

**St. Mary's Ecumenical Institute  
Fall 2020**

**Class Day & Time: Thursdays 1:00–3:00 p.m.**

**Course Name & Number: SS804 Currents in Gospel Studies**

**Instructor: Dr. Michael J. Gorman**

**Course Description:**

This seminar will consider trends in the study of the Gospels as a whole and in their distinctive theologies. Some of the trends to be examined include narrative criticism, intertextual and figural reading, anti-imperial criticism, post-colonial/Majority World interpretation, and theological readings. Students will work on all four Gospels but also focus on one Gospel as their specialty.

*Note:* this is a course offered in the seminary for STL (Licentiate in Sacred Theology) students that is also open to qualified E.I. students for cross-registration. Maximum class size: 12.

**Prerequisites:** STL or CAS matriculation, or permission of the dean and instructor

**Course Requirements:**

- **Reading:** Students should expect to read at most 1,000 pages of required reading (apart from the final project) and should come prepared to discuss readings in class. (Note: in addition to the books listed below, there will be several articles to read.)
- **Writing:** Required writing assignments:
  - Weekly online post of about 200 words on a discussion board (10%)
  - Two one-page, single-spaced discussion-starter papers (20%)
  - A final paper of approximately 4,000 words on one instructor-approved passage or theme in a Gospel (35%)
- **Other:**
  - Class participation (20%)
  - Two-part final presentation (15%). **Note: this will take place during an extended session (approximately 1-5 p.m.) during exam week and will *not* be on Monday.**
    - A presentation on a monograph of about 200 pages on the Gospel about which the final paper is written.
    - A presentation on the final paper.

**Required Texts:**

Jeannine K. Brown, *The Gospels as Stories: A Narrative Approach to Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John* (Baker Academic, 2020). 978-0801049842

Richard B. Hays, *Reading Backwards: Figural Christology and the Fourfold Gospel Witness* (Baylor University Press, 2014). 978-1481302333

Luke Timothy Johnson, *Prophetic Jesus, Prophetic Church: The Challenge of Luke-Acts to Contemporary Christians* (Eerdmans, 2011). 978-0802803900.

Yohanna Katanacho, *Reading the Gospel of John through Palestinian Eyes* (Langham Partnership, 2020). 978-1783687800

Scot McKnight and Nijay K. Gupta, eds., *The State of New Testament Studies: A Survey of Recent Research* (Baker Academic, 2019). 978-0801098796

Adam Winn, ed. *An Introduction to Empire in the New Testament* (SBL Press, 2016). 978-1628371338. **NOTE: This book is available as a free, downloadable E-book on the Knott Library site.**

The following booklet is published in England. You may purchase either a hard copy or a digital version:

Richard Bauckham, *The Gospels as Eyewitness Testimony*; <https://grovebooks.co.uk/products/b-48-the-gospels-as-eyewitness-testimony>