BN8701W Interpreting the New Testament (Online)

Offered: 2016: Semester 1  (Also offered on campus – see BN8001W)

BN8701W provides the introductory unit in New Testament studies and serves as a pre-requisite for all other BN units. The unit is based on inductive exegetical workshops that introduce a range of exegetical methods, together with readings and lectures on the genres, background and interpretation of the New Testament. The exegetical exercises sample the Synoptic Gospels, Fourth Gospel, Letters of Paul and Revelation.

Upon successful completion of this unit, it is expected that students will be able to:
1. Describe the contents of the New Testament: the types of literature, their particular interpretive demands, and their theological outlook;
2. Demonstrate an awareness of the historical and social world of the New Testament era;
3. Use appropriate interpretive approaches to the New Testament in the writing of an exegetical essay;
4. Access and use the tools of New Testament interpretation: lexicons, dictionaries, commentaries, primary sources, on-line resources, and others;
5. Illustrate the relationship of the New Testament to the texts and message of the Old Testament;
6. Demonstrate progress in making the transition from text to life, particularly in terms of theological, hermeneutical, and homiletical application; and
7. Demonstrate understanding and appreciation for the history of research in New Testament studies.

Prerequisites: Nil

Class Time: Online

Assessment: Online tutorial participation (at least 5 entries of approximately 200 words each) responding to weekly exegetical workshops and peer interaction (20%)
Two 1,000 word workshop papers (40%)
One 3,000 word exegetical essay (40%)

Faculty: Semester 1: Keith Dyer

Recommended Reading:
* = set texts recommended for purchase