

Fall 2015
REL 3249

THE CHRISTIAN GOSPELS

MWF 5th
Turlington 2342

Instructor: James R. Mueller
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Office Hours: MWF – 4th period
W – 2nd period
or by appointment

Course Description:

The goal of the course is to introduce the student to the wide variety of descriptions and interpretations of the various aspects of the life of Jesus, both within the canon of the New Testament and outside the canon. As such the course seeks to distinguish between the presentations rather than to harmonize them. Ultimately, the various texts will provide a window into some of the earliest forms of Christianity.

Required Texts:

Aland, K., Synopsis of the Four Gospels In English

Ehrman, B., and Plese, Z., The Other Gospels

Adams, E., Parallel Lives of Jesus: A Guide to the Four Gospel

Course Grade:

- | | |
|-----|---|
| 20% | Class Participation/Gospel Parallels assignments |
| 10% | <u>Parallel Lives</u> (Adams book) Quiz – Sept. 9 |
| 40% | Four (4) Book Summaries (one scholarly book [min 150 pp.] on each gospel)
Due Sept. 28, Oct. 23, Nov. 20, Dec. 9 – minimum 750 words each |
| 30% | Oral Presentation/Paper (group project) |

Grading Scale:

Final letter grades will be assigned according to the following scale:

A	93-100	C+	77-79
A-	90-92	C	73-76
B+	87-89	C-	70-72
B	83-86	D	60-69
B-	80-82	E	0-59

For UF policies on grading, please see:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

Attendance:

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

Course Evaluations:

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>.

Classroom Accommodations:

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

- 18 Latin Infancy Gospels, History of Joseph the Carpenter
Other Gospels, pp. 58-95
- 21 Baptism, Temptation . . . and John's Take
Parallel Lives, pp. 125-132
Synopsis, pp. 341-42, #'s 18-29
- 23 Beginnings in Galilee
Synopsis, p. 342, #'s 30-49
- 25, 28 Sermon on the Mount/Plain
Synopsis, pp. 343-44, #'s 50-83
- 30, **OCT 2** More Galilee
Synopsis, pp. 344-45, #'s 84-109
- 5, 7 Galilee: Disputes and Parables
Synopsis, pp. 345-46, #'s 110-139
- 9, 12 Galilee: Feedings and Healings
Parallel Lives, pp. 133-54
Synopsis, pp. 346-47, #'s 140-156
- 14, 16 Galilee: Peter's Confession
Parallel Lives, pp. 155-64
Synopsis, p. 347, #'s 157-173
- 19, 21 Headed for Jerusalem: Luke
Synopsis, pp. 347-350, #'s 174-250

- 23 Judea
Synopsis, pp. 350-351, #'s 251-286
- 26 Eschatological Discourses, Matthew Parables
Synopsis, p. 352, #'s 287-304
- 28 Jewish-Christian Gospels, Gospel according to the Egyptians, Diatessaron
Other Gospels, pp. 99-122
- 30 Gospel Fragments
Other Gospels, pp. 123-151
- NOV 2** Coptic/Gnostic Gospel of Thomas, Agrapha
Other Gospels, pp. 155-188
- 4 Up to Gethsemane
Synopsis, p. 353, #'s 305-316
- 9 Farewell Discourses: John
Synopsis, p. 353, #'s 317-329
- 13 Arrest and Trial
Synopsis, p. 354, #'s 330-343
- 16 Crucifixion and Burial
Parallel Lives, pp. 165-74
Synopsis, p. 354, #'s 344-351
- 18 Resurrection
Parallel Lives, pp. 175-87
Synopsis, p. 355, #'s 352-361

20, 23	Endings <u>Parallel Lives</u> , pp. 188-89 <u>Synopsis</u> , p. 355, #'s 362-367
30	Gospel of Peter, Gospel of Judas ++ <u>Other Gospels</u> , pp. 191-230
DEC 2	Gospel Of Nicodemus <u>Other Gospels</u> , pp. 231-266
4	Pontius Pilate <u>Other Gospels</u> , pp. 267-304
7	Joseph of Arimathea, Gospel According to Mary (the other one) <u>Other Gospels</u> , pp. 305-324
9	Conclusion

PAPER DUE – DECEMBER 18