

BIBL 681: FIRST PETER

David deSilva

July 26 – 30; 8:30 – 11:30 am

1 or 2 graduate credit hours; or 1 audit hour

Live online & Recorded

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course invites students to explore the life situations faced by early Christians in Asia Minor and the pastoral response and strategies addressed to those situations in 1 Peter. Students will not only grow in their mastery of the message from an important witness to the apostolic message, but also in their acquaintance with a range of exegetical skills, particularly those informed by intertexture, classical rhetoric, and awareness of first-century cultural values. The fruits of our close reading of the text will be brought to bear on the challenges facing disciples and communities of faith in the global church.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Upon the successful completion of this course, students should have a clearer understanding of:

1. Articulate 1 Peter's message and vision for its first-century audiences.
2. Apply insights from 1 Peter's historical meaning and purposes to Christian identity, formation, and ministry in 21st-century contexts.
3. Articulate and critically evaluate a wide range of scholarly positions on various questions pertinent to the interpretation of 1 Peter.

COURSE OUTLINE

Day 1 July 26 1 Peter 1:1-12

Day 2 July 27 1 Peter 1:13—2:10.

Day 3 July 28 1 Peter 2:11—3:7.

Day 4 July 29 1 Peter 3:8—4:11.

Day 5 July 30 1 Peter 4:12—5:14.

REQUIRED TEXTS

These readings are ideally to be completed prior to our first real-time session (July 26, 2021) by all students taking the course for academic credit. I understand that some students will be registering too late to accomplish all of this reading; advance preparation to the extent possible will enhance your engagement during the real-time sessions.

- 1 Peter in at least two modern translations. Please select the first from the following: NASB, ESV, NRSV (these are more “formal-equivalent” translations; and the second from the following: NIV 2011, NJB, NABRE, and CEB (these are more “functional-equivalent” translations).
- Jobes, Karen H. *1 Peter*. Baker Exegetical Commentary on the New Testament. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2005. ISBN-10: 9780801026744; ISBN-13: 978-0801026744.¹
- Elliott, J. H. *What is Social-Scientific Criticism*. Minneapolis: Fortress, 1990. Pp. 70-86. This resource will be available online.
- deSilva, David A. *An Introduction to the New Testament: Contexts, Methods & Ministry Formation*. 2nd edition. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2018. Pp. 82-116. This resource will be available online.

These additional readings are also ideally to be completed prior to our first class session by students pursuing this as a 2-credit course. All of these readings will be available online.

- Krentz, Edgar. “Creating a Past: 1 Peter and Christian Identity.” *Biblical Research* 53 (2008): 41-57.
- Gupta, Nijay K. “A Spiritual House of Royal Priests, Chosen and Honored: The Presence and Function of Cultic Imagery in 1 Peter.” *Perspectives in Religious Studies* 36 (2009): 61-76.
- Moxnes, Halvor. “The Beaten Body of Christ: Reading and Empowering Slave Bodies in 1 Peter.” *Religion and Theology* 21 (2014): 125-41.
- Reeder, Caryn. “1 Peter 3:1-6: Biblical Authority and Battered Wives.” *Bulletin for Biblical Research* 25 (2015): 519-39.

These additional readings are to be completed at any point after the course by students pursuing this as a 2-credit course prior to completing the final assignments. These readings will also be available online.

- deSilva, David A. “Reading 1 Peter Among the Elect Resident Aliens in Sri Lanka,” forthcoming in Mariam Kamell Kovalishyn, ed., *Reading the New Testament with the Majority World*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2021.
- Moy, Russell G. “Resident Aliens of the Diaspora: 1 Peter and Chinese Protestants in San Francisco.” *Semeia* 90–91 (2002): 51-67.
- Seland, Torrey. “Resident Aliens in Mission: Missional Practices in the Emerging Church of 1 Peter.” *Bulletin for Biblical Research* 19 (2009) 565-89.

Please Note: This Course Information Sheet is meant to assist in selecting courses. The official syllabus should be consulted for more detailed information. A full syllabus with drop deadlines, policies, and course assignment details is available on Moodle for registered students: moodle.regent-college.edu/login

