

**CHATTANOOGA STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE  
HUMANITIES AND FINE ARTS DIVISION**

**COURSE SYLLABUS**

**RELS 2620 – Biblical Studies II**

Instructor: (See individual syllabi for contact information)  
Phone:  
E-mail:

Credit Hours: 3  
Semester:  
Room:

**Catalog Course Description**

*Philosophical, religious, socio-political, and literary aspects of the Bible and its impact on Western Culture. New Testament.*

**Prerequisites:**

ENGL 1010

**Co requisites:**

None

**Textbook/Materials**

Elwell, Walter A. Yarbrough, Robert W. *Encountering the New Testament*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 2007.

Comfort, Philip W. ed. *The Origin of the Bible*. Wheaton, IL. Tyndale House Publishers, 1992.

The Bible in a modern translation, preferably the NASB, NIV, NKJV.

**Required Student Learning Outcomes**

**Program Student Learning Outcome for Humanities and/or Fine Arts (PSLO #3):** The goal of the Humanities and/or Fine Arts requirement is to enhance the understanding of students who, as citizens and educated members of their communities, need to know and appreciate their own human cultural heritage and its development in a historical and global context. Also, through study of Humanities and/or Fine Arts, students will develop an understanding, which they otherwise would not have, of the present as informed by the past.

**Course Student Learning Outcomes**

CSLO #1: Students will demonstrate the ability to analyze significant primary texts and works of art, ancient, pre-modern, and modern, as forms of culture and creative expression.

**1.**

### **Course Student Learning Outcomes (Cont)**

- CSLO #2: Students will demonstrate the ability to explain the ways in which humanistic and/or artistic expression throughout the ages expresses the culture and values of its time and place.
- CSLO #3: Students will demonstrate the ability to explore global/cultural diversity.
- CSLO #4: Students will demonstrate the ability to frame a comparative context through which they can critically assess the ideas, forces, and values that have created the modern world.
- CSLO #5: Students will demonstrate the ability to recognize the ways in which both change and continuity have affected human history.
- CSLO #6: Students will demonstrate the ability to practice the critical and analytical methodologies of the Humanities and/or Fine Arts.

### **Student Indicators**

Upon successful completion of the course a student should be able to:

- SI1. Explain the structure of the New Testament.
- SI2. Describe and evaluate various forms of biblical criticism.
- SI3. Articulate the basic content and themes of each New Testament book.
- SI4. Execute an inductive study of a selected New Testament Passage.
- SI5. Discuss the issues of authorship of selected books of the New Testament.
- SI6. Explain the issues surrounding transmission and preservation of the text
- SI7. Identify different literary aspects of the New Testament
- SI8. Describe the different religious practices of the 1<sup>st</sup> Century Roman Empire inhabitants.
- SI9. Describe the basic characteristics and worldview of classical Christianity.
- SI10. Recite key verses for understanding selected books of the New Testament.
- SI11. Participation in discussion and debate of selected New Testament topics

### **Required Assessments:**

- Exam #1: 100 point exam covering the definition of Gospels, biblical backgrounds, biblical criticism, themes and content of the Gospels. (PSLO #3; CLSO #1-5)
- Exam #2: 100 point exam covering the historical progress of the early church, the contents and themes of the historical writings. (PSLO #3; CLSO #2-6)
- Exam #3: 100 point exam covering the use of wisdom literature (Epistles), the contents and themes of the New Testament wisdom writings. (PSLO #3; CLSO #2-5)
- Exam #4: 100 point exam covering the prophetic writings, the contents and themes of the New Testament prophetic writings. (PSLO #3; CLSO #2-5)
- Paper: 100 point paper in which students are required to write a research paper on a selected topic in the New Testament. The topic is to be approved by the instructor and is due two weeks prior to the semester's end. The typed paper should be between four and five pages in length (normal margins and font) and should include a bibliography with at least three outside sources. References may be done in any format (parenthetical, footnotes, etc.) as long as sufficient acknowledgement is given to the original author. The criteria for grading include comprehension, argumentation, clarity and style. (PSLO #3; CLSO #2-6) **2.**

## CSLO/Assessment Alignment:

CSLO	CSLO #1	CSLO #2	CSLO #3	CSLO #4	CSLO #5	CSLO #6
Assessments	Exam 1	Exams 1-4 Paper	Exams 1-4 Paper	Exams 1-4 Paper	Exams 1-4 Paper	Exams 1-4 Paper

## Topics:

### 1. Preliminary Considerations

Topic 1: Introduction to Course (week 1)

View: Syllabus PowerPoint

View: PowerPoint Template for Texts

Topic 2: Why Study the New Testament? (week 1)

Assignment: *Encountering the New Testament* Introduction & Chapter 1

Assignment: Begin Study Guide 1

View: New Testament Overview PowerPoint

### 2. Encountering Jesus and the Gospels

Topic 1: Backgrounds: Time; Culture; Geography; Major Events (week 2)

Assignment: *Encountering the New Testament* Chapters 2-3

Assignment: Complete Study Guide 1

Topic 2: The Gospels and Structural Significance (week 2)

Submit: Quiz 1

Topic 3: The life of Jesus Christ (week 3)

Assignment: *Encountering the New Testament* Chapter 8

Assignment: Begin Study Guide 2

Topic 4: The Teaching of Jesus Christ (week 3)

Assignment: *Encountering the New Testament* Chapter 9

Topic 5: Biblical Criticism (week 3)

Assignment: *Encountering the New Testament* Chapters 10-12

Assignment: Complete Study Guide 2

Submit: Quiz 2

Exam I (week 4)

Assignment: *Origin of the Bible* chapters 1 & 2

### 2. Encountering Jesus and the Gospels (Cont.)

Topic 6: Matthew & Mark (week 5)

Assignment: *Encountering the New Testament* Chapters 4-5

Assignment: Study Guide 3

View: Matthew PowerPoint & Mark PowerPoint

Submit: Quiz 3

Assignment: *Origin of the Bible* chapter 3

Topic 7: Luke & John (week 6)

Assignment: *Encountering the New Testament* Chapters 6-7

3.

## Topics (Cont):

Assignment: Study Guide 4  
View: Luke PowerPoint & John PowerPoint  
Submit: Quiz 4

### 3. Encountering Acts and the Earliest Church

Topic 1: Acts part 1 (week 7)  
Assignment: *Encountering the New Testament* Chapters 13-14  
Assignment: Begin Study Guide 5  
View: Acts PowerPoint part 1

Topic 2: Acts part 2 (week 7)  
Assignment: *Encountering the New Testament* Chapter 15  
View: Acts PowerPoint part 2

Topic 3: Acts part 3 (week 7)  
Assignment: *Encountering the New Testament* Chapter 16  
View: Acts PowerPoint part 3  
Submit: Quiz 5

Exam II (week 8)  
Assignment: *Origin of the Bible* chapters 4 & 6

### 4. Encountering Paul and His Epistles

Topic 1: Introduction to Paul (week 9)  
Assignment: *Encountering the New Testament* Chapter 17  
Assignment: Begin Study Guide 6

Topic 2: Romans (week 9)  
Assignment: *Encountering the New Testament* Chapter 18  
View: Romans PowerPoint  
Submit: Quiz 6  
Assignment: *Origin of the Bible* chapter 9

Topic 3: I, II Corinthians & Galatians (week 10)  
Assignment: *Encountering the New Testament* Chapter 19  
Assignment: Study Guide 7  
Assignment: *Origin of the Bible* chapter 11  
View: I, II Corinthians PowerPoints & Galatians PowerPoint  
Submit: Quiz 7

Topic 4: Prison Epistles (week 11)  
Assignment: *Encountering the New Testament* Chapter 20  
Assignment: Study Guide 8  
View: Ephesians, Colossians, Philipians & Philemon PowerPoints  
Submit: Quiz 8  
Assignment: *Origin of the Bible* chapter 12

## Topics (Cont):

Topic 5: I, II Thessalonians, I, II Timothy & Titus (week 12)  
Assignment: *Encountering the New Testament* Chapter 21  
Assignment: Study Guide 9  
View: I, II Thessalonians, I, II Timothy & Titus PowerPoints  
Submit: Quiz 9  
Assignment: *Origin of the Bible* chapter 13  
Exam III (week 12)

## 5. Encountering General Epistles and the Apocalypse

Topic 1. Hebrews & James (week 13)  
Assignment: *Encountering the New Testament* Chapter 22  
Assignment: Study Guide 10  
View: Hebrews PowerPoint & James PowerPoint  
Submit: Quiz 10  
Assignment: *Origin of the Bible* chapter 14

Topic 2. Peter, John & Jude (week 14)  
Assignment: Study Guide 11  
Assignment: *Encountering the New Testament* Chapter 23  
View: I, II Peter, I, II, III John & Jude PowerPoints  
Submit: Quiz 11

Topic 3: Revelation (week 15)  
Assignment: *Encountering the New Testament* Chapter 24  
Assignment: Study Guide 12  
View: Revelation PowerPoint  
Submit: Quiz 12  
Assignment: *Origin of the Bible* chapter 8

Final Exam

## Grading Scale

90-100%	A
80-89%	B
70-79%	C
65-69%	D
Below 65%	F

## Course Delivery Format

**On-line Format** – This format requires that the entire class be conducted online. The syllabus, course material, contact information and presentations will be provided online through the course management system. Assessments may be conducted online or in a proctored environment.

## **College Policies**

This class is governed by the policies and procedures stated in the current Chattanooga State Student Handbook. Additional or more specific guidelines may apply.

### **ADA Statement**

Students who have educational, psychological and/or physical disabilities may be eligible for accommodations that provide equal access to educational programs and activities at Chattanooga State. These students should notify the instructor immediately, and should contact Disabilities Support Services within the first two weeks of the semester in order to discuss individual needs. The student must provide documentation of the disability so that reasonable accommodations can be requested in a timely manner. All students are expected to fulfill essential course requirements in order to receive a passing grade in the class, with or without reasonable accommodations.

### **Disruptive Students**

The term “classroom disruption” means – student behavior that a reasonable person would view as substantially or repeatedly interfering with the activities of a class. A student who persists in disrupting a class will be directed by the faculty member to leave the classroom for the remainder of the class period. The student will be told of the reason(s) for such action and given an opportunity to discuss the matter with the faculty member as soon as practical. The faculty member will promptly consult with the division dean and the college judicial officer. If a disruption is serious, and other reasonable measures have failed, the class may be adjourned, and the campus police summoned. Unauthorized use of any electronic device constitutes a disturbance. Also, if a student is concerned about the conduct of another student, he or she should please see the teacher, department head or division dean.

### **Affirmative Action**

Students who feel that he or she has not received equal access to educational programming should contact the college affirmative action officer.

### **Academic Integrity/Academic Honesty**

In their academic activities, students are expected to maintain high standards of honesty and integrity. Academic dishonesty is prohibited. Such conduct includes, but is not limited to, an attempt by one or more students to use unauthorized information in the taking of an exam, to submit as one’s own work, themes, reports, drawings, laboratory notes, computer programs, or other products prepared by another person, or to knowingly assist another student in obtaining or using unauthorized materials. Plagiarism, cheating, and other forms of academic dishonesty are prohibited. Students guilty of academic misconduct, either directly or indirectly through participation or assistance, are immediately responsible to the instructor of the class. In addition to other possible disciplinary sanctions, which may be imposed through the regular institutional procedures as a result of academic misconduct, the instructor has the authority to assign an “F” or zero for an activity or to assign an “F” for the course.

## **College Policies (Cont):**

### **Email Communication**

Please note all communication with instructors about your course work should be through the eLearn Email system. For assistance on how to use the eLearn Email tool go to this url: [http://river.chattanoogaastate.edu/orientations/Student\\_PDFs/eLearn\\_eMail\\_aug09.pdf](http://river.chattanoogaastate.edu/orientations/Student_PDFs/eLearn_eMail_aug09.pdf).

For all other communication the official email system used by the college is through Tiger Mail. This is accessible by clicking the blue paw icon from the top right hand side of your Tiger Web home page: <https://tigerweb.chattanoogaastate.edu/cp/home/displaylogin>.

**The instructor reserves the right to modify this syllabus in writing during the course of the semester.**