



PBC
PERTH BIBLE COLLEGE

STUDY LEVEL: DEGREE
UNIT CODE: NT701
UNIT TITLE: New Testament Studies A
SEMESTER: Trimester 3, 2024

LECTURER: Dr Steve Young

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UNIT OVERVIEW:

This course focuses on the Gospel of Luke. It is based on a close reading of selected passages in the Gospel, with special attention given to literary, socio-historical, and theological understandings of the first half of the Lukan narrative comprising the Gospel of Luke and the Acts of the Apostles.

In this class students will learn to conduct a close reading of the Gospel of Luke within its socio-historical, literary, and canonical contexts, and to identify central issues in the critical study of Luke. They will learn to articulate Luke's primary theological and ethical concerns, and to interpret the Gospel of Luke for faithful use of Scripture in their own lives and ministries.

ACADEMIC DETAILS

Location in course:	This unit is an advanced unit and is offered at Level 700 . This is a core NT exegetical unit.
Workload	This unit carries 3 credit points. The contact hours for this unit are 2.5 hours/week for 11 weeks. Students are expected to study a further 8.5 hours/week.
Pre-Requisites	HE501 Interpreting the Bible; NT505 Overview of the New Testament
Delivery	Delivery will be via lectures, research assignments and extra content supplied on Moodle.
Summary of Content	The Gospels as history, theology, and narrative; The Gospel of Luke.
Learning outcomes	By the completion of this unit, the students will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Research and articulate New Testament, Theological Introductory issues as they pertain to interpreting the text. 2. Utilise an appropriate exegetical methodology to understand and interpret the text. 3. Develop an existential and devotional response to the text. 4. Reflect on personal presuppositions that may influence the exegesis and interpretation of texts. 5. Analyse source material to discern underlying presuppositions.
Requirements to complete	To successfully complete this unit students must: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. lodge all assessments required of this unit, and b. obtain a total grade of at least 50% in the unit.

ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

Assessment Type	When assessed	Weighting	Learning outcomes Assessed
Interpretive Assignments	Ongoing	35%	1, 2, 3 & 4
Article Review	Week 6	25%	1 & 5
Interpretive-Research Essay	Week 11	40%	1, 2, 3, 4 & 5

SCHEDULE OF LECTURES, TEXTS, AND READINGS

Week	Content	Reading
1	Reading the Gospel of Luke: History, Theology, Narrative	
2	Introductory Matters: The Project of Luke-Acts; The Preface (1:1-4) Birth and Childhood of Jesus (1:5-2:52) Focus Text: Lk 1:39-56	Luke 1:1-2:52; Green, <i>Gospel of Luke</i> (Introduction: 1. Reading the Gospel of Luke; 2. The Purpose of the Gospel of Luke)
3	Birth and Childhood of Jesus (1:5-2:52) (contd.) Focus Text: Lk 2:1-7	Luke 1:1-2:52; O'Day, "Singing Woman's Song;" Zorrilla, "The Magnificat"
4	Preparation for the Ministry of Jesus (3:1-4:13) Focus Text: Lk 3:7-18	Luke 3:1-4:13; Janssen & Lamb, "Gospel of Luke"
5	Preparation for the Ministry of Jesus (3:1-4:13) (contd.) Focus Text: Lk 5:17-26	Luke 3:1-4:13; Green, <i>Discovering Luke</i> , ch. 1
6	Ministry of Jesus in Galilee (4:14-9:50) Focus Text: Lk 9:28-36	Luke 4:14-9:50; Phillips, "Wealth and Poverty;"
7	Ministry of Jesus in Galilee (4:14-9:50) (contd.) On the Way to Jerusalem (9:51-19:48) Focus Text: Lk 13:1-9	Luke 4:14-19:48; Green, <i>Discovering Luke</i> , ch. 2
8	On the Way to Jerusalem (9:51-19:48) (contd.) Teaching in the Jerusalem Temple (20:1-21:38) Focus Text: Lk 17:1-10	9:51-21:38; Green, <i>Discovering Luke</i> , ch. 3
9	Teaching in the Jerusalem Temple (20:1-21:38) (contd.) Focus Text: Lk 20:9-19	Luke 20:1-21:38; Green, <i>Discovering Luke</i> , ch. 4
10	Suffering and Death of Jesus (22:1-23:56) Focus Text: Lk 22:39-46	Luke 22:1-23:56; Green, "'Was It Not Necessary;'" Green, <i>Discovering Luke</i> , ch. 5
11	Jesus' Resurrection and Ascension (24) A look back (at Luke's Gospel) and a look forward (to the Acts of the Apostles) Focus Text: Lk 24:1-12	Luke 24:1-53; Green, <i>Discovering Luke</i> , ch. 6

ASSESSMENT ITEMS

<p>1. INTERPRETIVE ASSIGNMENTS (35% of total grade)</p>	<p>Choose two class sessions for which to prepare in advance and submit to the lecturer an interpretive assignment for the assigned weekly text (see weekly 'Focus Text' on course schedule above). Students who wish to do so <i>may</i> turn in a third assignment, and only their two highest grades will be factored into the final grade. For detailed expectations see PDF entitled 'Some Comments on Interpretive Assignments' (available via Moodle).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Word Count: 1,350 words (two pages single-spaced), for a total of 2,700 words combined for both assignments. ● DUE: First one must be submitted by Week 5; second one before end of trimester (allow time for feedback on the first one).
<p>2. ARTICLE REVIEW (25% of total grade)</p>	<p>Write a critical review of Richard B. Hay's article "The Liberation of Israel in Luke-Acts: Intertextual Narration as Countercultural Practice," in <i>Reading the Bible Intertextually</i>, edited by R. B. Hays, S. Alkier, and L. A. Huizenga (Waco, TX: Baylor University Press, 2009), pp. 101-17 – available via Moodle.</p> <p>General Description: This assessment helps you gain exposure to alternative viewpoints and foster your critical thinking. Your review should include two main parts: first, it should indicate a thorough knowledge of the whole article read on its own terms. Second, it should engage the article both critically and personally.</p> <p>Specific Instructions: References: you are only expected to reference the one article, though you may refer to other secondary sources to set the article under review within the wider discussion of its subject matter if you so choose. When representing the article's substance, you are expected to articulate clearly the article's thesis and summarize the contents of the whole article, giving special attention to its fundamental aim and central theme(s). As you engage the article, you should do so both (1) critically, by raising significant issues of a critical nature, assessing such things as its understandability, whether it accomplishes its aim, if its assumptions are defensible and its argument cogent, and (2) personally, by indicating how the reading of the article has shaped you, and in what way (if at all) your regard it as important (be sure to demonstrate theoretically grounded reasons for judgments of approval or disapproval). As for presentation, your review should include a suitable introduction and conclusion, and be characterized by transparent clarity in its argument.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Word Limit: 1350 words ● DUE: Week 6
<p>3. INTERPRETIVE-RESEARCH ESSAY (40% of total grade)</p>	<p>This essay is similar to the shorter interpretive assignments for the unit and should focus upon your own close reading of the text of Luke 24:13-32 (see PDF handout entitled 'Some Comments on Interpretive Assignments'). Unlike the earlier interpretive assignments, however, this final essay should also interact critically with assigned reading for the unit</p>

	<p>and incorporate research from other secondary sources (articles/chapters, books, commentaries). IMPORTANT: use these secondary sources as resources to help you answer the questions we are using for the interpretive assignments, not to add material to your paper that is irrelevant to our set of questions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Word Limit: 2500 words ● References: min 9 (including at least 2 journals) ● DUE: Week 11
<p>All assignments are to be submitted via Moodle by 11:55pm on the day the class is scheduled, in the semester week indicated above, unless specified otherwise.</p>	

Students should also have a *working* knowledge of [PBC's Assessment Policies \(www.pbc.wa.edu.au\)](http://www.pbc.wa.edu.au) and then *Student Portal/Useful Links/Policies & Procedures/ Assessment Policies*) to assist in completing this unit.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK

Green, Joel B., 2021, *Discovering Luke: Content, Interpretation, Reception*, Discovering Biblical Texts, Eerdmans (available in The DTL 2 database via the PBC library).

ADDITIONAL REQUIRED READINGS

- Green, Joel B., 2012, "'Was It Not Necessary for the Messiah to Suffer These Things and Enter into His Glory?'" The Significance of Jesus' Death for Luke's Soteriology." Pages 71-85 in *The Spirit and Christ in the New Testament and Christian Theology: Essays in Honor of Max Turner*, edited by I. H. Marshall, V. Rabens, and C. Bennema, Eerdmans (available via Moodle).
- Hays, Richard B., 2009, "The Liberation of Israel in Luke-Acts: Intertextual Narration as Countercultural Practice." Pages 101-17 in *Reading the Bible Intertextually*, edited by R. B. Hays, S. Alkier, and L. A. Huizenga, Baylor University Press (available via Moodle).
- Janssen, Claudia, and Regene Lamb, 2012, "Gospel of Luke: The Humbled Will Be Lifted Up." Pages 644-661 in *Feminist Biblical Interpretation: A Compendium of Critical Commentary on the Books of the Bible and Related Literature*, edited by L. Schottroff and M.-T. Wacker, Eerdmans (available via Moodle).
- O'Day, Gail R., 1985, "Singing Woman's Song: A Hermeneutic of Liberation," *Currents in Theology and Mission* 12 (1985): 203-210 (available via Moodle).
- Phillips, Thomas E., 2003, "Reading Recent Readings of Issues of Wealth and Poverty in Luke and Acts," *Currents in Biblical Research* 1 (2003): 231-69 (available via Moodle).
- Zorrilla, C. Hugo., 1986, "The Magnificat: Song of Justice." Pages 220-37 in *Conflict and Context: Hermeneutics in the Americas*, edited by M. L. Branson and C. R. Padilla, Eerdmans (available via Moodle).

OTHER KEY REFERENCES

- Carroll, J.T., 2012, *Luke: A Commentary. New Testament Library*, Westminster John Knox.
- DeSilva, D.A., 2022, *Honor, Patronage, Kinship, & Purity: Unlocking New Testament Culture*, 2nd ed., IVP Academic.
- Edwards, James R., 2015, *The Gospel according to Luke*, Pillar New Testament Commentary, Eerdmans and Apollos.
- González, Justo L., 2015, *The Story Luke Tells: Luke's Unique Witness to the Gospel*, Eerdmans.

- Green, Joel B., 1997, *The Gospel of Luke*, New International Commentary on the New Testament, Eerdmans.
- Knight, Jonathan, 1998, *Luke's Gospel*, New Testament Readings, Routledge.
- Miller, Amanda C., 2014, "Bridge Work and Seating Charts: A Study of Luke's Ethics of Wealth, Poverty, and Reversal," *Interpretation* 68, pp. 416-27 (available via Moodle)
- Rowe, C. Kavin, 2012, *Early Narrative Christology: The Lord in the Gospel of Luke*, BZNW, De Gruyter.
- Wolter, Michael, 2016, 2017, *The Gospel according to Luke*, 2 vols., Baylor–Mohr Siebeck Studies in Early Christianity, Baylor University Press.