

**St. Mary's Ecumenical Institute
Spring 2021**

Thursday, 6:00 pm

BS622 Literature & Theology of the New Testament

Dr. Jennifer McNeel

Course Description

This course is an introduction to the New Testament in its historical and social settings, focusing on an exploration of the unique content and theological themes of each New Testament book. The tools and methods of biblical studies will be employed to engage in critical and theological readings of New Testament texts. As such, the course will enrich faithful Christian life and ministry in the world and serve as a foundation for future study of the New Testament within and beyond the Ecumenical Institute.

Course Requirements

- **Reading:** Students should expect to read at most 1,000 pages of required reading. In addition to readings from the required textbooks, students will also be required to read supplementary articles provided by the instructor and most of the New Testament.
- **Writing:**
 - Synoptic Gospels paper (5 pages; 20% of grade)
 - Final paper (10 pages; 35% of grade)
 - Report on supplemental book (2 pages; 5% of grade)
- **Other:**
 - 5 sets of exegetical/interpretive exercises (30% of grade)
 - Class attendance and participation (10% of grade)

Required Texts:

1. Mark Allan Powell, *Introducing the New Testament: A Historical, Literary, and Theological Survey*, Second Edition (Baker Academic, 2018), ISBN: 978-0801099601
2. Burton H. Throckmorton, *Gospel Parallels*, 5th edition with NRSV (Thomas Nelson, 1992), ISBN: 978-0840774842
3. One of the following books (student's choice):
 - a. Bruce W. Longenecker, *The Lost Letters of Pergamum: A Story from the New Testament World*, Second Edition (Baker Academic, 2016), ISBN: 978-0801097966
 - b. Paula Gooder, *Phoebe: A Story*, (IVP Academic, 2018), ISBN: 978-0830852451
4. One of the following study Bibles (student's choice):
 - a. The HarperCollins Study Bible (HarperOne, 2006), ISBN: 978-0060786847
 - b. The New Interpreter's Study Bible (Abingdon Press, 2003), ISBN: 978-0687278329
 - c. The Catholic Study Bible, 3rd edition (Oxford University Press, 2016), ISBN: 978-0190267230
 - d. The New Oxford Annotated Bible, 5th edition (Oxford University Press, 2018), ISBN: 978-0190276072

If a student already owns a different academic study Bible, he or she may ask the instructor if it will be acceptable for use in the class.