

BIBL 506: A Narrative Approach to the Gospels and Acts

Jeannine Brown

July 24–28; 8:30 – 11:30am

1 or 2 graduate credit hours; or 1 audit hour

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Viewing the four Gospels and the book of Acts through a narrative lens suggests fresh interpretative domains for consideration. These include exploration of an author's plotting, characterization, point of view, intertextual emphases, and narrative theologizing. In this course, we will study the first five books of the New Testament with an eye toward their narrative contours and design. Attention will be given to narrative-exegetical skill development, appreciation for the literary artistry of these narratives, and holistic engagement with their theological messages.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

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

1. Analyze each of the four Gospels and Acts with a view to their narrative shaping.
2. Employ concepts of characterization and point of view to evaluate the evangelists' narrative purposes.
3. Critically engage course readings to develop interpretive practices that are sensitive to narrative elements of the Gospels and Acts.

COURSE OUTLINE

Day 1 July 24 Plot and Plotting in the Gospel of Mark

Day 2 July 25 Characters and Characterization in the Gospel of Luke

Day 3 July 26 Intertextuality in the Gospel of Matthew

Day 4 July 27 Narrative Theology in the Gospel of John

Day 5 July 28 Point of View in Acts

REQUIRED TEXTS

Brown, Jeannine K. *The Gospels as Stories: A Narrative Approach to Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2020.

Dicken, Frank E., and Julia A. Snyder, eds. *Characters and Characterization in Luke-Acts*.

The Library of New Testament Studies. London: Bloomsbury T&T Clark, 2016.

Rhoads, David, Joanna Dewey, and Donald Michie. *Mark as Story: An Introduction to the Narrative of a Gospel*, 3rd ed. Minneapolis: Fortress, 2012.

Looking for textbooks? Please [contact](#) the Regent Bookstore, or check out their [direct-fulfillment website, Aerio](#).

Note: Aerio prices are in USD.

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

