

JESUS: HIS WORDS AND WORKS, BI-111-M

Bible [3 credits]

Christian Life College-Madison

Fall 2018

I. INSTRUCTORS

Although this course will utilize several capable instructors, the lead instructor for the course will be Greg Pechacek (gpechacek@citychurchonline.org). Further information about this course is available through email at CLCM@citychurchonline.org or by phone at 608-212-1528, ext. 302. Complete information about CLCM is available at: <http://citychurchonline.org/christian-life-college>

II. SCHEDULE

Thursday evenings, September 6 to December 20, with class times from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. CLC-Madison meets at Abundant Life Christian School, 4901 E Buckeye Rd., Madison.

III. DESCRIPTION

To Christians worldwide, Jesus of Nazareth is the centerpiece of history, the object of faith, hope, and worship. Even those who do not follow him admit the vast influence of his life. For anyone interested in knowing more about Jesus, study of the four biblical Gospels is essential. *Jesus: His Words and Works* is an introduction to these documents and their subject, the life and person of Jesus. This course will address the origin, nature and background of each gospel as well as a significant study in each narrative, focusing on the words and works of Jesus.

IV. OBJECTIVES

- A. To provide the student with a basic understanding of the life and teachings of Jesus Christ as presented in the four canonical Gospels, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.
- B. To introduce the student to key aspects of the interpretation of the Gospels, including literary genre, historical and literary backgrounds, exegetical methodology, composition, authorship, and the distinctives of each book.
- C. To introduce the student to the individual contributions and theological perspectives of each of the Gospel writers.
- D. To examine issues related to the historical Jesus, including the various quests for Jesus, the historical reliability of the Gospels, and a survey of the life and teachings of Jesus.
- E. To provide the student with the opportunity to grow more like their Lord and Savior Jesus Christ through a better understanding of his words and works.

V. TEXTBOOKS

- A. Required (Students are responsible for obtaining their own text books)
 1. Mark L. Strauss, *Four Portraits, One Jesus. In Introduction to Jesus and the Gospels.* (Zondervan: Grand Rapids, 2007).
 2. Robert L. Thomas and Stanley N. Gundry, *A Harmony of the Gospels: New American Standard Edition* (HarperOne, 1986).
- B. Recommended
 1. Phillip Yancy, *The Jesus I Never Knew* (Zondervan, 2002).
 2. *Dictionary of Jesus and the Gospels*, eds. Joel B. Green, Scot McKnight, I. Howard Marshall (Downers Grove, Ill.: InterVarsity, 1992).

VI. REQUIREMENTS

- A. Quizzes – Sections from Thomas and Gundry (above) will be read in conjunction with the course lectures. Weekly quizzes will be given on this material. See the course syllabus for the dates of these quizzes and material to be covered. If a quiz is missed with a legitimate excuse, the student should see the lead instructor about making it up. However, only three quizzes may be made up during the course.
- B. Research Paper - Students will write a 10-12 page paper of their choosing on a theological, geographical, biographical or textual *issue* from one of the four gospels (Topics must *matter* and be approved by the instructor). Papers should include the following components. (1) A 1-2 paragraph introduction which ends with a concise thesis statement followed by a single orienting paragraph which tells your readers how you are going to proceed in arguing your thesis. (2) The body of the paper should contain a summary of current scholarly arguments (both in favor and against your thesis) followed by your response to each argument in a separate section. Students should be careful to address both opposing and favorable views. Generous interaction with Scripture and other scholarship is essential for a satisfactory grade. (3) The paper should end with a 1-2 paragraph summation of your conclusions. All papers should be written in APA style, double spaced, in 12 point, Times New Roman font. For writing and citing help see: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/> or the APA cheat sheet at: <http://citychurchonline.org/christian-life-college>
- C. Mid-term and Final Exams – Students will write two examinations based on the main textbook (Strauss) and the lecture material presented in class. A study guide will be distributed one week before each exam.
- D. Attendance is mandatory - Failure to attend classes will result in an incomplete after 3 excused absences. An absence is considered excused when accompanied with a short email, sent prior to the absence, to the lead instructor explaining the absence.

VII. GRADING

	Percentage
Exams	50%
Quizzes	25%
Research Paper	25%

<i>Letter Grade</i>	<i>Scores</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>GPA</i>
A	93-100	Excellent	4.00
A-	90-92		3.67
B+	88-89	Very Good	3.33
B	83-87	Good	3.00
B-	80-82	Above Average	2.67
C+	78-79		2.33
C	73-77	Average	2.00
C-	70-72		1.67
D+	68-69	Below Average	1.33
D	63-67	Passing	1.00
D-	60-62		.67
F	0-59	Failure	.00
I		Incomplete	

VIII. EXTENSIONS: Extensions will not be given except for extenuating family or medical emergencies. Incompletes occur when class work is not completed during the semester. Incompletes

automatically become “F” thirty days after the semester ends.

IX. ACADEMIC INTEGRITY: Academic dishonesty constitutes a serious violation of scholarship standards at CLCM and can result in denial of credit and possible dismissal from school. Academic dishonesty includes cheating on assignments or exams, plagiarism, fabrication of research, the facilitation of academic dishonesty, and depriving others of necessary research resources.

X. CREDIT AND AUDITING

- A. The current cost of 3 credits is \$375. Fees are due on a schedule of ½ before the first class, and the final ½ before the fourth class. Other arrangements may be made if done with prior approval. Students who pay in full at or before the first class will receive a \$20 discount. Students who register and pay in full at least 2 weeks before the first class will receive an additional \$20 discount. Successful completion of this course will result in 3 credits towards an Associate of Arts degree in Biblical Studies from Christian Life College, Mt. Prospect, Illinois.
- B. This course may be audited for a lecture fee of \$140. Students who pay in full at or before the first class will receive a \$20 discount. Students who register and pay in full at least 2 weeks before the first class will receive an additional \$20 discount. There are no reading, paper, or exam requirements, but auditing students are urged to do all they can to keep in step with the reading and lecture schedule in order to gain the maximum benefit from the course. Graduates of CLCM may audit any course at the greatly reduced price of \$50 per course.
- C. Application Fee – There is a one-time Registration and Application fee of \$25. This one-time fee must accompany every first-time application for enrollment or audit.

XI. COURSE SCHEDULE

Week/Date	Lecture Topic/Focus	Assignment Schedule	Lecturer
Week 1 September 6	Class Orientation & Introduction to the Four Gospels	Strauss, 19-65 Gundry, 3-18	Greg Pechacek
Week 2 September 13	The Historical Setting of the Gospels	Week 2 Quiz Strauss, 92-122 Gundry, 19 -40	Elliott Pollasch
Week 3 September 20	The Religious Setting of the Gospels	Week 3 Quiz Strauss, 123-148 Gundry, 41-60	Jason Wood
Week 4 September 27	The Social and Cultural Setting of the Gospels	Week 4 Quiz Strauss, 149-170 Gundry, 61-80	Isaac Fleming
Week 5 October 4	The Gospel of Mark	Week 5 Quiz Strauss, 171-212 Gundry, 81-100	Jill Robertson
Week 6 October 11	The Gospel of Matthew	Week 6 Quiz Strauss, 213-258 Gundry, 101-120	Dave Carlson

Week 7 October 18	The Gospel of Luke	Week 7 Quiz Strauss, 259-296 Gundry, 121-140 Research Topic Due	Tom Flaherty
Week 8 October 25	Writers Workshop	Midterm Exam	Greg Pechacek
Week 9 November 1	The Gospel of John	Week 9 Quiz Strauss, 297-346 Gundry, 141-160 Research Topic Due	Craig Robertson
Week 10 November 8	Introduction to the Historical Jesus	Week 10 Quiz Strauss, 347-410 Gundry, 161-180	James Ungureanu
Week 11 November 15	Jesus' Early Life	Week 11 Quiz Strauss: pp 411-434 Gundry 181-200	Jason Wood
November 22	Thanksgiving Break	No Assignments	N/A
Week 13 November 29	The Message and Miracles of Jesus	Week 13 Quiz Strauss, 435-468 Gundry, 201-220	Isaac Fleming
Week 14 December 6	The Messianic Words and Actions of Jesus	Week 14 Quiz Strauss: 469-492 Gundry, 221-240	Nic Gibson
Week 15 December 13	The Death and Resurrection of Jesus	Strauss: pp 493-525 Gundry, 241-264 Research Papers Due	Paul Lundgren
Week 16 December 20	Final Exam	Final Exam	Greg Pechacek

*All dates and assignments are tentative and may be changed at the discretion of the instructor, according to the development of the course material. Be alert in class for any announcements of changes.