

Department of Theology

UNDERGRADUATE COURSE DESCRIPTION

Term: **Spring 2008**
Instructor: Dr. John D. Zemler
Course #: Theo 101
Section: 1003
Course Title: New Testament Survey

Description:

We will enjoy a survey of the New Testament writings in terms of their history, assembly, theology(s), and use in ancient and modern times. A substantial portion of the semester will be spent on the four Gospels. Questions to be addressed include their literary relationships, oral features, intended audiences, and commonalities and differences. Specific questions dealing with the understanding of Jesus as the Christ, the nature of the Church, and the responsibilities and duties of the Christian will be considered. Additionally, the question about what the new Testament texts say about the "End Times" will also be a major area of research. Thus, we will endeavor to understand the symbols and meanings of the Book of Revelation. We will also travel through some of the letters of Paul and the Catholic Letters, studying them in their historical contexts and their contributions to theology. The New Testament will also be considered as a canonical text used in Christian worship and as having something to say about human suffering and one's relationship to the Holy.

Required texts:

- Saint Mary's Press College Study Bible: NAB (This is the required class Bible)
- Stephen Harris, New Testament: A Student's Introduction, 5th Ed.
- William Kurz, S.J., What Does the Bible Say About the End Times?
- Walter Wink: Jesus and Nonviolence: A Third Way
- Other required/study material will be placed on library reserve.
- Always Bring Your Syllabus to Class