

THE CONTENT OF THIS DESCRIPTION IS NOT A LEARNING CONTRACT AND THE INSTRUCTOR IS NOT BOUND TO IT. IT IS OFFERED IN GOOD FAITH AND INTENDED AS A HELPFUL GUIDE TO THE STUDENT.

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TITLE: New Testament Letters & Apocalypse

TERM: Spring 2025-2026

PROFESSOR: Rafael Rodríguez

CREDIT HOURS: 3

REGISTRATION: LIMITED TO: _____
AUDITORS: 4

UNLIMITED X
NO AUDITORS _____

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

An introduction to those books of the New Testament associated with the letter-form (the Pauline corpus, Hebrews, the Petrine epistles, Jude and Revelation), showing their significance in the Church and the world today. Special attention is given to the specific content of these books, to their particular genres, to the life and theology of Paul, and to the methods used in the critical study of these books (literary, socio-historical, rhetorical), as well as to the question of pseudepigraphy.

CLASS OBJECTIVES:

1. gain knowledge of the contents of various New Testament epistles and the Apocalypse as well as the life and theology of Paul;
2. understand the Jewish and Greco-Roman contexts of these documents;
3. become familiar with diverse approaches of modern biblical criticism, including rhetorical, literary, socio-rhetorical, and ideological approaches;
4. develop skills necessary for close, careful exegesis of primary sources and for the evaluation of contemporary debates in the study of the New Testament;
5. gain a deeper appreciation for these texts as Christian Scripture in the life of the Church today.

PREREQUISITES: None (NT 110 Gospels, Acts, & Johannine Epistles is recommended)

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS/READING:

- 1) A complete study Bible with Apocrypha/deuterocanonical books.
- 2) Mark Allan Powell, *Introducing the New Testament: A Historical, Literary, and Theological Survey*, 2nd edition (Baker Academic, 2018). ISBN: 978-0801099601, \$44.34
- 3) Scott McKnight and B.J. Oropeza, *Perspectives on Paul: Five Views* (Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2020). ISBN 978-1540960757, \$17.09
- 4) Other readings available on Canvas.

ASSIGNMENTS & GRADING:

Two exams; two papers – grading specifics to be determined.

ATTENDANCE:

Required