

ST. MARY'S ECUMENICAL INSTITUTE
Fall 2018

Tuesday

6:00 – 8:30 pm

BS719 Matthew and Mark

Prerequisite: BS600

Dr. Derek A. Olsen

Course Description:

Matthew and Mark, the first two books of the New Testament, present the earliest canonical accounts of Jesus, his disciples, and the birth of the movement that would become the church. This course will explore these two gospels in depth. We will look at the origins of the gospel genre, the relationship of the gospels to the Historical Jesus, and the key interpretive methods for analyzing the gospels but will spend the majority of the time reading through Matthew and Mark in parallel giving special attention to selections used in the Roman Catholic & Revised Common Lectionaries.

At the start of the term, class sessions will be a mixture of lecture and discussion; as we proceed through the term, the bulk of the time will be given to reading and interpreting the gospels together.

Course Requirements:

- **Reading:** Students should expect to read at most 850 pages of required reading and should come prepared to discuss readings in class.
- **Writing:**
 - Two 2-3 page exegetical methods papers applying particular tools to a passage to demonstrate grasp of the method. (15% of grade for each)
 - Two 7-page exegetical papers on selected texts (one on Mark, one on Matthew) will display facility with the exegetical methods taught and interpretive understanding. (30% of grade for each)
- **Other**
 - Because much of the student learning will occur within class discussions, attendance and participation are essential aspects of this class. (10% of grade)

Required Texts:

Carroll, John T. *Jesus and the Gospels*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2016. ISBN: 978-0664239725 (pbk.)

Powell, Mark Allan, ed. *Methods for Matthew*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2009. ISBN: 978-0521716147 (pbk.)

Rhoads, David, Dewey, Joanna, and Michie, Donald. *Mark as Story: An Introduction to the Narrative of a Gospel*. 3rd edition. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2012. ISBN: 978-0800699093 (pbk.)

Throckmorton, Jr., Burton J. *Gospel Parallels: A Comparison of the Synoptic Gospels, New Revised Standard Version*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson Press, 1992. ISBN: 978-0840774842 (hbk.)