen	6.5	--	--
	Forum 4: Mission to the Gentiles	3	4%	4
	Quiz 4: Major Letters of Paul	2	3%	3
	Project 4: Mid-Term Exam	3	6%	3
5	PAUL & COVENANT	Hours	Weight	CO*
	Read/View/Listen	5	--	--
	Forum 5: New Covenant Life	3	4%	4, 5
	Quiz 5: Prison & Pastoral Epistles	2	3%	3
	Project 5: The Pauline Epistles	7	7%	3
6	JAMES & TEMPLE	Hours	Weight	CO*
	Read/View/Listen	3	--	--
	Forum 6: Book of Hebrews	3	4%	4
	Quiz 6: General Epistles	2	3%	2
	Project 6: Portraits of Jesus Essay ✕	10	10%	4, 5
7	JOHN & APOCALYPSE	Hours	Weight	CO*
	Read/View/Listen	3	--	--
	Forum 7: The End of Days	3	4%	3
	Quiz 7: The Book of Revelation	2	3%	2
	Project 7: Final Exam	3	7%	3
Total	7-week courses require 16 hours a week	113.5	100%	

IX. COURSE INVENTORY

For ORU's University Outcomes

LBIB 261: New Testament Introduction

This course contributes to ORU's university outcomes as indicated below:

Significant Contribution – Addresses the outcome directly and includes targeted assessment.

Moderate Contribution – Addresses the outcome directly or indirectly and includes some assessment.

Minimal Contribution – Addresses the outcome indirectly and includes little or no assessment.

No Contribution – Does not address the outcome.

ORU defines each outcome and proficiencies/capacities listed below in this [Gen Ed Outcomes](#) paper.

OUTCOMES & Proficiencies		Significant Contribution	Moderate Contribution	Minimal Contribution	No Contribution
1	Outcome #1 – Spiritually Alive				
1A	Biblical literacy	X			
1B	Spiritual Formation		X		
2	Outcome #2 – Intellectually Alert				
2A	Critical thinking, creativity, and aesthetics		X		
2B	Global & historical perspectives	X			
2C	Information literacy		X		
2D	Knowledge of the physical and natural world		X		
3	Outcome #3 – Physically Disciplined				
3A	Healthy lifestyle				X
3B	Physically disciplined lifestyle				X
4	Outcome #4 – Socially Adept				
4A	Ethical reasoning and behavior		X		
4B	Intercultural knowledge and engagement			X	
4C	Written and Oral Communication			X	
4D	Leadership capacity		X		

© Oral Roberts University, All Rights Reserved.

This syllabus is subject to change without notice up until the first day of the semester.

Oral Roberts University | 7777 S. Lewis Avenue, Tulsa, OK 74171

E-mail: online@oru.edu | Web site: <http://www.oru.edu>