I. COURSE DESCRIPTION
An advanced study of the books of Matthew through Acts, emphasizing the problem of interpretation and the contributions of these books to biblical theology and godly living (catalog).

II. COURSE OBJECTIVES
The student who successfully completes this course will:
   A. Grasp the structure, arguments, and themes of the four Gospels and the Book of Acts,
   B. Be familiar with the historical and socio-political context of the Roman world in NT times,
   C. Be able to discuss the differences between the Synoptic Gospels and the Gospel of John
   D. Comprehend the main theories regarding source materials used to write the Gospels and Acts,
   E. Recognize the major Jewish sects, texts, and events of the Second Temple period that impact the Gospels and Acts.

III. COURSE TEXTBOOK

IV. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION PROCEDURE
   a. Textbook Reading. All students will read the assigned pages for the week in Powell. Each week a different student will be responsible to lead a 20 minute discussion on the reading (counts 30% of the semester grade).
   
   b. Book report and critical evaluation. Each student will select a book from the bibliography and write out an 8-10 page review to be presented in class, followed by Q and A. See sign-up sheet. (counts 30% of the semester grade).
   
   c. A final exam will be given covering the content of the course lectures and class discussions. (counts 40% of semester grade)

V. LATE PAPERS AND PROJECTS
All papers and projects are expected to be turned in on time. No late assignments will be accepted and a grade of zero will be given. Should a person become ill on due date and unable to attend class, they must submit the paper/project via email attachment on due date, showing that the assignment was completed in a timely fashion, although attendance was not possible. The paper/project will be presented in class at a later date.
VI. GRADES

A. Semester Grades - The following scale will be used to determine the semester grades:

- **A**: 97-100  
  4.0 grade points per semester hour
- **A-**: 93-96  
  3.7 grade points per semester hour
- **B+**: 91-92  
  3.3 grade points per semester hour
- **B**: 88-90  
  3.0 grade points per semester hour
- **B-**: 86-87  
  2.7 grade points per semester hour
- **C+**: 83-85  
  2.3 grade points per semester hour
- **C**: 80-82  
  2.0 grade points per semester hour
- **C-**: 78-79  
  1.7 grade points per semester hour
- **D+**: 75-77  
  1.3 grade points per semester hour
- **D**: 72-74  
  1.0 grade point per semester hour
- **D-**: 70-71  
  0.7 grade points per semester hour
- **F**: 0-69  
  0.0 grade points per semester hour

B. An incomplete ("I") may be given only upon the approval of the professor if the following four criteria are met:

1. The student presently has a passing grade for the course,
2. The student has not been able to complete course work because of serious illness or injury, death of family member, military reassignment,
3. Discusses with the professor the situation and gets his approval prior to dropping out of the course,
4. Files an academic request form with Enrollment services.

The student must remove the deficiency within sixty (60) days following the end of the semester, or the "I" turns to an automatic "F."

VII. ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY

Absolute truth is an essential belief and basis of behavior for those who believe in a God who cannot lie and forbids falsehood. Academic honesty is the application of the principle of truth in the classroom setting. Academic honesty includes the basic premise that all work which students submit must be their own and any ideas received from somewhere else must be carefully documented. By virtue of enrolling in this course, each student agrees to submit work solely based on this principle. Cheating and plagiarism will result in a semester grade of “F” with a note of the infraction placed in the student’s permanent file.

VIII. LEARNING DISABILITIES

If the student has any learning or other disabilities, s/he should inform the professor at the beginning of the semester. This will enable the professor to be aware of any special arrangements that must be made to enhance the learning process.

IX. COURSE CONTENT AND SCHEDULE

The first half of each session will follow the chapter structure of the textbook. The second half of the session will involve a critical examination of the four Gospels and Acts with particular attention given to literary structure, grammar, socio-political context, and the historical situation of the original readers.
BIBLIOGRAPHY


Sanders, E. P. The Historical Figure of Jesus. New York: Penguin, 1996.


