NEW TESTAMENT

Study in New Testament is the disciplined exploration of God’s revelation to the church using tools such as Greek language, historical background, and cultural insight. Interacting with the New Testament creates the knowledge base that a believer uses when building a comprehensive Christian worldview.

Objectives for students

- Develop skills of disciplined Bible study, including reading the New Testament;
- Understand the historical contexts of the New Testament and its books;
- Understand major themes of the Bible written by the church;
- Understand how the wisdom of the New Testament shapes Christian living and ministry; and
- Find inspiration and clear direction for passionate devotion to Christ and transformational service to His church and to the world.

Basic Studies

**BT510 • Hermeneutics.** 3 Credits.
An introduction to biblical interpretation. The course will survey the relationship of author, text, and reader in the interpretative process with the goal of determining the nature and context of divine revelation. Students will gain practical skill in interpreting the primary literary genres of Scripture. This course should be taken as soon as possible after entering seminary.

*Campus: St. Paul. Special Notes: BT/BI510 is a prerequisite for all advanced courses in Old Testament in St. Paul and a recommended prerequisite in San Diego.*

**BI510 • Hermeneutics.** 3 Credits.
An introduction to biblical interpretation. The course will survey the relationship of author, text, and reader in the interpretative process with the goal of determining the nature and content of divine revelation. Students will gain practical skill in interpreting the primary literary genres of Scripture. This course should be taken as soon as possible after entering seminary.

*Campus: San Diego. Special Notes: BI510 is a recommended prerequisite in San Diego.*

**BT514 • Interpretation and the Interpreter.** 3 Credits.
This integrative course provides exploration of how the interpretation of biblical texts intersects with the following: Human knowledge in global perspective; imagination in interpretation and formation; contextual theology in the faith community; speech-act theory and the interrelationship of author, text, and reader; and the role of differentiated leadership in the formation of the interpreter and process of interpretation.

*Campus: St. Paul. Special Notes: Enrollment limited to M.A.M.F.T. and Post-Graduate Certificate in M.F.T. students. Must be taken during first semester of enrollment as MAMFT or CERT in MFT student.*

**NT541 • Greek I: Beginning Greek.** 3 Credits.
A study of the fundamentals of New Testament Greek with respect to forms (morphology) and simple relationships (syntax). Special emphasis will be placed on preparing the student for the subsequent exegesis of the New Testament.

**NT542 • Greek II: Intermediate Greek.** 3 Credits.
A review and expansion of morphology, a survey of syntax, vocabulary building, and translation with a goal toward developing an exegetical methodology. The course will also include an introduction to textual criticism.

*Prerequisites: NT541 or passing of Greek Qualifying Exam.*

Introduction to Exegesis

**NT514 • The New Testament and the Interpreter.** 3 Credits.
An examination of the books of the New Testament, focusing on themes, theology, and interpretive methodologies coupled with consideration of the person of the interpreter: who they are, what they bring to the text, and who they are becoming as a result of encountering God through the New Testament.

*Prerequisites: BT514. Special Notes: Enrollment is limited to M.A.M.F.T. students. Campus: St Paul.*

**NT516 • New Testament Survey: Narratives, Letters, and Revelation.** 3 Credits.
An introduction to the New Testament, focused on the genre of NT books, their first century historical and literary contexts, and their theological purposes, with the goal of recontextualizing their messages in ministry contexts today.

*Prerequisites: BT510/BI510 (may be concurrent).*

**NT518 • New Testament: Exegetical Explorations.** 3 Credits.
A focused study of selected NT writings to develop further the exegetical skills of genre analysis, contextual study, and theological reflection and engagement.

*Prerequisites: BT510/BI510 and NT516.*
**NT652 • Greek Exegesis.** 1.5 Credits.
Exegesis of select texts from the Greek New Testament. Translation and syntactical work will be the backbone of the course, with a goal toward the preparation to teach or preach the text. Attention will also be provided to text-critical, lexical and grammatical issues.
Prerequisites: NT542.

**Advanced Studies**

**NT601 • Matthew.** 3 Credits.
A concentrated study in the interpretation of one of the Gospels. The meaning of the author will be examined, as well as various critical questions relating to the study of the Gospels.
Prerequisites: (St. Paul) BT510.

**NT602 • Mark.** 3 Credits.
A concentrated study in the interpretation of one of the Gospels. The meaning of the author will be examined, as well as various critical questions relating to the study of the Gospels.
Prerequisites: (St. Paul) BT510.

**NT603 • Luke.** 3 Credits.
A concentrated study in the interpretation of one of the Gospels. The meaning of the author will be examined, as well as various critical questions relating to the study of the Gospels.
Prerequisites: (St. Paul) BT510.

**NT604 • John.** 3 Credits.
A concentrated study in the interpretation of one of the Gospels. The meaning of the author will be examined, as well as various critical questions relating to the study of the Gospels.
Prerequisites: (St. Paul) BT510.

**NT605 • Acts.** 3 Credits.
Consideration will be given to the book's relationship to third Gospel, authorship, date, place of writing, destination, speeches, original text, purposes, structure, and an exegesis of an English version.
Prerequisites: (St. Paul) BT510.

**NT606 • Romans.** 1.5,3 Credits.
An in-depth analysis of one or more of the Pauline letters. The central theological themes of the letter will be explored, and there will also be an examination of introductory questions and the relevance of the letter for today's world.
Prerequisites: BT510 (St Paul).

**NT607 • 1 Corinthians.** 3 Credits.
An in-depth analysis of one or more of the Pauline letters. The central theological themes of the letter will be explored, and there will also be an examination of introductory questions and the relevance of the letter for today's world.
Prerequisites: BT510 (St Paul).

**NT608 • 2 Corinthians.** 3 Credits.
An in-depth analysis of one or more of the Pauline letters. The central theological themes of the letter will be explored, and there will also be an examination of introductory questions and the relevance of the letter for today's world.
Prerequisites: BT510 (St Paul).

**NT609 • Galatians.** 3 Credits.
An in-depth analysis of one or more of the Pauline letters. The central theological themes of the letter will be explored, and there will also be an examination of introductory questions and the relevance of the letter for today's world.
Prerequisites: BT510 (St Paul).

**NT610 • Ephesians.** 3 Credits.
An in-depth analysis of one or more of the Pauline letters. The central theological themes of the letter will be explored, and there will also be an examination of introductory questions and the relevance of the letter for today's world.
Prerequisites: BT510 (St Paul).

**NT611 • Philippians.** 1.5,3 Credits.
An in-depth analysis of one or more of the Pauline letters. The central theological themes of the letter will be explored, and there will also be an examination of introductory questions and the relevance of the letter for today's world.
Prerequisites: BT510 (St Paul).

**NT612 • Colossians.** 3 Credits.
An in-depth analysis of one or more of the Pauline letters. The central theological themes of the letter will be explored, and there will also be an examination of introductory questions and the relevance of the letter for today's world.
Prerequisites: BT510 (St Paul).
NT613 • 1 and 2 Thessalonians. 3 Credits.
An in-depth analysis of one or more of the Pauline letters. The central theological themes of the letter will be explored, and there will also be an examination of introductory questions and the relevance of the letter for today’s world.
Prerequisites: BT510 (St Paul).

NT614 • The Pastoral Letters. 3 Credits.
An in-depth analysis of one or more of the Pauline letters. The central theological themes of the letter will be explored, and there will also be an examination of introductory questions and the relevance of the letter for today’s world.
Prerequisites: BT510 (St Paul).

NT615 • Hebrews. 3 Credits.
An exegetical study of one of more of the General Letters or the book of Revelation. Attention is devoted to introductory issues, the meaning of the book, its theological contribution, and the message for the contemporary church.
Prerequisites: BT510 (St Paul).

NT616 • James and Petrine Letters. 3 Credits.
An exegetical study of one of more of the General Letters or the book of Revelation. Attention is devoted to introductory issues, the meaning of the book, its theological contribution, and the message for the contemporary church.
Prerequisites: BT510 (St Paul).

NT617 • 1 and 2 Peter. 3 Credits.
An exegetical study of one of more of the General Letters or the book of Revelation. Attention is devoted to introductory issues, the meaning of the book, its theological contribution, and the message for the contemporary church.
Prerequisites: BT510 (St Paul).

NT618 • The Johannine Letters. 3 Credits.
An exegetical study of one of more of the General Letters or the book of Revelation. Attention is devoted to introductory issues, the meaning of the book, its theological contribution, and the message for the contemporary church.
Prerequisites: BT510 (St Paul).

NT640 • Greek Bible Readings. 3 Credits.
Prerequisites: BT510 (St Paul).

NT662 • Advanced Greek Grammar. 3 Credits.
An introduction to the science of linguistics; a study of clauses and other large elements in the sentence; a survey of grammatical terms; the use of grammars, lexicons, concordances, and other tools for exegesis; and translation of selected passages from some of the more difficult books of the New Testament.
Prerequisites: BT510 (St Paul).

NT702 • The Parables of Jesus. 3 Credits.
The meaning, authenticity, and theology of the parables, as well as the principles and praxis of interpreting parables, are studied.
Prerequisites: BT510 (St Paul).

NT705 • New Testament Background. 3 Credits.
A study of the Jewish and Greco-Roman historical, religious, and literary background of the New Testament. Emphasis is placed on primary source material.
Prerequisites: BT510 (St Paul).

NT709 • The Historical Jesus. 3 Credits.
This course is a study of the origin and development of the three quests for the historical Jesus. The critical methodologies of each quest will be studied, along with the various portraits of Jesus proposed by the scholars of these quests. The context for the course is the worshipping community as it encounters Jesus and the renewal of worship that flows from meeting Him.
Prerequisites: BT510 (St Paul).

NT716 • New Testament Models for Spiritual Formation. 3 Credits.
An exploration of key models of spiritual formation found in the New Testament. This course will seek to combine the best of biblical study skills in the exegesis of several New Testament passages with their proper application to the spiritual formation of one’s own life and ministry.
Prerequisites: BT510 (St Paul). Special Notes: Cognate credit with SP716.

NT750 • Seminar in Textual Criticism. 3 Credits.
A study of paleography, sources of information about the text (Greek manuscripts, ancient versions, and patristic quotations), history of the text, principles of evaluation of variant readings, and actual evaluation of variant readings.
Prerequisites: BT510 (St Paul).
NT751 • Seminar in the Canon of the New Testament. 3 Credits.
A study of the reasons for the initial delay in the emergence of an NT canon and for its eventual emergence, the principles of selection, and the history of the development of the canon. The last item is treated both chronologically and in terms of the individual books that were accepted or rejected.
Prerequisites: BT510 (St Paul).

NT670 • Independent Study in New Testament. 1-9 Credits.
Research and study by arrangement with the professor. Permission is required.
Prerequisites: BT510 (St Paul).

Advanced Courses in Biblical Theology

BT610 • Issues in Global Biblical Studies. 3 Credits.
This course combines two essential pieces for preparing students for serious engagement in biblical scholarship. The first is an introduction to the history of the interpretation of the Bible, particularly the last two centuries. The second component addresses current issues in biblical scholarship, such as the use of the Old Testament in the New Testament, historiography, theological hermeneutics, biblical theology, and global approaches to biblical studies.
Prerequisites: BT510.

BT631 • History of Interpretation. 3 Credits.
Minor attention will be given to the schools and movements from the Apostolic Age to the middle of the 19th century, with major concentration on the schools and movements from the middle of the late 19th century to the present.
Prerequisites: BT510. Special Notes: Offered according to demand.

BT665 • Integrative Hermeneutics. 3 Credits.
An in-depth look at the human experience of interpretation, through the grid of philosophical hermeneutics and its intersections to theology.
Prerequisites: BT510.

BT705 • Unity of the Bible. 3 Credits.
An attempt to discern the unity of all of Scripture using a biblical theology approach.
Prerequisites: BT510 (St Paul).

BT717 • New Testament Theology. 3 Credits.
A detailed study of some of the themes of the New Testament from the standpoint of biblical theology.
Prerequisites: BT510 (St Paul).

BT751 • Seminar in Biblical Theology: New Testament. 3 Credits.
Selected themes from the biblical theology of the New Testament are examined. The course may concentrate on synoptic, Johannine, or Pauline theology.
Prerequisites: BT510 (St Paul).

BT770 • Biblical Studies Thesis. 3 Credits.
This course gives students the experience of engaging in a concentrated research project in biblical studies (OT or NT; dependent on concentration). The project will be undertaken under the supervision of a thesis supervisor and will be expected to meet a set of criteria as established by the Bible faculty at BSSP similar to those employed by better peer-reviewed journals and will involve an internal and external examiner.
Prerequisites: BT510.

BT780 • Biblical Studies Seminar (Capstone course). 3 Credits.
This course is designed to equip students toward their vocational objectives by granting them experience in teaching a course in an academic or church context, presenting an academic paper, or designing an educational curriculum. The course emphasizes leadership in the classroom, the role of spiritual and personal formation in academic research and presentation, and other issues pertaining to professional development.
Prerequisites: BT510.

BT670 • Independent Study in Biblical Theology. 1-9 Credits.
Research and study by arrangement with the professor.
Prerequisites: BT510. Special Notes: Permission is required.