I. Course Description

**NTS 6601: Gospel of Matthew (English Text)**

*Prerequisite: NT 511 or permission of the instructor*

Individual Gospel study will be offered in English versions in rotation. The introduction to the Gospel, the background and the purpose of the author will be investigated. An analysis, theological context and didactic values of each Gospel will receive emphasis.

**NTS 7701 Exegesis of Matthew**

*Prerequisites: NT 502 and NT 511 or permission of the instructor*

The student is given the opportunity to engage in the exegetical and interpretive study of the Gospels of the New Testament. The course is built around the exegesis of the Greek text and involves the grammatical, historical and linguistic tools of exegetical procedure. Special attention is given to the translation of selected passages related to twentieth century idiom.

II. Student Learning Outcomes

As a result of this course, students will be able to:

1a. Articulate the content of the Gospel of Matthew and major critical issues associated with its interpretation.

1b. Demonstrate proficiency in the exegesis of, and theological and ethical reflection upon, the Gospel of Matthew

2. Not assessed in this course.

3. Explain how an awareness of the limits of their own cultural and social location can assist in reading and interpreting Matthew.

4.-6. Not assessed in this course.

III. Course Requirements

A. Required Textbook(s)

**BOTH NTS 6601 AND NT 7701 Students:**

1. It is assumed that NRSV Study Bible. If students do not already own a NRSV study Bible then they should purchase one of the following two editions:


**ONLY NTS 7701 Students:**

It is assumed that NTS 7701 students who have taken “Biblical Greek I/II” will own a Greek New Testament (i.e., NA27/UBS4) and that they own the lexical and grammatical resources needed to both translate and work with the Greek text of Matthew. Students should have access to BDAG, Louw & Nida, LS, TDNT, and an intermediate-level Greek grammar such as D. Wallace’s *Greek Grammar Beyond the Basics*, Mich.: Zondervan, 1997. These resources do not need to be in print format. Many of these resources are included with the major bible software packages (e.g., Logos, BibleWorks, and Accordance).

**ONLY NTS 6601 Students:**

It is assumed that NTS 6601 students will have access to no less than 5 English translations in addition to the NRSV (i.e., no less than 6 total translations). These 5 must include the ESV, NASB, and ASV. Two of the remaining 5 translations must be ‘functional translations’ and are to be chosen from the following: NLT, CEV, NIV. These resources do not need to be in print format. Many of these resources are included with the major bible software packages (e.g., Logos, BibleWorks, and Accordance).

NTS 6601 students must purchase an additional commentary on Matthew that covers the entire Gospel. **DO NOT PURCHASE THIS ADDITIONAL COMMENTARY PRIOR TO MEETING TOGETHER IN CLASS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE QUARTER.** The commentary will be read in parallel to the main commentary by Craig Keener (see above for details on Keener’s work).

**B. Attendance**

According to the student handbook, attendance at all class sessions is expected unless the professor has been notified in advance. Any student missing the equivalent of six class hours may receive a lower grade, be asked to complete additional work, or be asked to withdraw from the class. The professor will select the appropriate action at his own discretion.

**C. Assignments/Assessment of Student Learning**

1. Class Participation and Group Work 10%

   Students are expected to be actively engaged in all forms in-class participation. Participation consists of those course components that require interaction with fellow classmates and/or the professor. Students who do not actively engage their fellow classmates and/or the professor when the opportunity is provided will receive a significantly reduced final grade.

2. Quizzes and Assignments 40%

   Students will be required to complete assignments and quizzes throughout the term. Specific details regarding these assignments and quizzes will be provided to students the
week prior to each quiz. Students should expect to complete at least one assignment per week of term and multiple quizzes during the course of the quarter.

Quizzes will test your grasp of the content of Matthew and issues regarding the exegesis and interpretation of the text. To that end, *quizzes will be based upon the weekly assigned readings, lectures, and assignments.*

3. Research Notebook 50%

Students will have to submit a ‘research notebook’ on the last day of the quarter. The notebook is to be between 50 and 100 pages in length. Further details about what is to be included in the research notebook will be provided to students on the first day of class.

D. Calculation of Grade

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Learning Outcomes</th>
<th>Percent of Final Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class Participation and Group Work</td>
<td>1a, 3</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes and Assignments</td>
<td>1a, 1b</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Notebook</td>
<td>1a, 1b, 3</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Class Participation and Group Work 10%
Quizzes and Assignments 40%
Research Notebook 50%

TOTAL: 100%

VI. Lecture Outline and Reading Assignments
*This weekly schedule is subject to change or modification to meet the learning objectives of the course.

1. **Introduction to the Study of Matthew:** Historical Context of Jesus, Matthew and the Gospels, Genre, etc..
   - **How do we Read Matthew:** Methods and approaches to Matthew
2. **Literary Structure:** Matthew’s role as author, editor
3. **Birth Narratives/Genealogy**
4. **Baptism and Beginning of Jesus’ Ministry**
5. **Sermon on the Mount/Lord’s Prayer**
6. **Teachings, deeds, and activities of Jesus**
7. **Teachings, deeds, and activities of Jesus (cont.)**
8. **Passion Narrative**
9. **Passion Narrative (cont.)**
10. **Summary & Conclusion**
VIII. Seminary Guidelines

A. ATS Academic Integrity Policy
Ashland Theological Seminary seeks to model servant leadership derived from biblical standards of honesty and integrity. We desire to encourage, develop, and sustain men and women of character who will exemplify these biblical qualities in their ministry to the church and the world. As members of the seminary community, students are expected to hold themselves to the highest standards of academic, personal, and social integrity. All students, therefore, are expected to abide by the academic integrity standards outlined in the Student Handbook.

B. Writing Assistance
If you need assistance with writing projects for your coursework, contact the ATS Writing Center. The center provides free sessions with a peer consultant who can help you with all of your concerns about academic writing. Contact the center if you have a question about how to complete your assignment, if you have documentation questions, or if you would like to have your paper evaluated for areas needing improvement. The ATS Writing Center can be reached at 419-289-5162 or by e-mail at atswc@ashland.edu.

C. Students with Disabilities
Students with documented disabilities who require academic adjustments for this class are requested to contact me to discuss reasonable accommodations. While not required, it is in the best interest of the student to have this conversation early in the quarter. In order to receive academic adjustments, paperwork from Disability Services must be provided to document this need. Disability Services is located in 105 Amstutz, extension 5953.

D. ATS Grading Scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>Grade Points</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>97-100</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>Superior achievement of course objectives, diligence and originality, high degree of freedom from error, outstanding evidence of ability to utilize course knowledge, initiative expressed in preparing and completing assignments, positive contributions verbalized in class.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>92-96</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>89-91</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>86-88</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Good work submitted, commendable achievement of course objectives, some aspects of the course met with excellence, substantial evidence of ability to utilize course material, positive contributions verbalized in class, consistency and thoroughness of work completed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>83-85</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>80-82</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>77-79</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>Acceptable work completed, satisfactory achievement of course objectives, demonstrating at least some ability to utilize course knowledge, satisfactory class contribution.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>74-76</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>71-73</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>68-70</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>Passing but minimal work, marginal achievement of course objectives, poor performance in comprehension of work submitted, inadequate class contributions.</td>
</tr>
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Terence C. Mournet, Ph.D.  
August 2011
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Minimum Score</th>
<th>Grade Points</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>65-67</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>Unacceptable work resulting in failure to receive class credit, inadequacy of work submitted or of performance and attendance in class.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Below 65</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Unacceptable work resulting in failure to receive class credit, inadequacy of work submitted or of performance and attendance in class.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**IX. Selected Bibliography**


