TITLE: The Gospel of John

TERM: Spring 2019-2020

PROFESSOR: Edith M. Humphrey

CREDIT HOURS: 3

REGISTRATION: LIMITED TO: X

UNLIMITED: X

NO AUDITORS X

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
This course will engage in a careful study of the gospel, emphasizing its backgrounds, narrative
techniques and structure, and theological concerns. The fourth gospel will also be seen in relation
and contrast to the synoptics, while we explore its importance for the formative theology of the early
Church. Attention will also be paid to the specific demands this book makes of today’s preacher.
Greek is not required, but will be very helpful. The class will proceed by means of lectures,
discussion and practical assignments.

CLASS OBJECTIVES:
We will address historical, theological and exegetical issues, with a view to helping the student read
fruitfully, and to teach or preach from this letter. Major objectives include:
• raising students’ awareness of the many themes, theological layers, and historical particularities
  of the fourth gospel
• developing students' ability to interpret and preach/teach on texts that are both narratival and
  symbolic
• helping students see the significance of the Fourth Gospel with regards to Christian theology and
  its early development.
• enhancing students’ ability to develop a coherent view of biblical inspiration, especially as it
  pertains to the genre of gospel, this book’s symbolism, and the particularities of a gospel
  emerging as Christianity and Judaism parted ways.

PREREQUISITES:
One of the following introductions: NT110, NT120, OT110, OT120

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS/READING:
 Complete Study Bible (NRSV, RSV) with Deuterocanonical/Apocryphal books.
  ISBN: 978-0801046759, $45.65
 Other short texts as assigned for reading and analysis during the course.

ASSIGNMENTS & GRADING:
3 one-page cell assignments (45%); essay outline with bibliography (15%), final essay (30%); class
participation (10%)

ATTENDANCE: Required.