

COURSE SYLLABUS

NT504: New Testament Survey: The Gospels and the Life of Christ

Course Lecturer: Terry C. Hulbert, ThD

Course Description

Welcome to *The Gospels and the Life of Christ*, an online graduate-level course designed to expand your understanding of the time, places, circumstances, and people involved in Jesus' earthly life.

The most compelling and important story in history is the story of Christ. In this course, you will complete a chronological and synthetic study of the Gospels' accounts of Christ's birth, life, death, resurrection, and ascension. *The Gospels and the Life of Christ* focuses on the time, place, circumstances, and people involved in the events of our Lord's ministry. From the incarnation to the ascension, you will grasp a fuller understanding of Christ's words and works, especially in light of Old Testament prophecy and cultural context. The goal of the course is that Christ will impact your life as He did those first generation followers, leading you to worship and serve Him as you minister to others.

Course Objectives

Upon completion of the course, you should be able to do the following:

- Trace the events and statements involved in Jesus' life in a logical and chronological sequence, demonstrating their development and purpose.
- Discern the significance of many of the words and works of Jesus Christ.
- Explain the implications for our lives of certain basic truths taught and demonstrated by Jesus Christ during His ministry on earth.
- Articulate to others the importance of Jesus' life, work, and teaching.
- Assess your life in the light of new understanding of what Jesus requires of His followers.
- Identify at least two attitudinal and/or behavioral changes made or mandated in your personal life as a result of increased understanding of the life and work of Jesus Christ.

Accessibility

If you have particular accessibility needs, please contact the CUGN Registrar at the beginning of the course. This will allow us to work directly with you to make efforts to accommodate your situation and ensure as full as possible accessibility to the course.

Course Lecturer



Terry C. Hulbert, ThD

Education:

- Dallas Theological Seminary, ThM and ThD
- University of Western Ontario, BA

Teaching Career:

- Distinguished Professor Emeritus, Columbia Biblical Seminary, now Columbia International University
- Teacher of Bible courses, Columbia Biblical Seminary (1972-2010)
- Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Columbia Biblical Seminary (1988-1994)
- President, Columbia Biblical Seminary (1990-1991)
- Academic Dean, Columbia Biblical Seminary (1972-1988)
- Faculty, Northwestern College (1951-1957)
- Helped found and establish the Urban Theological College of Central Africa

Other Career Highlights:

- Missionary to Africa where he conducted church planting, worked in leadership training, and taught at the rural Chizera Bible Institute in Zambia (1957-1969)
- Chairman of the Evangelical Fellowship in Zambia and served three terms as the Chairman of the Association of Evangelical Bible Colleges of Africa and Madagascar
- Conductor of church growth workshops in Burundi, Central Africa Republic, the Ivory Coast, Mali, Sierra Leone, and South Africa
- Lecturer for countless institutions and parachurch organizations for more than three decades
- Key trainer for Campus Crusade and the Association of Christian Schools International

Publications:

- Contributor to numerous journals
- *World Missions Today* and *Discipling Leaders with a Vision for the World*
- Several interactive Bible CDs, including “Walking in Their Sandals,” “Exploring Jesus’ World,” and “Israel in the Times of Gentiles”

Online Professor

Within two weeks of your registration for the course, CUGN will assign one of its faculty members as the online professor. Once your online professor has been assigned, (s)he will be introduced and will guide you through the 8-week study. Your online professor will be available to you by email and can, at set times, be available by video chat or other real-time technology.

The following will be done by the online professor in order to stimulate student involvement and to facilitate effective learning:

- Evaluate and assign grades to all coursework.
- Answer questions that may arise.
- Issue your final grade.

For additional help as you work through this course, please read *Succeeding in Your Online Course*, which is provided at the end of this syllabus.

Course Texts

Required:

Harrison, Everett. F. *A Short Life of Christ*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1968.

Thomas, Robert L. and Gundry, Stanley N. *A Harmony of the Gospels*. (New American Standard Version). San Francisco: HarperSanFrancisco, 1986.

Textbooks can be ordered through our online store at CUGN.org, through your local bookstore, or through your preferred eReader when available.

Academic Honesty

At CUGN, we believe all we do is “as unto the Lord” and we thus hold to a high academic standard of honesty; we do not tolerate plagiarism and cheating. Students found guilty of any form of academic dishonesty face consequences ranging from interaction with the Academic Dean to expulsion from CUGN.

Quizzes and Exams: Any student found guilty of cheating on a quiz or exam will automatically receive a score of zero for that quiz or exam. A second offense will result in automatic course failure and possible disciplinary action and/or expulsion from CUGN. Please view the [CUGN Academic Catalog](#) for a full definition and examples of cheating.

Plagiarism: If a student’s work is found to be plagiarized, consequences will vary depending on the nature of the plagiarism.

If an offense is deemed unintentional, the student will have an opportunity to resubmit the work. A second offense will result in an automatic score of zero for that assignment, which may also result in failure of that course.

More serious plagiarism offenses could result in automatic course failure, disciplinary action, or expulsion from CUGN. Please view the [CUGN Academic Catalog](#) for a full definition and examples of plagiarism. If you have questions about plagiarism, or would like to request resources for learning how to avoid plagiarism, please contact our Registrar’s Office at registrar@cugn.org or toll free at (888) 487-5376 ext. 3.

Course Methods

Throughout this course, a number of methods will be used to engage you in learning and processing information, and applying the learning to your life. These methods include the following:

Media/Materials

The course will include media presentations of lectures and supplementary materials to be viewed, listened to and/or read throughout the lessons of the course.

- **Audio-based teaching**
The primary course content will be delivered via audio lectures, including the full transcript of each lecture.
- **Multisensory learning**
Because the primary teaching information is provided in audio and PDF text documents, students can choose the medium (or combination of media) that most closely aligns with their individual learning styles.
- **Readings and other media**
Reading from the required textbooks will be assigned each week.

Interaction

Whether sitting in a traditional classroom or studying from a distance, students benefit from interaction and collaboration with other students. In order to meet this need in distance theological education, CUGN offers structures and resources to encourage effective community interaction in this course.

Discussion Forum

Students are required to respond to questions posted in the course and are encouraged to read and respond to the posts of other students.

Reflection

Through blogging, CUGN provides many opportunities for students to reflect on what they have learned, what they believe, and where they are challenged. The goal of these reflections is personal spiritual growth and transformation.

Course Requirements

This course consists of a mentor relationship, readings, audio lectures, videos, discussion forums, a creative research project, quizzes, and blogging. The information regarding these course components and expectations is as follows:

MENTOR

This course requires that you seek out a mentor in your community with whom you can communicate by e-mail and/or telephone and with whom you can meet face-to-face at least twice during the course. The purpose of this mentoring relationship is to enable you to assimilate the teaching in this course into your life and ministry. Further definition of the mentor's role in this course can be found in the "Mentor Requirements" information available in the Week 1 Assignments section of the course.

READING

Study assignments covered in this course should be read in the context of the lesson in which they are assigned. In addition to the required textbooks, you may be asked to read supplementary materials.

AUDIO LECTURES

Each of the lessons in this course features an audio lecture of approximately 44 minutes in length delivered by Dr. Terry Hulbert. These instructional lectures are required and can be listened to as many times as needed. The written text of the lecture as well as a guided outline to assist in note taking are made available in PDF format. There are 24 lectures in this course; therefore, three lectures will be presented and discussed each week.

DISCUSSION FORUMS

Discussion questions related to each week's lectures are integrated into the weekly course requirements. You are required to post your own original response to each question in the Discussion Forum. Each response should consist of two to three well-developed paragraphs. In addition, your online professor may comment on your posts, and you should be prepared to respond to those comments.

VIDEO PRESENTATIONS

There are six video presentations related to this course that are required viewing. You will note them in the assignment section in the weeks where they are relevant.

CREATIVE RESEARCH PROJECT

You will develop a creative research project on a topic of interest related to the subject matter of this course. Upon completion of the project, you will submit a paper describing the project along with any related documentation. More guidance concerning the project will be provided by your online professor during the first week of the course, and you may also find topic ideas and further instructions in the Creative Research Project Instructions document available in the Before You Begin section of the course. The topic for your research project must be submitted to your professor for preapproval prior to beginning your research. Projects may be posted online to be read and commented on by other students. Your Creative Research Project and related writing are due at the end of Week 5. Remember, each week begins on a Monday and ends the following Sunday; therefore, the Creative Research Project is due on the Sunday of Week 5 at 11:59 p.m. EST.

QUIZZES

You will take a 10-question, multiple choice and/or true/false quiz at the end of each lecture. There is a "remediation" feature built into all quiz questions that allows you to review questions you missed. Once you have reviewed the question again, you can attempt to answer a second time. If you are correct, you will receive half of the normal credit for that question. If you do not attempt to answer the second time, you will not receive credit for that question. You will be given only one attempt to take each quiz. All quizzes are timed (20 minutes) and will be graded automatically.

REFLECTION

You will be required to keep a blog during the 8 weeks of this course, posting *at least once per lesson*. Your blog entries will consist of your response to the Personal Reflection Question found in each lesson's Class Time. Blog entries can be viewed only by you and CUGN faculty, unless you wish to make them available to anyone else taking the class. The purpose of the blog is to help you reflect on what you are learning, what you believe, and where you may be challenged in your thinking and your life.

by what is studied in this course. The goal of these reflections is personal spiritual growth.

DUE DATES

Each week of the course begins on Monday at 12:01 a.m. EST and ends on Sunday at 11:59 p.m. EST. Unless noted otherwise, all assignments are due at 11:59 p.m. EST on the Sunday of the week in which the assignment is due. For example, if an assignment is due during Week 2, you must complete and submit it by 11:59 p.m. EST on Sunday, the last day of Week 2. It is at your online professor's discretion to penalize late work.

Course Grading

All coursework must be completed and turned in to your online professor within five days of the end of Week 8. Please note that it is at your online professor's discretion to penalize late work.

Your grade for the course will be determined as follows:

Online Participation	30% of Course Grade
Creative Research Project	30% of Course Grade
Lesson Quizzes	25% of Course Grade
Reading	10% of Course Grade
Mentor Meetings	5% of Course Grade

Grades will be issued within two weeks of the end of the course.

Weekly Topics and Assignments

Week 1:

- Take the Moodle tutorial for online instruction.
- Listen to the following lectures:
 - #1: *The Period between the Testaments*
 - #2: *The Announcement of the Birth*
 - #3: *The Birth and Boyhood of Christ*
- View the video *Bethlehem: Beyond the Christmas Story*.
- Read the following:
 - Harrison: Chapters 1, 2, and 3
 - Thomas/Gundry: Introductory materials
 - Harmony*, Parts 1, 2, and 3
 - Essay 1
- Participate in the Discussion Forum.
- Complete your blog entries.
- Complete quizzes 1, 2, and 3.
- Identify and contact your mentor.

- Submit topic for Creative Research Project.

Week 2:

- Listen to the following lectures:
 - #4: *John's Ministry and Jesus' Baptism*
 - #5: *The Temptation of Christ*
 - #6: *Introductory Ministry in Galilee/Judea*
- View the video *Nazareth: The Silent Years of Jesus*.
- Read the following:
 - Harrison: Chapters 4 and 5
 - Thomas/Gundry: Essays 2 and 3
 - Harmony*, Parts 4 and 5
- Participate in the Discussion Forum.
- Complete your blog entries.
- Complete quizzes 4, 5, and 6.
- Have first meeting with your mentor.

Week 3:

- Listen to the following lectures:
 - #7: *Introductory Ministry in Judea/Samaria*
 - #8: *The Sermon on the Mount*
 - #9: *Increasing Conflict with the Pharisees*
- Read the following:
 - Harrison: Chapters 6, 7, and 8
 - Thomas/Gundry: Essay 4
 - Harmony*, Part 6
- Participate in the Discussion Forum.
- Complete your blog entries.
- Complete quizzes 7, 8, and 9.

Week 4:

- Listen to the following lectures:
 - #10: *The Travel around the Sea of Galilee*
 - #11: *Discourse on the Bread of Life*
 - #12: *Ministry in Gentile Areas*
- View the video *Capernaum: City of Skeptics*.
- Read the following:
 - Thomas/Gundry: Essays 5 and 6
 - Harmony*, Part 7

- Participate in the Discussion Forum.
- Complete your blog entries.
- Complete quizzes 10, 11, and 12.

Week 5:

- Listen to the following lectures:
#13: Teaching the Twelve in Galilee
#14: The Feast of the Tabernacles
#15: Ministry around Judea
- View the video *The Land Where Jesus Walked: Sea of Galilee*.
- Read the following:
 Harrison: Chapter 10
 Thomas/Gundry: Essays 7 and 8
Harmony, Part 8
- Participate in the Discussion Forum.
- Complete your blog entries.
- Complete quizzes 13, 14, and 15.
- Submit Creative Research Project.

Week 6:

- Listen to the following lectures:
#16: Perea Ministry and Raising of Lazarus, Part 1
#17: Perea Ministry and Raising of Lazarus, Part 2
#18: Final Entry into Jerusalem
- View the video *Behind the Easter Story, Part 1*.
- Read the following:
 Harrison: Chapters 11 and 12
 Thomas/Gundry: Essays 9, 10, and 11
Harmony, Parts 9 and 10
- Participate in the Discussion Forum.
- Complete your blog entries.
- Complete quizzes 16, 17, and 18.

Week 7:

- Listen to the following lectures:
#19: Confrontation with Leaders
#20: The Upper Room Discourse

#21: *The Arrest*

- View the video *Behind the Easter Story, Part 2*.
- Read the following from the course texts:
Harrison: Chapters 13, 14, and 15
Thomas/Gundry: Essay 12
Harmony, Part 11
- Participate in the Discussion Forum.
- Complete your blog entries.
- Complete quizzes 19, 20, and 21.

Week 8:

- Listen to the following lectures:
#22: *The Crucifixion and Burial*
#23: *The Resurrection*
#24: *Post-Resurrection and Ascension*
- Read the following from the course texts:
Harrison: Chapters 16, 17, and 18
Thomas/Gundry: *Harmony*, Parts 12 and 13
- Participate in the Discussion Forum.
- Complete your blog entries.
- Complete quizzes 22, 23, and 24.
- Have final meeting with your mentor.

Week 8 Follow-Up:

- Complete and post all blog entries.
- Complete Discussion Participation, Reading Completion, and Mentor Meetings Validations.
- Complete and submit course evaluation form.

Course Contributors

CUGN utilizes the radio and television teams of Our Daily Bread Ministries to enhance the students' educational experience. This course uses four videos from the *Day of Discovery* television program. The expert contributors to these programs are listed as follows:

- Anver Boskey, Th.M. (Dallas Theological Seminary), Jewish Cultural Expert
- Mart DeHaan, Litt.D. (Cornerstone University), Senior Advisor of Ministry Content at Our Daily Bread Ministries
- Jimmy DeYoung, Ph.D. (Louisiana Baptist University), Journalist and Conference Speaker

- Bonnie Keen, Recording artist and author
- Paul Maier, Ph.D. (University of Basel), Professor of Ancient History at Western Michigan University
- Robert Mullins, Ph.D. (Hebrew University of Jerusalem), Professor of Archeology and Biblical Studies for Azusa Pacific University
- Michael Rydelnik, D.Miss. (Trinity Evangelical Divinity School), Professor of Jewish Studies at Moody Bible Institute
- Ken Trestrail, Pastor and Host of the Garden Tomb in Jerusalem
- Paul Wright, Ph.D. (Hebrew Union College), Director and Professor of Theological Studies at Jerusalem University College

Notes Regarding This Syllabus

This syllabus is designed to provide learners with an overview of the course. CUGN will provide specific instructions related to assignments for each lesson, specific discussion question postings, and interactive involvement with all students.

Succeeding in Your Online Course

1. Remember that this is a full semester's study completed in eight weeks. Therefore, expect that there will be a significant time commitment needed in order to complete all the requirements.
2. If you have any questions about the Moodle learning environment, the course requirements, schedule, or assignments, please contact the online professor who is ready and willing to help you have a successful online learning experience.
3. Technological problems may occur. Be sure to have a back-up plan in case of computer failure or late arrival of textbooks.
4. Before you post a comment or a response to another student's comment, be sure you have read the material and listened to the lectures related to the topic under discussion.
5. Think about how you can promote additional discussion by the comments you post.
6. When you post, respond directly to the question under consideration and express your points clearly and concisely, making only one main point per post.
7. If you find sources related to the topic being discussed, please share them with the class.
8. Practice good "netiquette": Disagree respectfully, stay on point, and don't post anything that is derogatory or inflammatory.
9. Enjoy, learn, challenge, and be challenged!