

The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary
83530 The Fourth Gospel
Fall 2008

Dr. Bill Cook
Professor of New Testament Interpretation
Office: Norton 239

Wednesday: 8.00-10.00
Classroom:
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COURSE DESCRIPTION

Exegesis of the Gospel of John with attention to its composition history, its relationship to the Johannine community and the Johannine epistles and apocalypse and its theological concerns in light of classical and contemporary research.

TEXTBOOKS

Keener, C. *The Gospel of John: A Commentary* (two volume set). Hendrickson, 2003

Brown, R. *An Introduction To The Gospel Of John*. Doubleday, 2003.

SEMINAR OBJECTIVES

1. To provide an environment of research and discussion for Ph.D. and Th.M. students on issues pertaining to the scholarly study of the Fourth Gospel.
2. To familiarize students with the scholarly issues related to study of the Fourth Gospel.
3. To explore key theological motifs and themes found in the Fourth Gospel.
4. To examine significant exegetical issues in the text of the Fourth Gospel.
5. To develop a deeper love of God and passion for Jesus Christ through a critical examination of the biblical text.

SEMINAR REQUIREMENTS

1. Attendance at all seminar sessions is mandatory with the exception of an emergency situation or prior arrangement with the professor. Excessive absences will result in a grade reduction or withdrawal from the seminar.
2. Each student is to complete the reading of Raymond Brown's, *An Introduction to the Gospel of John* Keener's introductory materials before the seminar begins. At the conclusion of the seminar each student will submit a statement verifying that they have completed the reading all of required textbooks.
3. Each student is to be prepared to participate in the discussion of the interpretation from the Greek text and Keener's commentary. One student will be responsible for leading the discussion each week and should be fully prepared to be the leader on the assigned day.

4. Research Paper: Every student will write one major paper on an assigned topic from John's Gospel. The paper is not to exceed twenty pages of text. The papers will be a thorough examination of the *assigned* topic with a meticulous focus on *controversial issues*. Each paper is to be written according to the *Southern Seminary Manual of Style*. A copy of your paper is to be provided for each person in the seminar *one week* in advance of your presentation. A one-letter grade penalty will be assessed for each paper that is not handed out in the seminar one week in advance of presentation (unless an emergency prevents you from handing it in on time). Furthermore, every paper should show evidence of interacting with some of the major commentaries and articles on John's Gospel (Bultmann, Barrett, Carson, Schnackenburg, Kostenberger, etc.)
5. Book Summary/Review: Furthermore each student will provide a detailed overview of one important monograph on the FG. The overview should give the reader a good sense of the argument of the book chapter-by-chapter as well as an evaluation of the monograph. Each student should be prepared to give a ten-fifteen minute overview of the book and then prepared to answer questions related to the books content and thesis.
6. Each student will respond to one paper. The student is to write a two-three page review of the seminar paper interacting with the paper's argument as well as critiquing style and format. The evaluation will be turned into the professor.

GRADING

- Written Projects and Presentations: 50%
- Seminar Participation: 50%

SEMINAR SCHEDULE

August 20: John 1-2: Ben Stubblefield is responsible to lead discussion
Book Summary: Dan Born: Maurice Casey, Is John's Gospel True?

August 27: John 3-4: Kyle Barrett is responsible to lead discussion
Book Summary: David Herrmann: Andreas Kostenberger, The Missions of Jesus and the Disciples According to the Fourth Gospel: With Implications for the Fourth Gospel's Purpose and the Mission of the Contemporary Church -

September 3: John 5-6: Dan Born is responsible to lead discussion
Book Summary: Terry Braswell: Robert Kysar, Voyages with John: Charting the Fourth Gospel

September 10: John 7-8: David Herrmann is responsible to lead discussion
Book Summary: Philip McClendon: Gary Burge, Anointed Community: The Holy Spirit in the Johannine Tradition-

September 17: John 9-10: Terry Braswell is responsible to lead discussion
Book Summary: Ben Stubblefield: Richard Bauckham, The Testimony of the Beloved Disciple: Narrative, History, and Theology in the Gospel of John-

September 24: No Seminar

October 1: John 11-12: Philip McClendon is responsible to lead discussion
Book Summary: Kyle Barrett: Andrew Lincoln, Truth on Trial: The Lawsuit Motif in the FG

October 8: Reading Week

October 15: John 13-14: Ben Stubblefield is responsible to lead discussion
Paper: David Herrmann John's Prologue: Background and Structure
Respondent:

October 22: John 15-17: Kyle Barrett is responsible to lead discussion
Paper: Ben Stubblefield - John's Use of the Old Testament (special emphasis on the Passion Narratives):
Respondent:

October 29: John 18-19: Dan Born and David Herrmann are responsible to lead discussion
Paper: Terry Braswell - The Atonement in the FG: Terry Braswell
Respondent:

November 5: John 20-21: Terry Braswell and Philip McClendon are responsible for leading discussion
Paper: Dan Born - History and Theology in the FG (with a special emphasis on the Passion and Resurrection Narratives):
Respondent:

November 12: Paper: Philip McClendon - Is the FG Anti-Semitic: The Jews in John's Gospel:
Respondent:

Paper: Kyle Barrett - Johannine Asides and Seams
Respondent

November 19: Evangelical Theological Society

November 26: Reading Days