1. Course Description

This course follows a sequential exegetical assessment of the Gospel of Mark, with the purpose of sharpening the exegetical skills learned in NT502, improving knowledge of New Testament Greek, and developing familiarity with the Gospel's narrative and theological features, with particular emphasis on Jesus' identity, mission and discipleship teaching.

2. Learning Objectives

The successful completion of the course will entail the following learning goals:

- To apply the relevant exegetical methods to a passage in the Gospels. Attention will be given to Gospel-specific methods (thematic analysis, and narrative and composition analysis)
- To develop familiarity with the Greek text of Mark, being able to translate and identify key features of the text.
- To develop acquaintance with Mark's distinctive narrative features
- To appreciate the theology of Mark's Gospel and its relevance for the Church
- To appreciate Mark's portrayal of Jesus and his mission
- To appreciate Mark's portrayal of the disciples and its implications for discipleship
- To be able to identify the main exegetical ideas that will lead to effective preaching and teaching of the Gospel of Mark

Mark's narrative is concerned with two interrelated questions: Who is Jesus? And what does it mean to be his disciple? The ultimate goal of this course is to obtain a deeper appreciation of the person, mission and teaching of our Lord, in order to serve him better as his followers, aligning ourselves with his Kingdom-bringing purposes.
3. Academic Requirements

The exegesis of the Gospel will be carried out in the original Greek language. Therefore, students are expected to have completed two semesters of Basic Greek (GL501 and 502). In addition, knowledge of the basic exegetical skills developed in NT502 is assumed.

Note: In 600 level Greek exegesis courses, you are required to show competency in the Greek language. If you do not demonstrate Greek competency (evaluated through quizzes, Greek vocabulary knowledge, and analysis of Greek grammar in your paper), you will not be given a passing grade (even if you pass the course according to your grade point average).

4. Course Format

A typical session will include: a) lecture on a designated section of Mark; and when appropriate, b) a discussion of theological/pastoral implications.

5. Course Requirements

Greek Competency Quiz. This test is scheduled for the first day of class, Sep 11th. The exam will include vocabulary, parsing of verbs, and translation. The best way to prepare for this exam is to review your first year Greek grammar, giving attention to parsing verbs. You need to pass the exam in order to take the class for credit.

Readings. Students will be expected to read the section of the assigned commentary (France) correspondent to the passages of the Gospel to be explored in class. Students will also be required to read the assigned book on the theology of Mark (Garland) in its entirety. A reading report stating the percentage of the material read must be submitted with the final paper (on the title page). A penalty of 1% of the final grade will be applied for every 10% of incomplete reading.

Exam. Due date: Dec 11th. Students will be given a final exam consisting of two essay questions on assigned passages in Mark. The questions will involve translation, parsing of key words, and an evaluation of the passage in light of Mark's major emphases. This is a “take-home” exam. Students may use NA28 to consult the context of the passage in Mark. The use of notes, books or Bibles in English is not permitted.

Close Reading Assignments. There are two graded exegetical assignments for this class.

a) Analysis of Themes and Motifs. Due date: Oct, 2nd.
b) Composition/narrative Analysis. Due date: Oct, 23rd.

Specific instructions for each assignment can be found on Sakai.
• Assignments should be type-written, with 1 inch margin on each side single-spaced, using serifed fonts (Brill, Times New Roman, etc) of no less than 10 point type face. The assignment is to be no longer than 1 ½ page long. Length limits will be strictly enforced.
• All assignments should be tagged on the top right corner as follows:

Name ____________________________________________ Date _____ Box Number_____

• All assignments are to be submitted electronically via the online learning platform. For essays, please submit a .docx document with Greek/Hebrew fonts in Unicode. This will facilitate the professor's comments and grading.
• Documents uploaded to Sakai should be named according to the following format: NT613_Last Name_Assignment #_Assignment title.
For example, NT613_Smith_Assignment 1_Analysis of Themes and Motifs
• While aesthetics is not a priority, the neatness of the presentation of the assignments is important and will affect grades.

Exegesis Paper. Assignment due on Nov, 30th. Students are to complete a major exegesis paper (12-15 pages double-spaced, including footnotes but not bibliography) on a chosen passage of Ephesians (3:14-19 excluded). The passage must be approved by the professor by Oct 23rd. The paper must integrate the exegetical skills learned in NT502 and subsequent courses. The paper must be an exegesis of the Greek text. Papers that do not show a substantial interaction with the Greek text will receive a failing grade. Detailed guidelines for the paper will be provided on the online learning platform.

6. Evaluation

Exam 20%
Close Reading Assignments 20%
Exegesis Paper 60%

7. Class Outline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Lecture</th>
<th>Assignment*</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>11-Sep</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
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<td>18-Sep</td>
<td>Introd (cont.)</td>
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<td>Mark 1:1-15</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<td>Mark 1:16-3:6</td>
<td>ASSIGNMENT DUE: Analysis of Themes and Motifs</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>9-Oct</td>
<td>READING WEEK</td>
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8. Bibliography

Required

Greek New Testament (NA28)


Recommended

Reference


Commentaries


Monographs


