

## **NT613: Exegesis of the Gospel of Mark**

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Summer 2019  
June 17-21, 24-28, 9-12pm  
Requirements: NT502, and GL502

### **1. Course Description**

This course follows a sequential exegetical assessment of the Gospel of Mark, with the purpose of sharpening the exegetical skills learned in NT502, improving knowledge of New Testament Greek, and developing familiarity with the Gospel's narrative and theological features, with particular emphasis on Jesus' identity, mission and discipleship teaching.

### **2. Learning Objectives**

The successful completion of the course will entail the following learning goals:

- To apply the relevant exegetical methods to a passage in the Gospels. Attention will be given to Gospel-specific methods (thematic analysis, and narrative and composition analysis)
- To develop familiarity with the Greek text of Mark, being able to translate and identify key features of the text.
- To develop acquaintance with Mark's distinctive narrative features
- To appreciate the theology of Mark's Gospel and its relevance for the Church
- To appreciate Mark's portrayal of Jesus and his mission
- To appreciate Mark's portrayal of the disciples and its implications for discipleship

Mark's narrative is concerned with two interrelated questions: Who is Jesus? And what does it mean to be his disciple? The ultimate goal of this course is to obtain a deeper appreciation of the person, mission and teaching of our Lord, in order to serve him better as his followers, aligning ourselves with his Kingdom-bringing purposes.

### **3. Academic Requirements**

The exegesis of the Gospel will be carried out in the original Greek language. Therefore, students are expected to have completed two semesters of Basic Greek (GL501 and 502). In addition, knowledge of the basic exegetical skills developed in NT502 is assumed.

Note: In 600 level Greek exegesis courses, you are required to show competency in the Greek language. If you do not demonstrate Greek competency (evaluated through quizzes,

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Greek vocabulary knowledge, and analysis of Greek grammar in your paper), you will not be given a passing grade (even if you pass the course according to your grade point average).

#### 4. Course Format

A typical session will include: a) lecture on a designated section of Mark; and when appropriate, b) a discussion of theological/pastoral implications.

#### 5. Course Requirements

**Greek Competency Quiz.** This test is scheduled for the first day of class, **June 17th**. The exam will include vocabulary, parsing of verbs, and translation. The best way to prepare for this exam is to review your first year Greek grammar, giving attention to parsing verbs. You need to pass the exam in order to take the class for credit.

**Readings.** Students will be expected to read the section of the assigned commentary (France) correspondent to the passages of the Gospel to be explored in class. Given the intensive nature of the class, students are advised to begin the reading well in advance so as to make the most of the lectures. Students will also be required to read the assigned book on the theology of Mark (Garland) in its entirety by **July 12th**. A reading report stating the percentage of the material read must be submitted via Canvas. A penalty of 1% of the final grade will be applied for every 10% of incomplete reading.

**Translation of key texts.** Students are required to translate key passages in order to acquire familiarity with the Greek text of Mark. It is recommended that students prepare a 'translation notebook' containing each assigned passage (verse by verse), their translation, and the parsing of unfamiliar words. While not required, it is strongly recommended to keep a vocabulary list of unfamiliar words for memorization. Students will provide a report stating the percentage of the translation completed. **Due date: July, 12<sup>th</sup>. Assigned passages: Mark 1:1-15; 2:1-12; 3:22-30; 4:11-12; 4:35-41; 6:30-44; 7:1-23; 8:14-21; 8:22-26; 8:27-38; 9:30-37; 10:32-45; 11:15-19; 12:1-11; 14:53-72; 16:1-8.**

**Close Reading Assignments.** There are two graded exegetical assignments for this class.

- a) Composition/Narrative Analysis. **Due date: June, 21<sup>th</sup>**.
- b) Redaction Analysis. **Due date: June, 28<sup>th</sup>**.

- Specific instructions for each assignment can be found on Canvas.
- **General guidelines**
  - Assignments should be tagged on the top right corner as follows:

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Name\_\_\_\_\_Date\_\_\_\_\_Box Number\_\_\_\_\_

- Assignments are to be submitted electronically via Canvas. For essays, please submit a .docx document. This will facilitate the professor's comments and grading.
- Documents uploaded to Canvas should be named according to the following format: NT613\_Last Name\_Assignment #\_Assignment title. For example, NT613\_Smith\_Assignment 1\_Thematic analysis
- While aesthetics is not a priority, the neatness of the presentation of the assignments is important and will affect grades. Please refrain from submitting work containing coffee or water stains, or lines and arrows drawn without the use of a ruler.

**Exegesis Paper.** Students are to complete a major exegesis paper (12-15 pages double-spaced, including footnotes but not bibliography) on a chosen passage of the Gospel of Mark from chapter 1-12. The paper must integrate the exegetical skills learned in NT502 and subsequent courses. **The paper must be an exegesis of the Greek text. Papers that do not show a substantial interaction with the Greek text will receive a failing grade.** Detailed guidelines for the paper will be provided on Canvas. **Due date: July, 12<sup>th</sup>.**

## 6. Evaluation

Translation	15%
Close Reading Assignments	25%
Exegesis Paper	60%

## 7. Class Outline

Class	Date	Lecture
1	17-Jun	Introduction Mark 1:1-15
2	18-Jun	Mark 1:1-15; Mark 1:16-3:6
3	19-Jun	Mark 1:16-3:6 (cont.)
4	20-Jun	Mark 1:16-3:6 (cont.) Mark 3:20-4:34
5	21-Jun	Mark 3:20-4:34 Mark 4:35-8:21
6	24-Jun	Mark 4:35-8:21 (cont.)
7	25-Jun	Mark 8:22-10:52

8	26-Jun	Mark 8:22-10:52 (cont.)
9	27-Jun	Mark 11:1-16:8
10	28-Jun	Mark 11:1-16:8 (cont.)

## 8. Bibliography

### Required

Greek New Testament (NA28)

France, R. T. *The Gospel of Mark: A Commentary on the Greek Text*. New international Greek Testament Commentary. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2002.

Garland, David E. *A Theology of Mark's Gospel: Good News about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God*. Edited by Andreas J. Kostenberger. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2015.

### Recommended

#### Reference

Beale, G. K., and D. A. Carson. *Commentary on the New Testament Use of the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2007.

Green, Joel B., Jeannine K. Brown, and Nicholas Perrin, eds. *Dictionary of Jesus and the Gospels*. 2nd edition. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2013.

Sanders, E. P., and Margaret Davies. *Studying the Synoptic Gospels*. London, UK: SCM Press, 1989.

Telford, William R. *Writing on the Gospel of Mark*. Guides to advanced biblical research. Blandford Forum: Deo Publishing, 2009.

Wallace, Daniel B. *Greek Grammar beyond the Basics: An Exegetical Syntax of the New Testament*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1996.

#### Commentaries

Boring, M Eugene. *Mark: A Commentary*. The New Testament Library. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox, 2006.

Collins, Adela Yarbro. *Mark: A Commentary*. Hermeneia. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2007.

Evans, Craig A. *Mark 8:27-16:20*. Word Biblical Commentary 34B. Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 2001.

Guelich, Robert A. *Mark 1-8: 26*. Word Biblical Commentary. Dallas, TX: Word, 1989.

Hooker, Morna D. *A Commentary on the Gospel according to St. Mark*. Black's New Testament Commentaries. London: A & C Black, 1991.

Marcus, Joel. *Mark 1-8: A New Translation With Introduction And Commentary*. The Anchor Yale Bible. New York: Doubleday, 2002.

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## Monographs

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- Dewey, Joanna. *Markan Public Debate: Literary Technique, Concentric Structure, and Theology in Mark 2:1-3:6*. Chico, CA: Scholars Press, 1980.
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- Kingsbury, J. D. *Conflict in Mark: Jesus, Authorities, Disciples*. Minneapolis, MN: Fortress Press, 1989.
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- Marcus, Joel. *The Way of the Lord: Christological Exegesis of the Old Testament in the Gospel of Mark*. Louisville, KY: Westminster/John Knox Press, 1993.
- Marshall, C. D. *Faith as a Theme in Mark's Narrative*. Society for New Testament Studies Monograph Series 64. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1989.
- O'Brien, Kelli S. *The Use of Scripture in the Markan Passion Narrative*. Library of New Testament studies. London: T & T Clark, 2010.
- Rhoads, David M., Donald Michie, and Joanna Dewey. *Mark as Story: An Introduction to the Narrative of a Gospel*. Minneapolis, MN: Fortress Press, 1999.
- Telford, William R. *The Barren Temple and the Withered Tree*. JSNTSup 1. Sheffield: JSOT Press, 1980.
- Tolbert, Mary Ann. *Sowing the Gospel: Mark's World in Literary-Historical Perspective*. Minneapolis, MN: Augsburg Fortress, 1989.
- Watts, Rikki E. *Isaiah's New Exodus and Mark*. Wissenschaftliche Untersuchungen zum Neuen Testament. Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 1997.