

**BAPTIST MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**  
COURSE SYLLABUS  
NT 213c –Life of Christ  
Fall-ONLINE- 2016  
Developed JUN 2010  
Revised MAY 2017

**INSTRUCTOR:** Tony M. Cleaver, D. Min.

**STUDENT ACCESS TO INSTRUCTOR:** The instructor invites and encourages students to visit with him regarding their academic assignments or other life issues during the course. The instructor's hours are flexible to meet your scheduling requirements or individual needs.

- **Primary contact** with the instructor will be accomplished via Moodle messages. Here's how: Click the participants section of the course; choose the instructor's name; scroll to the end of the biographical information; choose the tab of messages; type your message; click send message. The instructor will respond to your messages via Moodle.
- **Secondary contact** (only as a backup to primary contact) with the instructor is through email: [tony.cleaver@bmats.edu](mailto:tony.cleaver@bmats.edu)
- If you believe you need **emergency contact**, the instructor's phone number is 903/258-1523. The instructor contact time is Monday through Friday 7 A. M. to 5 P. M. Central Time. The instructor will not answer blocked call numbers, and cannot respond to a blocked number if you leave a message. (There is a 25 point bonus if you make telephone contact with the instructor within the first week of class.)

**FACULTY ADVISER:** Every student at BMA Seminary has a faculty adviser. While all academic advising is done with the Dean or Associate Dean, your faculty adviser is a resource for you in many other areas. He is available to help you with spiritual issues, ministry challenges, personal difficulties, and other issues that may arise during your studies. To help foster a relationship with your adviser, you are expected to contact him at least once during the first six weeks of the semester. Although regular email contact is encouraged, you should speak with your adviser at least once during the semester, whether in-person or via video conference or phone call.

**Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA):** Baptist Missionary Association Theological Seminary supports the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Students with physical or learning disabilities desiring additional assistance must consult with the Dean's office prior to enrollment or as early as possible after the disability is diagnosed. Procedures for assisting students will require a physician's written verification of the disability and probable benefit(s) of specific assistance for student learning, a student's specific written request(s) for assistance from the seminary, and the informing of the seminary faculty. Reasonable accommodations will be given in accordance with the federal and state laws through the Dean's Office. Contact the Dean's Office in the main administration building in person or:

- by mail: Post Office Box 670 (1530 East Pine Street) Jacksonville, TX 75766-5407
- by phone: 800/259-5673
- by email: [bmatssem@bmats.edu](mailto:bmatssem@bmats.edu)

Baptist Missionary Association Theological Seminary is dedicated to helping all students we serve to achieve her or his Christian, educational, and life goals.

**DELIVERY AND TERMS:** This is NOT a self-paced course. The instructor has assigned deadlines for specific assignments as shown in the assignment schedule. The class begins (on/about) 21 AUG 17 and ends 29 NOV 17.

**TEXTBOOKS:** (Two textbooks required)

*The Holy Bible*-Student selected English translation

*A Simplified Harmony of the Gospels*-George W. Knight, Broadman and Holman Publishers, ISBN 0805494235 (Outline used by permission from Legal Department, Lifeway Services / Broadman and Holman Publishers.)

Supplemental atlas suggested (**not required**):

*Holman Bible Atlas*, Broadman and Holman Publishers, ISBN 1558197095

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** NT 213c. Life of Christ

This course is an examination of the factual basis of Christianity as it is found in the life and teaching of Jesus Christ. The purpose of the course is to promote subjective comprehension and response to the basic truths of Christianity which emerge from the gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

**COURSE GOALS:** During this course the student is expected to gain skills and competencies in the course subject matter in order to:

- improve knowledge and understanding of important biblical and theological truths.
- improve the ability to communicate biblical truths in the context of a local church
- improve leadership skills as required in the ministry of a local church.

Overarching Course Goals

- The student will think critically to analyze, synthesize, and evaluate course information to make application to personal lifestyle, ethical, and professional choices.
- The student will put into practice effective communication through specified applications of speaking, writing, and reading in the course process.
- The student will demonstrate fluency in using information technology for the class assignments.
- The student will recognize and show an understanding of the influence of the cultures and arts of the civilizations involved in the studies and its personal, institutional, and global 21<sup>st</sup> Century applications.
- The student will learn to demonstrate servant leadership in her/his community.
- The student will demonstrate progression in a commitment to life-long learning.

**INSTRUCTOR PHILOSOPHY:** The instructor's philosophy for this course is that it will enable the student to: 1) make and develop a personal commitment to Jesus as Savior and Lord; 2) expand life commitment in servant leadership to Christ and His Church; 3) make behavioral changes in Christian applications to 21<sup>st</sup> century personal, family, community, and global issues; 4) endorse lifelong Christian learning for her/his vocation; 5) broaden personal Pastoral Ministry literacy.

| COURSE OBJECTIVES/CONTENT |  |   |
|---------------------------|--|---|
|                           | TEXT MATERIAL                                      | BIBLE READINGS                                      |
| UNIT                      | The student will read all assigned text materials. | The student will read all assigned Bible materials. |

|   |  |                                    |
|---|--|------------------------------------|
| <b>PART ONE</b>   | <b>Text -Knight chapters I, II, and III (section 1-33)</b>       | <b>All Gospel Related Accounts</b> |
| <p>After completion of this section the student will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compare and contrast the openings of each of the four Gospels</li> <li>• Arrange and illustrate the early life of Jesus</li> <li>• Analyze important processes of Jesus' beginning ministry</li> <li>• Summarize the angel stories of John and Jesus' births</li> <li>• Distinguish overarching themes of each of the Gospel books</li> <li>• Apply the key messages of the Gospels to 21<sup>st</sup> Century life</li> <li>• Identify significant characters/events of Jesus' early life</li> </ul> |  |                                    |
| <b>PART TWO</b>   | <b>Text- Knight chapter IV (section 34-85</b>                    | <b>All Gospel Related Accounts</b> |
| <p>After completion of this section the student will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Summarize the significance of Capernaum, Galilee, and Nazareth</li> <li>• Discuss the authorship of the Gospels</li> <li>• Summarize main points of the Sermon on the Mount</li> <li>• Describe how miracles played a part in Jesus' ministry</li> <li>• Compare and contrast the Synoptic account of the Gadarene healing</li> <li>• Explain Jesus' use of parables</li> <li>• Differentiate the roles of significant early followers of Jesus</li> </ul>  |  |                                    |
| <b>PART THREE</b>   | <b>Text - Knight chapter V (section 86-155)</b>                  | <b>All Gospel Related Accounts</b> |
| <p>After completion of this section the student will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make a distinction regarding the lists of the Apostles</li> <li>• Explain the characteristics of parables</li> <li>• Compare and contrast the feeding of the 5,000 from all four Gospels</li> <li>• Articulate the significance of the transfiguration</li> <li>• List the key components of the Caesarea Philippi experience</li> <li>• Describe how Jesus spoke of the sacredness of marriage</li> <li>• Relate the value of the raising of Lazarus in the in 21<sup>st</sup> century</li> </ul>    |  |                                    |
| <b>PART FOUR</b>  | <b>Text- Knight chapters VI, VII, and VIII (section 156-223)</b> | <b>All Gospel Related Accounts</b> |

After completion of this section the student will be able to:

- Present the last week of Jesus
- Assess the message of Jesus to the religious leaders in Jerusalem
- Characterize the significance of the Temple cleansing
- Relate common themes that Jesus preached in his last week
- Differentiate between views of Communion in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century
- Reconstruct an account of Jesus' trial
- Analyze the process of Roman crucifixion
- Prepare a table of Jesus' post resurrection appearances

**CIVILITY:** Individuals are expected to be cognizant of what a constructive educational experience is and respectful of those participating in a learning environment. Some student interactions will involve opinion which is neither right/wrong nor good/evil. My family values may be more/less socially open/closed than yours; my early life experiences may be different from yours; my denominational traditions may be distinct from yours; my journey in life may have taken a divergent path from yours. Be considerate in all responses to show discretion, regard, and courtesy.

**ASSIGNMENTS DUE:** All assignments will be turned in to the instructor on the date due. You may turn your completed work in earlier than the due date. Unusual circumstances happen to all of us. Contact the instructor if there is an extreme, extraordinary emergency in your life. If the student and instructor agree there is an extreme, extraordinary circumstance, the work will be turned in no later than one class week from due date. Moodle has a time sensitive setting that will not allow work to be turned in after the deadlines on the date specified.

**LACK OF ENGAGEMENT:** Online courses are designed for the student to participate promptly and become fully engaged in the coursework to ensure successful completion of the course. This includes completion of all assignments in a timely manner. The instructor will follow the current Baptist Missionary Association Theological Seminary Student Handbook (page 3) process of assigning the grade of "F" if the student fails to participate or engage in the course.

**INSTRUCTOR DISCRETION:** The instructor reserves the right of final decision in course requirements and grade.

#### **COURSE EVALUATION FOR STUDENT GRADE:**

##### **SEMESTER GRADE COMPUTATION**

There are six parts to student grade in this course:

|                            |                   |            |
|----------------------------|-------------------|------------|
| Forums (eight)             | 200 points        | 20%        |
| Journal Insights (eight)   | 200 points        | 20%        |
| Special Presentation (one) | 100 points        | 10%        |
| Quizzes (four)             | 200 points        | 20%        |
| Report/Paper (one)         | 100 points        | 10%        |
| Assessments (four)         | <u>200 points</u> | <u>20%</u> |
| Total                      | 1000 points       | 100%       |

There are 100 bonus points in the course: Bonus 1 for 25 points; Forum 8 for 25 points; one bonus opportunity for telephone conversation with instructor first week of class (25 points) and

one bonus (25 points) for updating your Moodle profile

Please note for all the following assignments: **Moodle will not allow you to submit work after the deadline date.**

**A. FORUMS:** (8 @25 points each; 20% course grade/200 points) The student will respond with at least 150 words to the content of the forum subject; evaluate and/or describe how this would be applied to Christian ministry, Church work, or Christian living. Then respond at least once to classmates. This response will be 75 words.

The student must:

- have her/his name on all discussion threads.
- post her/his reply plus a response to another student for full credit.
- formulate complete sentences using good English.
- be attentive of civility in responses.

**B. JOURNAL INSIGHTS:** (8 @ 25 points each; 20% of course grade/200 points)

This is not a diary of life events or a calendar of appointments. The student will journal insights regarding prayer time, Bible readings, devotional life, worship experience, Christian service, Christian walk, family living, seminary life, or other processes that relate to personal Christianity. Relate any beliefs or behaviors you have changed. Each entry will be from 300 to 350 words. See entry in RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS to gain some understanding into your journaling.

**C. SPECIAL PRESENTATION:** (10% of course grade/100 points) The student will select a topic, character, book, passage, or any other issue that is relevant to historical or modern application of Christian ministry teachings/applications. The student will prepare a Power Point regarding this topic, problem, character, passage, or theme. The presentation can be argumentative for a certain point of view, summarizing a theme, retelling a story, or interpreting the event, character, Scripture portion, or premise. The Power Point will be no less than 15 slides or more than 25 slides. The rubric below delineates grading for the presentation. Early instructor contact is highly recommended. The presentation is due at the time stated in the syllabus.

**Alternative special project presentation modalities:**

- The student may elect to prepare a movie instead of a Power Point. The movie will be at least five but not longer than seven minutes in length, and viewable on Microsoft Windows Movie Maker. This is available for free download from Microsoft. (No exotic/ exclusive movie/film software to be used for this process.) Early instructor contact is highly recommended. The presentation is due at the time stated in the syllabus.
- The student may elect to prepare a Prezi instead of a Power Point. The Prezi will be no less than 15 scenes or more than 25 scenes. Prezi is available for free download for educational purposes. The rubric below delineates grading for the presentation. Early instructor contact is highly recommended. The presentation is due at the time stated in the syllabus.

**Use care in sending presentation:**

- If you choose a Power Point, browse for your Power Point file to download; select it; send it to the instructor.
- If you choose a Prezi, note the Prezi privacy statement: "Private prezis can be accessed only by the owner, coeditors and invited viewers." Be certain to download the correct web address for the instructor to view with invitation to access.
- If you choose a film, download the same as a Power Point. Moodle is limited on download size. You may want to place on your Google Drive and give the instructor the site.

## 100-POINT SPECIAL RESENTATION EVALUATION

The following is the rubric for evaluating the Special Presentation:

| Instructor contact—25 points   |                 |                 |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| Requirement  | Possible points | Achieved points |
| Initial instructor contact for approval of topic, text, story, issue and process | 15              |                 |
| Present draft to instructor for idea, story, and process, or premise revision    | 10              |                 |
| Presentation/turn in---75 points   |                 |                 |
| Requirement  | Possible points | Achieved points |
| Content development  | 5               |                 |
| Congruent with Biblical concepts   | 10              |                 |
| Is clear   | 5               |                 |
| Appropriate in Power Point/Film usage  | 10              |                 |
| Control of syntax and mechanics  | 5               |                 |
| Relate 21 <sup>st</sup> century Christianity application                         | 15              |                 |
| Has multiple sources of information, ideas, and views,                           | 5               |                 |
| Conclusions  | 5               |                 |
| Shows ingenuity in staging, production, and media use                            | 10              |                 |
| Is appropriate length.   | 5               |                 |
| Total Points   | 100             |                 |

**D. REPORT/PAPER:** (10% of course grade/100 points) The student will write a five page report during the semester. Reports may not exceed eight pages in length. The report will be double spaced with the student name, page number, and course identification. The report is due at the specified time as stated in the syllabus and will be returned via Moodle.

### REPORT GUIDELINES

- This is a report/paper- not a sermon. The report will have at least three reference sources: one from a book, one from a journal, a newspaper, or a magazine, and one from a web source. **Turabian standards for footnotes and bibliography will be observed.** See student resources for Turabian assistance.
- Student will determine the topic for each report. **Student will confer with the instructor to receive topic approval before proceeding with her/his work.** Student will review a draft with the instructor.
- Scoring for the paper will be based on standards in the section shown in the rubric below:

### 100-POINT REPORT EVALUATION

The following is the rubric for evaluating reports:

| Requirement  | Possible points | Achieved points |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| Initial approval of topic with instructor                                  | 10              |                 |
| Review of draft with instructor  | 10              |                 |
| Use of Turabian standards  | 10              |                 |
| Use of various sources and views   | 10              |                 |
| Required length as stated in syllabus                                      | 10              |                 |
| Written in student language  | 10              |                 |
| Clear and appropriate conclusion   | 10              |                 |
| Content development  | 10              |                 |
| Control of syntax and mechanics  | 10              |                 |
| Report presents Biblical application for 21 <sup>st</sup> Century audience | 10              |                 |
| Totals   | 100             |                 |

**E. QUIZZES:** (four quizzes @50 points each; 20% of course grade/200 points)

There will be four quizzes covering each of the four sections of the course. These will cover primary information from the Scripture/textbook portions of the units covered. These quizzes are the key review for the sections before the assessments. These quizzes will be scored on a 50 point basis.

**F. ASSESSING YOUR KNOWLEDGE:** (four assessments @50 points each; 20% of course grade/200 points) There will be four major assessments to accompany the units of the course. These assessments will cover information in the reading assignments, class notes, and textbook resources. The assessments will be scored on a 50-point basis. The assessment is a discussion format, each response will be a minimum of 500 words. There are ten questions in each assessment. The student will select five to respond for their work. These assessments will take substantial time to complete. Students must initiate their responses in a timely manner in order to complete the assessments.

The four quizzes and four assessments will be returned via Moodle at the specified times. Student will ensure the assessments are double spaced with the student name, page number, and course identification. Obviously the student will have use of their textbook, Bible, or other notes while taking the quizzes and assessments.

Dates for the quizzes and assessments are in the class syllabus. It is the student's responsibility to be in computer contact on these days. Students who know in advance they will be absent for a quiz/assessment due to valid reasons must arrange to take an early/late quiz/assessment. Unusual circumstances happen to all of us. Contact the instructor if there is an extreme, extraordinary emergency in your life. Together we will determine the extent of the extreme, extraordinary emergency with your life.

Quizzes/assessments may be multiple choice, true false, fill-in-the-blank, or discussion, depending on the units covered. The final quiz and final assessment will not be cumulative and will be assigned the same value as each of the other three major quizzes/assessments.

Quizzes/assessments may include but are not limited to the following:

1. Evaluating details of textbook or reference augmentations
2. Analyzing, comparing/contrasting textbook information
3. Placing events, people, things in proper sequence
4. Judging statements concerning class materials
5. Organizing, detailing map locations, graphs, or charts
6. Classifying materials from text, resources, or other assigned readings

**PLAGIARISM:** A student who submits work as part of the requirements for a course thereby asserts that the student personally has done that work exclusively for that course. In any paper, the student is asserting that the thoughts are the student's own original work unless credit is explicitly given to sources via footnote citation. The student is asserting that the words written are the student's own composition unless the words are enclosed in quotation marks or set off in a block quotation. Failure to cite in proper form the works on which a paper is based or to quote in proper form the words of others constitutes plagiarism. Students found engaging in plagiarism are subject to disciplinary measures. The copying of the work of another, whether derived from the Internet or other sources, when falsely presented as a student's own work, is considered grounds for suspension from the seminary. (For more details on plagiarism, consult the Student Handbook)

#### **Drop or Withdrawal from the Course:**

Due to various unseen circumstances, students may feel the need to drop or withdraw from a course. The seminary has strict policies as to when a student may drop without penalty or withdrawal from a course. In this Fall 17 semester, the last day to drop a course without penalty is Friday, 29 SEP. The last day to withdrawal from a course is Friday, 3 NOV.

The following is the seminary's written policy on drops and withdrawals:

Students are encouraged to consult with the professor before dropping or withdrawing from a course. A student may discontinue or drop any class during the first five weeks of the course without penalty. This means courses that are dropped will not appear on a student's transcript, however all financial obligations will remain per the tuition refund policy. The student may withdraw from the sixth through tenth weeks and receive a "WP" (Withdrew Passing) or "WF" (Withdrew Failing) on the student's transcript. Withdrawal after this date, without reason of a serious illness or similar emergency that occurs after the withdrawal deadline, will result in receiving an "F." *p. 38 2016-17 BMA Seminary Catalog.*

**COURSE CONTRACT:** By continuing with the course, you certify that you:

- have thoroughly read the syllabus and all relevant orientation information.
- understand that this course has a fixed start and end date.
- understand the delivery mode of this course is not self-paced.
- understand that this is not a watered-down course--you will use the same textbook and complete the same requirements as in a traditional classroom.
- agree to submit your assignments electronically or as instructed by your instructor within the accepted timeframe.



- are the student officially enrolled in this course and you are actually performing your own work.
- agree to the course conditions and requirements, especially the provisions of academic honesty and personal integrity in an online course.

**ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE –NT213c- Fall 17**

| ASSIGNMENT DUE             | WHAT IT'S WORTH (points) | WHEN IT'S DUE | WHEN IT WILL APPEAR ON MOODLE |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------|
| Forum 1                    | 25                       | 30 AUG        | on/about 21 AUG               |
| Bonus 1                    | 25 (bonus)               |               |                               |
| Update Moodle Profile      | 25 (bonus)               |               |                               |
| Call Instructor First Week | 25 (bonus)               |               |                               |
| Forum 2                    | 25                       | 6 SEP         | 30 AUG                        |
| Journal 1                  | 25                       | 13 SEP        | 6 SEP                         |
| Journal 2                  | 25                       |               |                               |
| Quiz 1                     | 50                       |               |                               |
| Forum 3                    | 25                       | 20 SEP        | 13 SEP                        |
| Report/Paper Topic Due     | 10                       |               |                               |
| Assessment 1               | 50                       |               |                               |
| Forum 4                    | 25                       | 27 SEP        | 20 SEP                        |
| Journal 3                  | 25                       | 4 OCT         | 27 SEP                        |
| Forum 5                    | 25                       |               |                               |
| Journal 4                  | 25                       |               |                               |
| Quiz 2                     | 50                       |               |                               |
| Draft Report/Paper         | 10                       | 11 OCT        | 4 OCT                         |
| Special Presentation Topic | 15                       |               |                               |
| Assessment 2               | 50                       |               |                               |
| Journal 5                  | 25                       | 18 OCT        | 11 OCT                        |
| Forum 6                    | 25                       |               |                               |
| Report/Paper Due           | 80                       |               |                               |
| Special Presentation Draft | 10                       |               |                               |
| Quiz 3                     | 50                       | 25 OCT        | 18 OCT                        |
| Journal 6                  | 25                       |               |                               |
| Assessment 3               | 50                       | 1 NOV         | 25 OCT                        |
| Special Presentation Due   | 75                       |               |                               |
| Journal 7                  | 25                       | 8 NOV         | 1 NOV                         |
| Forum 7                    | 25                       |               |                               |
| Journal 8                  | 25                       |               |                               |
| Bonus 2                    | 25 (bonus)               | 15 NOV        | 8 NOV                         |
| Assessment 4               | 50                       |               |                               |
| Forum 8                    | 25                       | 22 NOV        | 15 NOV                        |

|        |                            |        |        |
|--------|----------------------------|--------|--------|
| Quiz 4 | 50                         | 29 NOV | 22 NOV |
| Total  | 1000 points plus 100 bonus |        |        |
|        |                            |        |        |
|        |                            |        |        |