

**UNDERGRADUATE COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Term: **Spring 2010**  
Instructor: Mr. John L. Fortner  
Course #: THEO 2100  
Section: 101  
Course Title: **New Testament Overview**

Description:

A survey of the writings of the New Testament focusing on the Gospels, Acts, and Paul's letters. We will learn to contextualize these writings within their historical, social, literary, and theological settings. We will also investigate how later communities and individuals have interpreted and applied these texts (i.e., the history of interpretation or the reception history of the NT) as a means of thinking through how these texts might be heard and applied anew in our own time and contexts.

Required texts:

- Bible: preferably a scholarly translation (RSV, NRSV, NAB, NJB) with the apocrypha. I will primarily use the NRSV. Please bring your copy to every class.
- Richard A. Burridge, *Four Gospels, One Jesus? A Symbolic Reading*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 2005); ISBN 978-0-8028-2980-1
- Gerd Theissen, *The Shadow of the Galilean: The Quest for the Historical Jesus in Narrative Form* (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2007); ISBN 978-0-8006-3900-6
- Bruce W. Longenecker, *The Lost Letters of Pergamum: A Story from the New Testament World* (Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2003); ISBN 978-0-8010-2607-2
- Michael J. Gorman, *Apostle of the Crucified Lord: A Theological Introduction to Paul and His Letters* (Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 2004); ISBN 0-8028-3934-7
- We will also use various articles from Bruce M. Metzger and Michael D. Coogan, eds., *The Oxford Companion to the Bible* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1993). Articles from this book can be accessed through Marquette's library website: <http://libus.csd.mu.edu/record=b1730008~S1>
- Other readings (articles, handouts, and website links) will be given in class or made available on D2L as necessary.