

UNDERGRADUATE COURSE DESCRIPTION

Term: **Spring 2010**
Instructor: Mark A. Jennings
Course #: THEO 2100
Sections: 102 and 103
Course Title: **New Testament Overview**

Description:

This class will survey the entire New Testament text. In so doing, it supports Marquette's mission to "seek the truth about God and the world" in an ecumenical environment while preparing students for more advanced theological studies. Each book will be examined and interpreted in accordance to its historical and literary context. The historical questions will center upon the occasion of the writing and historical setting of the author, text, and audience. The literary questions will focus on the author's use of rhetoric, language, imagery, and narrative in the logic/theology of the text. Though this course will attend primarily to the original composition and meaning of each text, some discussion will be given to the theological contributions certain texts played in the development of Christian doctrine.

The course will include two exams (midterm and final) as well as a term project/paper. Class discussions will be the driving format of the course, supplemented by lectures. Students will be expected to come to class prepared to discuss the readings. This course will involve a substantial amount of reading.

Required texts:

- InterVarsity Press ~ "Exploring the New Testament, vol. 1 and vol. 2." The first volume covers the Gospels and Acts and is edited by D. Wenham. The second volume covers the letters and Revelation and is edited by I. Howard Marshall.
- Bible (Oxford NRSV is recommended, other versions may be used – if approved by the instructor)
- Additional required readings