



BIBS 224/324

The Gospel of Luke and the Acts of the Apostles

Course Outline 2020

SEMESTER 1 2020

Lectures/Videoconference:

Tuesdays 2:00-3:50 pm;

Videoconference:

Tuesday 7 April, 6:10-8:00pm

Distance students only

Lecturer:

Dr Don Moffat

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This course provides a detailed discussion of important themes in the theology and in the interpretation of Luke's New Testament writings, with exegesis of selected texts.

You are about to study the writings of the largest contributor to the New Testament. With the enormous interest in the Pauline epistles, people tend to think they are they make up largest portion of the New Testament, however, that is not the case. At 27.1 percent of the New Testament, the Gospel of Luke and Acts, both written by Luke, is larger than the Pauline Epistles. The other large contribution to the New Testament is the Johannine writings (gospel, epistles and Revelation), but Luke-Acts is larger than either the Johannine or Pauline collections.

Through the Gospel of Luke and Acts, Luke has made a substantial contribution to our understanding of Jesus and the early church. He offers some important theological perspectives and has some distinctive emphases, such as the poor, women, and the role of the Spirit, that are particularly relevant to contemporary life.

It is impossible to study the whole of Luke-Acts in this paper. So what we will be doing is looking at specific themes which should give you a good feel for both books and key issues that were significant to their author. We will spend the latter part of the course looking at specific texts that will expose you to further issues of interpretation and debate about Luke's writings and the New Testament generally.

LECTURER'S INTRODUCTION

The lecturer for this paper is Dr. Don Moffat, who is the Sir Paul Reeves' Lecturer in Biblical Studies at St John's Theological College and visiting lecturer in the Otago Theology Programme. Dr. Moffat is based in Auckland. He can be contacted by phone on: (09) 557 0643 or by email: don.moffat@otago.ac.nz.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

At 200-level

By the end of this course, you should be able to:

- identify and describe distinctive historical themes of the Gospel of Luke and the Book of Acts;
- present the distinctive theological features of the portrait of Jesus, the view of the Holy Spirit and the understanding of the Church in the Gospel of Luke and the Book of Acts;
- discuss the literary features of the Gospel of Luke and the Book of Acts and the literary and narrative parallels between the two books;
- evaluate the arguments presented for the sources of the Gospel of Luke and the Book of Acts.

At 300-level

In addition to those at 200-level, you should be able to:

- demonstrate in-depth knowledge of some key texts in Luke and Acts.
- discuss the complexities of the interpretative history of Luke and Acts.

TEACHING

- Weekly lectures with classes in Auckland, video linked to Dunedin campus or accessible online. The lectures are recorded and the recordings can be accessed through Blackboard.

ASSESSMENT

- Introduction to Luke 10%
- One essay worth 30%
- One three hour examination worth 60%

RESOURCES

- Blackboard, the University's online learning tool;
- This Course Outline and the Study Guide
- eReserve, a resource for electronic readings, which you can access via Blackboard;
- The Programme's "Style Guide" which recommends students use the 16th edition of the Chicago Style Guide when writing essays. It is available online at

<http://www.otago.ac.nz/theology/study/studentresources/>

- The handbook *Distance Learning Information and Support*, providing advice on administrative matters not covered in this Course Outline and on the Distance Library Service. (You may download the PDF from the 'Essential Information' web page).

THIS IS IMPORTANT!

Please Note: You **must have access to Blackboard and your University email address** in order to complete this paper. You will receive access once your enrolment is complete. Communications from your lecturer regarding teaching matters will be provided only through Blackboard and your University email address, as outlined in the University's Student Communications Policy, so you must check these emails regularly. eVision will also send important messages through your University email. If you have any concerns about your access to Blackboard or to other course resources, please contact the lecturer or administrative staff immediately so that these can be resolved.

You will find there is a lot of helpful information and resources on the Theology Programme website. In particular, we require you to read the section called "Essential Student Information." You will find it here:

<http://www.otago.ac.nz/theology/study/studentresources/>

This page provides a number of useful resources such as the Style Guide and the Plagiarism Declaration Form you must attach to your assignments. It supplies detailed information on assessment and student support. In particular, it contains guidance on the topics of plagiarism and deadlines, both of which can incur penalties if not heeded. This also is where you will find instructions for making online discussion posts and submitting assignments electronically. So it is very important you make yourself familiar with this material. Our assumption is that you have read it.

We will make reference to information on the website in the following pages, so do take the time to follow the links and absorb the material. It will save you from making costly mistakes and help to make the practical experience of distance study a straightforward one.

COURSE STRUCTURE

Please note that all weekly lectures are taught as videoconferences. The lecture will be accessible on campus in Dunedin, at St John's Theological College in Auckland or online.

Week 1: Tuesday 25 February, 2.00-3.50pm

Introductions:

Topic 1a: Introducing Luke-Acts

Topic 1b: Luke-Acts: Theology and History

Week 2: Tuesday 3 March, 2.00-3.50pm

Topic 2a: Jesus in Luke

Topic 2b: Jesus in Acts

Week 3: Tuesday 10 March, 2.00-3.50pm*Topic 3a: Salvation in Luke**Topic 3b: Salvation in Acts***Week 4: Tuesday 17 March, 2.00-3.50pm***Topic 4a: The Death of Jesus in Luke**Topic 4b: The Death of Jesus in Acts****Assignment A (Introduction of Luke) due: Friday 20th March*****Week 5: Tuesday 24 March, 2.00-3.50pm***Topic 5a: The Spirit in Luke**Topic 5b: The Spirit in Acts***Week 6: Tuesday 31 March, 2.00-3.50pm***Topic 6a: Luke's ecclesiology**Topic 6b: The Church in Acts***Week 7: Tuesday 7 April, 2.00-3.50pm***Topic 7a: Discipleship (Jesus as model)**Topic 7b: Discipleship (Church Leaders as models)****Tuesday 7 April, 6.10-8.00pm. Videoconference for Distance Students only*****Mid Semester Break 13-17 April****Week 8: Tuesday 21 April, 2.00-3.50pm***Topic 8a: Luke's Eschatology**Topic 8b: Luke's Eschatology****Assignment B (Essay) due: Friday 24 April.*****Week 9: Tuesday 28 April, 2.00-3.50pm***Topic 9a: Reading Parables**Topic 9b: Exegesis of Luke 15***Week 10: Tuesday 5 May, 2.00-3.50pm***Topic 10a: Exegesis of Luke 20**Topic 10b: Jesus as political figure***Week 11: Tuesday 12 May, 2.00-3.50pm***Topic 11a: Exegetical study of Acts 13**Topic 11b: Paul's preaching***Week 12: Tuesday 19 May, 2.00-3.50pm***Topic 12a: Exegetical study of Acts 15**Topic 12b: Controversy and Christian conversion*

Week 13: Tuesday 26 May, 2.00-3.50pm

Topic 13: Essay discussion, Review and wash up

VIDEOCONFERENCES

All lectures will be conducted as videoconferences. This will allow participation in the lecture by all students whether campus based or distance. If you are unable to attend a videoconference, or want to review a lecture, a recording will be available from the Blackboard site for this paper.

There will be **one evening videoconference for Distance Students** unable to join the live lectures. This will be held from **6.10 – 8.00 pm on Tuesday 1 May**. This will provide a review and summary of the course to date and will be an opportunity for you to ask any questions you have about the course. A second evening can be arranged if required.

Accessing the Videoconferences

Videoconferences are taught using Zoom. Dunedin campus students can access by going to eConferencing in the Link. Auckland students can attend the lecture at St Johns College. Other distance students will need a computer with access to reliable broadband, a microphone and headphones (or headset), a web camera, and a quiet place to yourself with no distractions. Please ensure that you have tested your connection prior to the first videoconference. Full instructions on using Zoom are given on the 'Essential Information' web page, and the 'Zoom Videoconferences' link on Blackboard (where you will find the URL you need to join).

If you are obliged to miss a lecture you can find a recording on Blackboard under the 'Zoom Videoconferences' Link.

ASSIGNMENT QUESTIONS**200-level Assignments****Assignment A: Introduction of Luke**

Value: 10%
Word Limit: 800 words.
Due Date: **Friday, 20 March**

Write an introduction to Luke as a New Testament author. Present your introduction in the style of a Bible Dictionary or Bible Encyclopaedia article. Use the standard referencing style.

Assignment B: Essay

Value: 30%
Word Limit: 2500 words
Due Date: **Friday, 24 April**

Answer **one** of the following questions:

1. Discuss the role and significance of the Spirit in Luke and Acts.
OR
2. Discuss Luke's portrayal of Jesus in Luke and Acts?
OR
3. Discuss Luke's understanding of Christian discipleship.

Exam

A three-hour exam worth 60% of the course grade.

300-level Assignments

Assignment A: Introduction of Luke

Value: 10%

Word Limit: 1000 words.

Due Date: **Friday, 20 March.**

Write an introduction to Luke as a New Testament author. Present your introduction in the style of a Bible Dictionary or Bible Encyclopaedia article. Use the standard referencing style.

Assignment B: Essay

Value: 30%

Word Limit: 3000 words

Due Date: **Friday, 24 April**

1. Critically analyse the Luke's portrayal of the Spirit in his gospel and Acts.
OR
2. Critically analyse Luke's Christology in Luke and Acts.
OR
3. Critically analyse Luke's messages on Christian discipleship in Luke and Acts.

Exam

A three-hour exam worth 60% of the course grade.

REFERENCING SYSTEM

For writing essays, the Theology Programme requires that you use the 16th edition of the Chicago Style Guide, which is the norm for many academic journals in the Humanities and is often recommended for theses in the humanities. The Programme has prepared a Style Guide, which outlines the Chicago Style and offers other advice on essay presentation. You may find it via the Theology Programme's "Student Resources and Information" page:

<http://www.otago.ac.nz/theology/study/studentresources/>

SUBMITTING WRITTEN WORK

All assignments shall be submitted **electronically** via the “Assignment” feature on Blackboard by **midnight** on the due dates notified. Please do not submit paper copies. For full instructions about how to submit assignments electronically via Blackboard as well as other important information on plagiarism, grading, and deadlines, please see the “Essential Information” web page.

All Assignments submitted in the Theology Programme must be prefaced with a student Plagiarism Declaration Form. They will not be deemed to have been submitted unless and until the Plagiarism Declaration Form has been submitted. It can be downloaded from <http://www.otago.ac.nz/theology/study/studentresources/>

It is also on the Blackboard site for this course.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

All Assignments submitted in the Theology Programme must be prefaced with a student Plagiarism Declaration Form.

It can be downloaded from <http://www.otago.ac.nz/theology/study/studentresources/> It is also on the Blackboard site for this course.

Academic integrity means being honest in your studying and assessments. It is the basis for ethical decision-making and behaviour in an academic context. Academic integrity is informed by the values of honesty, trust, responsibility, fairness, respect and courage. Students are expected to be aware of, and act in accordance with, the University’s Academic Integrity Policy.

Academic Misconduct, such as plagiarism or cheating, is a breach of Academic Integrity and is taken very seriously by the University. Types of misconduct include plagiarism, copying, unauthorised collaboration, taking unauthorised material into a test or exam, impersonation, and assisting someone else’s misconduct. A more extensive list of the types of academic misconduct and associated processes and penalties is available in the University’s Student Academic Misconduct Procedures.

It is your responsibility to be aware of and use acceptable academic practices when completing your assessments. To access the information in the Academic Integrity Policy and learn more, please visit the University’s Academic Integrity website at www.otago.ac.nz/study/academicintegrity or ask at the Student Learning Centre or Library. If you have any questions, ask your lecturer.

<http://www.otago.ac.nz/administration/policies/otago116838.html>

<http://www.otago.ac.nz/administration/policies/otago116850.html>

STUDENT SUPPORT

The “**Essential Information**” web page provides helpful information on how to access the University Library’s resources, as well as a guide to the support services available to students at the University of Otago, including the Student Learning Centre and Disability Support.

For all **administrative** enquiries, please contact the Theology Administrator:
Email: theology@otago.ac.nz Phone: 03 479 8639

We recommend that you contact the Programme as soon as possible if you have any problems participating in the course or accessing resources. Please remember to check your University email account regularly for updates and announcements.

WORK TIMETABLE FOR BIBS 224/324 - S1 2020

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 1. 24/2- 28/2		Weekly class commences. Videoconference lecture 2.00-3.50pm			
Week 2. 2/3-6/3		Videoconference. 2.00-3.50 pm			
Week 3. 9/3- 13/3		Videoconference. 2.00-3.50 pm			
Week 4. 16/3- 20/3		Videoconference. 2.00-3.50 pm.			Assignment A: Introduction due 20 March
Week 5. 23/3- 27/3		Videoconference. 2.00-3.50 pm.			
Week 6. 30/3- 3/4		Videoconference. 2.00-3.50 pm.			
Week 7 6/4- 10/4		Videoconference. 2.00-3.50 pm. Videoconference for distance students 6.10-8.00pm			
13/4- 17/4			Mid Semester Break		
Week 8. 20/4- 24/4		Videoconference. 2.00-3.50 pm.			Assignment B: Essay due 24 April

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 9 27/4-1/5		Videoconference. 2.00-3.50 pm.			
Week 10 4/5-8/5		Videoconference. 2.00-3.50 pm.			
Week 11 11/5-15/5		Videoconference. 2.00-3.50 pm.			
Week 12 18/5-22/5		Videoconference. 2.00-3.50 pm.			
Week 13 25/5-29/5		Videoconference. 2.00-3.50 pm.			

COURSE BIBLIOGRAPHY

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- Twelftree, G.H. *People of the Spirit*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2009.
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THEOLOGY PROGRAMME

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