

## BN9001W Mark (BN9701W – Online)

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**Offered:** 2018: Semester 1 (Also offered online Semester 1– as BN9701W)

This unit provides a thorough study of Mark's Gospel, including its theological and literary character, its wider Jewish and Greco-Roman context and connections, and an overview of recent trends in Markan studies. A range of exegetical tools will be used to explore interpretive approaches to the Gospel of Mark, with particular emphasis on the way in which an understanding of community, mission and ethics is revealed in the narrative.

Upon successful completion of the unit, it is expected that students will be able to:

1. give an informed and critical account of the history of interpretation of Mark's Gospel;
2. describe and discuss plausible socio-political and literary contexts in which the Gospel first circulated;
3. identify and describe distinctive Markan Christological, ecclesiological, pneumatological, missiological and eschatological themes and understandings;
4. exegete the Markan text by employing a range of appropriate exegetical methods and resources;
5. discuss the interpretation and proclamation of Mark's Gospel in meaningful ways for today's world; and
6. engage critically with the scholarly literature on the relationship between the oral traditions and the Synoptic Gospels.

**Prerequisites:** Foundation unit in NT (BN1001W or equivalent)

**Class Time:** Three hours per week

**Assessment:**

<b>Classroom:</b>	One critical review of readings (1,500 words)	(25%)
	One thematic seminar paper (1,500 words)	(25%)
	One exegetical essay (3,000 words)	(50%)
<b>Online:</b>	One critical review of readings (2,000 words)	(30%)
	Online forum participation responding to set readings and peer interaction (at least 5 entries of approximately 200 words each)	(20%)
	One exegetical essay (3,000 words)	(50%)

**Faculty:** Keith Dyer

**Recommended Reading:**

\* = set texts recommended for purchase

Byrne, Brendan. *A Costly freedom: A theological reading of Mark's Gospel* (Collegeville, MN: Liturgical Press, 2008).

Broadhead, Edwin K. *Mark. Readings: A New Biblical Commentary* (Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press, 2009, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition).

Donahue, John R. & Daniel J. Harrington. *The Gospel of Mark* (Collegeville MN: Liturgical Press, 2002).

Leander, Hans. *Discourses of Empire. The Gospel of Mark from a Postcolonial Perspective* (Atlanta: SBL Press, 2013).

Levine, Amy-Jill (ed.) *A Feminist Companion to Mark* (Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press, 2001).

Malbon, Elizabeth. *Hearing Mark: A listener's guide* (Grand Rapids MI: Eerdmans, 2002).

Marcus, Joel. *Mark 1-8 and 81-16*. (2 vols). Anchor Bible Commentary (New Haven CT: Yale University Press, 2002/2009).

Moloney, Francis J. *The Gospel of Mark. A commentary* (Peabody MA: Hendrickson, 2002).

Myers, Ched. *Binding the Strong Man. A political reading of Mark's story of Jesus* (Maryknoll: Orbis, 1988).

Rhoades, David, Joanna Dewey & Donald Michie. *Mark as Story. An introduction to the narrative of a Gospel*. 2<sup>nd</sup> edn. (Minneapolis MN: Fortress Press, 1999).

Webb, Geoff R. *Mark at the Threshold* (Leiden: Brill, 2008).

Witherington, Ben. *The Gospel of Mark. A socio-rhetorical commentary* (Grand Rapids MI: Eerdmans, 2001).