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 (e.g. redaction analysis, narrative and composition analysis, etc)
- To read and translate Mark from the Greek text, being able to analyze complex grammatical aspects
- To develop acquaintance with Mark's stylistic distinctive 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

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 (e.g. text criticism, sentence flow/diagramming, lexicography, etc) is assumed.
Note: In 900 level Greek exegesis courses, you are required to show competency in the Greek language. If you do not demonstrate Greek competency (evaluated through translation, 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 Exam. This test is scheduled for the first day of class, Tue, Jan 30th. 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 correspondent to the passages of the Gospel to be explored in class. Other articles may be assigned when relevant to a given passage. Students will also be required to read the assigned book on the theology of Mark in its entirety by the last day of class. 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.

Greek quizzes. Two quizzes containing four passages (2 from Mark 1:1-8:21 and 2 from Mark 8:22-16:8) are assigned for translation and in-depth syntactical and grammatical analysis of the Greek text. Students will be given worksheets covering translation, parsing and specific questions on syntax and grammar. Bible software should not be used. Lexicons and Wallace's Grammar are permitted.

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

a) Analysis of Themes and Motifs. Assignment due on Feb, 13th.
b) Composition/narrative Analysis. Assignment due on Mar, 20th.
c) Redaction Analysis. Assignment due on Apr, 10th.
d) Literary Structure. Assignment due on Apr, 24th. (ThM only)

- Specific instructions for each assignment can be found in Sakai.
- Assignments are to be:
Type-written, with 1.25 inch left hand, 0.75 inch right hand, and 1.0 inch bottom margins, single-spaced, using seriffed fonts (Brill, Times New Roman, etc) of no less than 10 point type face. Assignments are 1-2 pages long (please refer to the specific instructions for each one). Length limits will be strictly enforced.

- Tagged in the top right corner as follows:

Name _______________ Assignment number ___ Grade ___ Date ______ Box Number_____

- All assignments are to be submitted electronically via Sakai. For essays, please submit a .docx document with Greek/Hebrew fonts in Unicode. This will facilitate the professor's comments and grading. For diagrams, please submit a .pdf file. For hand-drawn diagrams send a .pdf with the image properly scanned (no smartphone pictures).
- 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. Please refrain from submitting work containing coffee or water stains, or lines and arrows drawn without the use of a ruler.

**Exegesis Paper.** Students are to complete a major exegesis paper (5000-6000 words, including footnotes but not bibliography) on a chosen passage of the Gospel of Mark. The passage must be approved by the professor in an office meeting by March 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 Sakai.

**Research Paper.** ThM Students are to write a research paper (3000-4000 words, including footnotes but not bibliography) on the topic “The Secrecy Motif in Mark”. The paper should evaluate key arguments in Markan Scholarship on the topic and argue for a position regarding the function of the motif in the Gospel.

**6. Evaluation**

- Greek Quizzes 15%
- Close Reading Assignments 20%
- Exegesis Paper 40%
- Research Paper 25%

Updated: 1/12/18
Note on attendance: Attendance at every class is expected. A minimum attendance of 10 out of 12 classes is required to pass the class. Absence due to unavoidable circumstances has to be discussed with the professor.

7. Class Outline*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Lecture</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Translation/Assignment*</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>30-Jan</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>Read France, Introduction.</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<td>Mark 1:16-3:6</td>
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*The schedule may change according to the course dynamics.
8. Grade Scale

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9. Bibliography

Required

Greek New Testament (NA28)


Recommended

Reference


Commentaries


Updated: 1/12/18


**Monographs**


Updated: 1/12/18