

**Jesus and the Gospels**  
(NT 3320) Mondays 7–9:40 PM

Aims of the Course

1. Students will increase their mastery of the content, literary structure, and primary concerns of the New Testament Gospels and of Jesus' life, ministry, teachings, death, and resurrection as presented therein.
2. Students will gain in their appreciation of the Gospels and other ancient writings (especially the Pauline letters) as historical evidence for Jesus' life and teachings.
3. Students will identify the central theological convictions expressed in the Gospels and explore their continuing importance for Christian faith and discipleship.

Required Texts

1. A recent translation of the Bible (e.g., ESV, RSV, NASB, NRSV, NIV, NJB, REB). Two excellent tools for study are the *HarperCollins Study Bible* and the *NIV Study Bible*, which afford the reader quick access to representative mainline Protestant and evangelical lines of interpretation, respectively.
2. Craig L. Blomberg, *Jesus and the Gospels* (B&H Academic).
3. Richard Bauckham, *Jesus: A Very Short Introduction* (Oxford).

Course Requirements

1. Prompt attendance and participation in class discussion informed by the assigned reading. [10% of course grade]
2. Completion of a weekly reading quiz to be taken via the Canvas LMS each week beginning Sept. 9 by 11:59 PM Sunday. One (1) quiz may be skipped in the semester without penalty. [40% of course grade]
3. Coloring five (5) Synoptic pericopes according to a scheme to be distributed on Sept. 16, when the first of six (6) pericopes will be made available. This assignment will require the use of red, yellow, and blue colored pencils. More information will be made available in course. [25% of course grade]
4. A critical review of the required book by Richard Bauckham, *Jesus: A Very Short Introduction*. [25% of course grade]

Schedule of Readings and Discussions

Aug. 26	Introduction Blomberg, "Introduction" (pp. 1–7); Bauckham, chaps. 1–2
Sept. 2	Labor Day: NO CLASS MEETING
Sept. 9	The Historical Setting for Jesus' Ministry Blomberg, chaps. 1–3; Bauckham, chap. 3
Sept. 16	The "Synoptic" Gospels: Matthew, Mark, and Luke Blomberg, chaps. 6–8
Sept. 23	Synoptic Beginnings

- Blomberg, chaps. 11 and 12
- Sept. 30 NO CLASS MEETING: AGST/*First Things* Lecture, University Avenue Church of Christ, 1903 University Avenue @ MLK Drive. Bring a friend!
- Oct. 7 Jesus' Galilean Ministry  
Blomberg, chap. 13
- Oct. 14 Jesus' Galilean Ministry, continued  
Blomberg, chap. 14
- Oct. 21 Jesus' Teaching  
Blomberg, pp. 284–295, 299–306, 331–42; Bauckham, chap. 5
- Oct. 28 Jesus' Ministry in the Jerusalem Temple  
Blomberg, chap. 16
- Nov. 4 John's Story of Jesus  
Blomberg, chap. 9 and pp. 343–53
- Nov. 11 Jesus' Death and Resurrection  
Blomberg, chap. 17; Bauckham, chap. 7
- Nov. 18 Who Was Jesus?  
Blomberg, chaps. 10 and 18; Bauckham, chap. 6
- Nov. 25 NO CLASS MEETING
- Dec. 2 Who Is Jesus?  
Blomberg, chap. 19; Bauckham, chaps. 6 and 8