Page 1 of 7



**CVBA Seminary Extension**

**NBST 500 New Testament Orientation I**

# Course Description

A general introduction to the New Testament Gospels, Acts, Pauline and General Epistles, emphasizing matters of text, canon, authorship, date, authorial purpose, and theme development. The general principles of interpretation (hermeneutics) will be introduced as well as the special principles concerning parables, symbols and types, and prophecy.

# Rationale

This course will provide the student with an overview of both the background and content of the New Testament. A broad look at the New Testament as well as the historical, cultural, political, and religious context allows the student to see how the specific message of a New Testament document interfaces with the whole.

# Prerequisite

Participation, or interest to seek such, in the Central Valley Baptist Farm System through internships or assisting in mentor-coaching of interns

# Required Resource Purchase

The following texts can be purchased from [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com),

www.abebooks.com or other internet book sources (normally used copies are

available):

Black, David, and Lea, Thomas, *The New Testament: Its Background and*

*Message.* Nashville: Broadman and Holman Publishing, 2003.

Edersheim, Alfred. *The Life and Times of Jesus the Messiah (updated*

*edition, one volume).* Peabody, Mass: Hendrickson Publication, 1993.

Turabian, Kate L. *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*. 9th edition. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press.

# Additional Materials for Learning

1. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
2. Internet access (broadband recommended)
3. A Zoom account (go to zoom.us to establish free account); Youtube usage for brief weekly lectures
4. Microsoft Office
5. Usage of Liberty University School of Divinity Writing Guide

# Measurable Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Describe the social, economic, geographical, and political context of the New Testament.
2. Describe the major Jewish religious beliefs and religious movements of first century Judaism.
3. Describe the major events of Christ’s life and ministry.
4. Define the main characteristics of each New Testament book covered.
5. Demonstrate an understanding of the historical setting, major themes, interpretive issues, and literary genres of the New Testament books covered in the course.
6. Demonstrate an ability to think critically and perform evidence-based research by writing a biography of a key character in the Gospels.

# Course Requirements and Assignments

1. Textbook readings and lecture presentations/notes
2. Course Requirements Checklist

After reading the Course Syllabus[,](http://www.liberty.edu/index.cfm?PID=18202&printpage=y) the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.

1. Discussion Board Forums (4): odd weeks ask for main post to provided topic; even weeks are responses to 2 classmates’ posts from prior week

Discussion Boards are collaborative learning experiences. Therefore, the student is required to create a thread in response to the provided topic (4) for each forum. Each thread must be 200-300 words and demonstrate course-related knowledge. In addition to the thread, the student is required to reply to 2 other classmates’ threads. Each reply must be 150-200 words. Each main thread must be supported by acceptable sources include the following: the Bible; course textbooks; and other peer-reviewed, scholarly sources. Popular sources and Internet sources are not allowed.

1. New Testament book paper

* 1. Topic Approval

The student will choose a book from the New Testament. The student will submit book choice to the instructor for approval.

* 1. Outline

The student will develop an outline of selected book to teach the applicational principles found within it. The outline will present 2-3 key principle from each chapter of selected book and provide subpoints to each principle explaining how to use the principle.

* 1. Paper

The student will write a 5-10-page research-based paper in outline form (incorporating the information in #2 above) presenting above research.

* 1. PowerPoint

The student will create a PowerPoint presentation in conjunction with paper to be used in church settings. There is no required number of slides, but the PowerPoint must include the following: a title slide, an introduction slide, at least 1 slide for each principle presented in the study, and a conclusion slide.

1. Book Reviews (2)

Each Book Review treats the entirety of Black and Lea, and the selected chapters in Edersheim.

# Course Grading and Policies

A. Points

Course Requirements Checklist 10

Discussion Board Forums (4 at 100 pts ea) 200

New Testament book paper 400

Book Review 1 (Modules 1-6) 200

Book Review 2 (Modules 7-8) 200

# Total 1010

1. Scale

A = 940–1010 A- = 920–939 B+ = 900–919 B = 860–899 B- = 840–859

C+ = 820–839 C = 780–819 C- = 760–779 D+ = 740–759 D = 700–739

D- =680–699 F =0–679

1. Style Guidelines

All assignments for this course are to be formatted in accordance with the LBTS

Writing Guide and the latest edition of the Turabian style manual (*A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and* Dissertations). Discussion assignments and essay examinations may use the parenthetical citation style. All other written assignments should use the footnote citation style. Supplemental writing aids are available via the CVBA Writing Center.

1. Extra Credit

No additional “for credit” assignments will be permitted beyond those given in the course requirements stated above.



**Course Schedule**

# NBST 500

Textbooks: Lea & Black, *The New Testament: Its Background and Message* (2003). Edersheim, *The Life and Times of Jesus the Messiah* (1993).

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Module/ Week(s)** | **Reading & Study** | **Assignments** | **Points** |
| **1 / wk 1** | Lea & Black: ch. 1-5  1 presentations  Bible Readings: Matthew-Luke | Course Requirements Checklist  Class Introductions  DB Forum 1 Thread | 10  0  25  0 |
| **2 / wk2** | Lea & Black: chs. 6-9  1 presentation  Bible Readings: John-Acts | DB Forum 1 Replies  New Testament book choice approval  DB 2 Forum week 3 | 25  0  25 |
| **3 / wk 3** | Lea & Black: chs. 10-13  Bible Readings: Romans-Galatians,  1 presentation | DB 2 replies | 25 |
| **4 / wk 4** | Lea & Black: chs. 14-16  Bible Readings: Ephesians-Hebrews,  1 presentation | DB Forum 2 replies  DB 3 replies week 6 | 25  25 |
| **5 / wk 5** | Lea & Black: chs. 17-20  Bible Readings: James-Jude  1 presentation | DB Forum 3  Biographical Study – PowerPoint | 25  30 |
| **6 / wk 6** | Lea & Black: chs. 21-24  Bible Readings: Revelation 1 presentation | DB 3 Replies  Book Review 1  DB 5 Forum | 25  200  25 |
| **7 / wk 7** | Edersheim, Book 1, pp 1-110  1 presentation | DB Forum 4  New Testament– Paper  DB 6 Forum | 25  400  25 |
| **8 / wk 8** | Edersheim Book 2, pp 111-216 | Book Review 2  DB 4 replies | 200  25 |
| **Total** | |  |  |

DB = Discussion Board

**NOTE**: Each course module/week begins on Monday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Sunday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final module/week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on **Friday**.