

ACTS*Associated Canadian Theological Schools*
*NEW TESTAMENT THEOLOGY***BIE 552A**

Semester: Spring 2012

Times: Mondays, 8:30 – 11:10 am

Dr. Brian M. Rapske

3 Credit Hours

Prerequisite: BIE 505

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will first ask the question “What is New Testament Theology?” It will consider the various responses that have been given in answer to that question and argue a process that addresses the concerns in doing NT theology. It will then engage a study of the major themes and theological expressions of the New Testament documents in the context of their historical development, listening for both commonalities and distinctives in theological expression.

II. COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course aims to help the student to:

- A. define New Testament theology and its relationship to other theological methods;
- B. examine how the discipline of New Testament theology has developed over time and the methodologies that have been employed;
- C. appreciate how the issues of unity and diversity impact New Testament theology;
- D. discover what are the principal theological themes of the several major blocks of material in the New Testament and how these build a New Testament theological perspective; and
- E. apply insights derived from New Testament theology to contemporary life issues.

III. REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

- A. *The Bible*, preferably a contemporary translation (e.g., *NIV* or *NRSV*).
- B. Frank Thielman, *Theology of the New Testament* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2005) 725 pages. [Noted in the Schedule as “T”.]
- C. James D.G. Dunn, *New Testament Theology: An Introduction* (LBT 3; Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2009) 224 pages.

IV. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Course Load. Typically, approximately 40 hours are required to complete the work necessary to earn 1 semester hour of credit—hence, 120 hours for a 3 credit course. Assignments must be completed and submitted on or before the deadlines noted in the syllabus in order to receive credit without penalty for this course. Should you experience a *significant* health/family crisis during the course, be sure to notify both the Registrar and the professor. The professor marks to the following standard:

Letter Grade	Percentage
A+	97-100
A	93-96
A-	90-92
B+	85-89
B	80-84
B-	75-79
C+	70-74
C	65-69
C-	60-64
F	Below 59

Contacting the Professor: If you need to arrange for a personal meeting or engage a discussion with the professor, your first recourse should be to speak to him before or after class. Alternately you can e-mail him (brian.rapske@twu.ca). For more direct contact, you may telephone his ACTS office number (604-888-7592; or 604-888-7511 ext. 3868) Monday through Thursday. If he is out of his office when you call, leave a voice message. His campus office is on the main floor in the SW corner of the Fosmark Centre at TWU (NBS office #128).

The following constitute the graded requirements for the course:

A. Readings & Participation (25%)

1. Readings (10%)

Read the assigned course textbooks and the Scripture portions noted in the syllabus. You will also be expected to supplement the above assigned readings by an additional 150 pages as a means of resourcing the NT theologian and theological research paper assignments. ***Report Due: Apr 16/12***

2. Participation (15%)

There are two components to the participation mark—the larger (10%) is classroom participation; the smaller (5%), involvement in one online discussion forum.

Classroom Participation. Consistent attendance, personal preparation and intelligent participation in informal and organized discussions in class ensure that you obtain the greatest benefit from this course. These requirements will be graded by the professor with your assistance.

Student Self-Evaluation Due: Apr 09/12

Discussion Forum. You are required to engage in one internet-based discussion forum on the *MyCourses* webpage in the week March 25/12 to 31/12. You will be assigned to one of several discussion groups. A question will be found on the webpage which you should keep in mind as you are reading the assigned pages of the textbook and any other resources consulted that week. Your contributions to the forum discussion should be concise, to the point and several—avoid “windy” monologues. The goal of the forum is to engage the issue/question in a way that fosters interaction with and mutual enrichment of colleagues who are also taking this course. You should aim to enter the forum discussion prepared, beginning on the Wednesday of the week of the online forum. The professor will begin to monitor these discussions beginning on the Thursday. He may also give (re)direction to the discussion, and/or add his own observations/insights as appropriate. ***You must participate in the forum, giving evidence that you have done the reading in your dialogue. Your grade for this part of the course will be based upon the fact, the frequency and the quality of your contribution.***

B. Written Assignments (80%)

Submission of Assignments. The grades for written work will be determined on the basis of close compliance with the instructions given, organization, content, and style. The professor prefers to accept written work that has been *electronically posted to the MyCourses website* (<https://courses.mytwu.ca/>) in the “Workspace” files there noted. Please remember if you post to the workspace that you should “toggle” your work for security. Alternately, you may wish to submit your work in *hardcopy* format. Faxed course work is unacceptable. As a precaution against the potential of a catastrophic loss, it is most strongly advised that you *maintain current copies of all e-documents and/or keep hardcopies of all submitted assignments.*

Paper Formatting etc. Please consult the “*Important Academic Notes from ACTS*” supplement at the end of the syllabus.

1. Book Review and Critique (20%)

Review and critique James D.G. Dunn, *New Testament Theology: An Introduction*. The *review* portion in which you will summarize the content and argument(s) of the book should constitute no more than 2/3 of the project. The *critique* portion in which you assess, evaluate and appreciate the text should comprise 1/3 of the project. The book review and critique should be approximately eight to nine (8-9) typewritten and double spaced pages. For samples and general format of a book review and critique, visit the “Review of Biblical Literature” website.¹

Due: Feb 06/12

¹ Review of Biblical Literature: <http://www.bookreviews.org/>

2. New Testament Theologian Review & Assessment (10%)

Select one of the significant personalities who have either written NT theologies or contributed to the discussion (see list) and provide a written review and assessment of their contribution. It should carry the following elements:

- a brief biographical sketch of the theologian and the theologian's confessional orientation
- a consideration of two or three important presuppositions which have guided or influenced their work in NT theology
- a notice of two or three of the theologian's major contributions to the field of NT theology, whether in terms of ideas, perspectives presented, etc.
- two or three evaluative comments about their overall contribution
- a bibliographical note of their key work(s) in NT theology
- a bibliography of sources you consulted in order to complete the project

Your written review and assessment should be no more than five (5) pages double spaced.

Due: Mar 05/12

3. Theological Research Paper (30%)

The theological research paper should be based upon ONE of the options noted below:

- i. What is the *mission* of Jesus according to the Gospels? Note both the commonalities and distinctives.
- ii. How does the *second coming* of Jesus fit into the 'task theology' of Paul's epistles? Note both the commonalities and distinctives.
- iii. How is the *example* of Jesus employed in theologically engaging the issue of Christian suffering in the non-Pauline letters and Revelation? Note both the commonalities and distinctives.

The paper will be well-researched and appropriately footnoted. You should begin by familiarizing yourself with the relevant passages of Scripture *before* going to theological texts, commentaries and/or specialist studies. The paper should make use of *at least* 12 significant sources of which fully 1/3 are from significant journals and periodicals² (your count should not include Bibles, study Bibles, or versions). Give a full bibliography of all sources you have consulted. The body of the paper (Introduction, Discussion, Conclusions) should not exceed fifteen (15) double spaced typewritten pages of text.

Due: Apr 02/12

² Search protocol to access TWU online periodicals: 1) www.twu.ca/library/ 2) choose "Article Indexes & Databases" 3) choose "Religious Studies" 4) choose "ATLA Religion Database with ATLA Serials" 5) Enter your username and password 6) Click "Scriptures" or "Keyword" → etc. [NOTE: Search protocols change from time to time. If you do not have success in your search, please consult a TWU Librarian for assistance.]

4. Final Examination (15%)

The final examination will be of the “take home” variety. Details concerning its content will be discussed on the last day of classes. **Due: Apr 16/12**

V. SCHEDULE

Date	Lecture Outline	ASSIGNMENTS DUE/Readings
A. INTRODUCTION – NT THEOLOGY AND NT IN CONTEXT		
Jan 16	1. Syllabus & Course Introduction 2. NT Theology and NT in Context	T: 19-42
B. THE THEOLOGY OF THE GOSPELS & ACTS		
Jan 23	1. Introduction 2. Mark 3. Matthew	T: 45-110
Jan 30	4. Luke-Acts	T: 111-149
Feb 06	5. John 6. Theological Integration	T: 150-216 BOOK REVIEW & CRITIQUE DUE
C. THE THEOLOGY OF PAUL		
Feb 13	1. Introduction 2. Thessalonians 3. Galatians	T: 219-275
Feb 20	4. Corinthians 5. Philippians	T: 276-341
Feb 27-Mar 02	Reading Week & Modular Courses	
Mar 05	6. Romans 7. Colossians 8. Philemon 9. Ephesians	T: 342-407 NT THEOLOGIAN REPORT DUE
Mar 12	10. Pastoral Epistles 11. Theological Integration	T: 408-479

D. THE THEOLOGY OF THE NON-PAULINE EPISTLES & REVELATION

Mar 19	1. Introduction 2. James 3. Jude 4. Peter	T: 483-535, 569-584
Mar 26 (Online)	5. Letters of John 6. Hebrews	T: 536-568, 585-611
Apr 02	7. Revelation 8. Theological Integration	T: 612-677 <i>THEOLOGICAL RESEARCH PAPER DUE</i>

E. NT THEOLOGICAL SYNTHESIS

<i>Apr 09</i>	9. The Theological Unity of the NT	T: 681-755 <i>SELF-EVALUATION DUE</i>
<i>Apr 16</i>	(No class)	<i>FINAL EXAM DUE & READING REPORT DUE</i>

VI. SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY

A. Primers & Discussions

Adam, A.K.M. *Making Sense of New Testament Theology: "Modern" Problems and Prospects*. Studies in American Biblical Hermeneutics, 11; Macon, GA: Mercer Univ. Press, 1995.

Balla, P. *Challenges to New Testament Theology*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 1997.

Boers, H. *What is New Testament Theology? The Rise of Criticism and the Problem of Theology of the New Testament*. Philadelphia: Fortress, 1979.

Carson, D. A. "Current Issues in Biblical Theology: A New Testament Perspective." *BBR* 5 (1995): 17-41.

Fuller, R.H. "New Testament Theology." In *The New Testament and Its Modern Interpreters*. E.J. Epp and G.W. MacRae, eds. 565-84. Philadelphia: Fortress/Atlanta: Scholars Press, 1989.

Hasel, G. *New Testament Theology: Basic Issues in the Current Debate*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1978.

Hunter, A.M. *Introducing New Testament Theology*. Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1958.

Kasemann, E. "The Problem of a New Testament Theology." *NTS* 19 (1973): 135-45.

Morgan, R. "New Testament Theology." In *Biblical Theology: Problems and Perspectives: In Honor of J. Christian Beker*. S. Kraftchick, C. Myers, Jr., and B. Ollenburger, eds. 104-30. Nashville: Abingdon, 1995.

Morgan, R. "Theology (NT)." In *Anchor Bible Dictionary*. Edited by D. Freedman, 6:473-83. New York: Doubleday, 1992.

Raisanen, Heikki. *Beyond New Testament Theology: A Story and a Programme*. 2d ed. London: SCM, 2000.

Via, D.O. *What Is New Testament Theology?* Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2002.

B. Individual Theologies

Bultmann, R.K. *Theology of the New Testament*. 2 vols. Translated by K. Grobel. New York: Scribner, 1951-55.

Caird, G.B. *New Testament Theology*. L.D. Hurst, rev. ed. Oxford: Clarendon, 1994.

Conzelmann, Hans. *An Outline of the Theology of the New Testament*. J. Bowden, tr. New York: Harper & Row, 1968.

Dunn, James D. G. *The Theology of Paul the Apostle*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1998.

Goppelt, L. *Theology of the New Testament*. 2 vols. John E. Alsup, tr., Jurgen Roloff ed. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1981, 1982.

Guthrie, D.A. *New Testament Theology*. Downers Grove: IVP, 1981.

Kummel, W.G. *The Theology of the New Testament According to Its Major Witnesses: Jesus, Paul, John*. J. Seely, tr. Nashville: Abingdon, 1973.

Ladd, G.E. *A Theology of the New Testament*. D.A. Hagner, rev. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1993.

Marshall, I.H. *New Testament Theology: Many Witnesses, One Gospel*. Downers Grove: IVP, 2004.

Matera, F.J. *The Testament Theology: Exploring Diversity and Unity*. Louisville/London: Westminster John Knox, 2007.

- Morris, L. *New Testament Theology*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1986.
- Neill, S. *Jesus Through Many Eyes: Introduction to the Theology of the New Testament*. Philadelphia: Fortress, 1976.
- Richardson, A. *An Introduction to the Theology of the New Testament*. New York: Harper, 1958.
- Schelkle, K.H. *Theology of the New Testament*. 3 vols. W. Jurgens, tr. Collegeville, MN: Liturgical, 1971-77.
- Schlatter, Adolf. *The History of the Christ: The Foundation for New Testament Theology and The Theology of the Apostles: The Development of New Testament Theology*. 2 vols. A. Kostenberger, tr. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1997, 1998.
- Schreiner, T.R. *New Testament Theology: Magnifying God in Christ*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2008.
- Schweizer, Eduard. *A Theological Introduction to the New Testament*. O. Dean, Jr., tr. Nashville: Abingdon, 1991.
- Stauffer, E. *New Testament Theology*. J. Marsh, tr. New York: Macmillan, 1955.
- Strecker, G. *Theology of the New Testament*. F.W. Horn, ed. and M.E. Boring, trans. New York: Walter De Gruyter/Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2000.
- Thielman, F. *Theology of the New Testament*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2005.
- Wright, N.T. *The New Testament and the People of God*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1992.
- Zuck, R.B. and D.L. Bock, eds. *A Biblical Theology of the New Testament*. Chicago: Moody Press, 1994.
- C. Cambridge New Testament Theology Series – J.D.G. Dunn, gen. ed.**
- Bauckham, R. *The Theology of the Book of Revelation*. NTT; Cambridge: CUP, 1993.
- Chester, A. and R.P. Martin. *The Theology of the Letters of James, Peter, and Jude*. NTT; Cambridge: CUP, 1994.
- Donfried, K.P. and I.H. Marshall. *The Theology of the Shorter Pauline Letters*. NTT; Cambridge: CUP, 1993.

- Dunn, J.D.G. *The Theology of Paul's Letter to the Galatians*. NTT; Cambridge: CUP, 1993.
- Dunn, J.D.G. *Unity and Diversity in the New Testament: An Inquiry into the Character of Earliest Christianity*. Philadelphia: Westminster, 1977.
- Furnish, V.P. *The Theology of the First Letter to the Corinthians*. NTT; Cambridge: CUP, 1999.
- Green, J.B. *The Theology of Luke*. NTT; Cambridge: CUP, 1995.
- Haacker, K. *The Theology of Paul's Letter to the Romans*. NTT; Cambridge: CUP, 2003.
- Jervell, J. *The Theology of the Acts of the Apostles*. NTT; Cambridge: CUP, 1996.
- Lieu, J. *The Theology of the Johannine Epistles*. NTT; Cambridge: CUP, 1991.
- Lincoln, A.T. and A.J.M. Wedderburn. *The Theology of the Later Pauline Letters*. NTT; Cambridge: CUP, 1993.
- Lindars, B. *The Theology of the Letter to the Hebrews*. NTT; Cambridge: CUP, 1991.
- Luz, U. *The Theology of the Gospel of Matthew*. J. Bradford Robinson, tr. NTT; Cambridge: CUP, 1995.
- Murphy-O'Connor, J. *The Theology of the Second Letter to the Corinthians*. NTT; Cambridge: CUP, 1991.
- Smith, D.M. *The Theology of the Gospel of John*. NTT; Cambridge: CUP, 1995.
- Telford, W.R. *The Theology of the Gospel of Mark*. NTT; Cambridge: CUP, 1999.
- Young, F. *The Theology of the Pastoral Letters*. NTT; Cambridge: CUP, 1994.

November, 2012

Supplement: Important Academic Notes from ACTS

Web Support – Student Portal <https://students.twu.ca>

All students at TWU have a TWUPass username and password. This is determined at the time of an online application or can be managed through the computing services help desk or the link on the student portal. Your student email account is also available through this student portal and is vital for communication about grades, account statements, lost passwords, sign-up instructions, etc. If you do not know your account or password, there is a link at the login area called “I forgot my password.” When you click on that link, you will be walked through the process of retrieving your account information.

Campus Closure

In the event of deteriorating weather conditions or other emergency situations, every effort will be made to communicate information regarding the cancellation of classes to the following radio stations CKNW (980 AM), CKWX (1130 AM), STAR FM (107.1 FM), PRAISE (106.5 FM) and KARI (550 AM). As well, an announcement will be placed on the University’s campus closure notification message box (604.513.2147) and on the front page of the University’s website (<http://www.twu.ca> – also see <http://www.twu.ca/conditions> for more details).

An initial announcement regarding the status of the campus and cancellation of classes is made at 6:00 AM and covers all classes beginning before 1:00PM. A second announcement is made at 11:00AM that covers all classes which begin between 1:00PM and 5:00PM. A third announcement is made at 3:00PM and covers those classes which begin after 5:00PM.

Paper Formatting

Students need to adhere to Turabian Notes (Bibliography) format except for in counselling courses, for which APA format is used and for CanIL courses.

Students are strongly encouraged to use RefWorks (available through the library home page www.twu.ca/library) as their bibliographical manager and as a tool for formatting bibliographies. They will need to be aware of the need to “clean up” most bibliographies generated by this program. Students are encouraged to view the documents on the following websites for format samples: http://www.press.uchicago.edu/books/turabian/turabian_citationguide.html or www.dianahacker.com/resdoc/. Note that in RefWorks the available formatting styles are those of Turabian (Notes), 7th edition, and APA – American Psychological Association, 6th edition. For Turabian, note that there are two formats – Notes (or Bibliography Style) and Reference List (a short format citation style). ACTS uses the Notes (Bibliography) format, not Reference List.

Counselling students are expected to purchase the APA Publications Manual. More information found at the following website: <http://www.apastyle.org/pubmanual.html>.

For free online programs that will enable you to create properly formatted bibliography citations, go to <http://www.calvin.edu/library/knightcite/> (“Chicago stands for “Turabian”) or <http://www.sourceaid.com/citationbuilder/>

CANIL students can locate this on the CANIL intranet, under the “student” side. A hard copy is given to incoming students in the fall.

Please check with your professor to see which one he/she recommends you use!!

Course Evaluations

Course evaluations are an important aspect of improving teaching outcomes and for students and faculty professional development. Therefore, completion of course evaluations are considered a course expectation. Professors will schedule time to fill out the online course evaluation (20-30 minutes) during their last scheduled class of the semester, for students to complete on their personal laptop or a collegium computer. Students who are absent or otherwise unable to complete the online course evaluation in the last class, will be expected to make every effort to do so by the last day of exams. Information about how to access online evaluation forms will be provided to the faculty and students prior to the last week of classes by the ACTS Administration.

Research Ethics

Please note that all research projects involving human participants undertaken by members of the TWU university community (including projects done by ACTS students to satisfy course or degree requirements) **MUST** be approved by the Trinity Western University Research Ethics Board. Information and forms may be found at <http://www.twu.ca/academics/research/ethics/>

Those needing additional clarification may contact the ACTS Academic Dean's office. Please allow at least three (3) weeks from the date of submission for a review of the application.

Academic Integrity and Avoiding Plagiarism at TWU

As Christian scholars pursuing higher education, academic integrity is a core value of the entire TWU community. Students are invited into this scholarly culture and required to abide by the principles of sound academic scholarship at TWU. This includes, but is not limited to, avoiding all forms of plagiarism and cheating in scholarly work. TWU has a strict policy on plagiarism (see academic calendar 2008-09, pp. 37-38). Further details on this subject are contained in the ACTS Student Handbook in section 4.12. The handbook is available online on the ACTS webpage (www.acts.twu.ca) at the following link: www.acts.twu.ca/Handbook.html.

Learning what constitutes plagiarism and avoiding it is the student's responsibility. An excellent resource describing plagiarism and how to avoid it has been prepared by TWU Librarian William Badke and is freely available for download (PPT file) or used as flash (self-running) tutorials of varying lengths from:

<http://acts.twu.ca/library/plagiarism.ppt>

<http://acts.twu.ca/library/Plagiarism.swf> (14 minute flash tutorial)

http://acts.twu.ca/library/Plagiarism_Short.swf (8 minute flash tutorial)

Equity of Access

It is the responsibility of a student with a learning disability to inform the ACTS Director of Student Life of that fact before the beginning of a course so that necessary arrangements may be made to facilitate the student's learning experience. We are unable to accommodate any student who informs the Director of Student Life of a disability after the beginning of class.