

St Athanasius Academy
Class Syllabus – New Testament
2021 to 2022 school year

Instructor: Dn. Michael De Haven

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Course Description:

In this course we will explore the writings of the New Testament, with the goal of gaining an appreciation for them, developing a broad knowledge of their content, and understanding their importance in the Christian life. We will briefly discuss the history behind the New Testament writings and then begin reading and discussing portions of the New Testament each week. Our goal will be to complete the Gospels in the first semester and then complete the books of Acts through the Revelation in the second semester.

Class Times:

Wednesdays at 1:00 PM Eastern Time

Required learning materials:

The Orthodox Study Bible is preferred, but any English translation is welcome.

Expected Learning Outcomes:

Ultimately, the goal of this course is to instill a love for the Scriptures and to develop a lifelong habit of reading and learning. We will cover various topics as we read, so by the end of the class, you will:

- Have a basic knowledge of how the New Testament came about,
- Have a better understanding of the core message of the New Testament, and
- Know how the message of the New Testament forms and orients our lives as Christians.

Class Expectations and Policies:

- **Attendance:** While we do not have an official attendance policy, it is important to make every effort to attend as often as possible. Class time is an opportunity to ask questions and to engage in discussion. Recorded sessions are not as effective as live interaction but will be available if you are unable to attend. If you are going to miss or be late to a class, please contact me ahead of time.
- **Class behavior:** It is important for you and for your classmates that class time be orderly and with as few distractions as possible. To facilitate this, please...
 - Log in to class on time and keep your camera on while class is in session.
 - Keep yourself muted unless asked to speak.
 - Raise your hand before you speak.
 - If you make a comment, please keep it related to what we are discussing in class.

- Do not eat or drink anything during class time.
- Do not use any electronics like phones or games during class.
- Do not use applications on your computer other than what is necessary for class.

- **Class Participation:** Class time is your opportunity to ask questions, listen to others, and get feedback, so it is important that you participate actively in class:
 - Pay close attention while I am presenting information.
 - Don't be afraid to ask questions if something isn't clear.
 - Be respectful of each other and help each other out.

- **Homework:** Each week I will assign a short portion of the New Testament for you to read. We will not read the portions in class, but will discuss them, so please make sure you read the appropriate portions before class, take notes on anything you find interesting or confusing, and be prepared to discuss and ask questions. There will be no other homework assignments for this course.

- **Grading:** Every effort will be given by the instructor to help students succeed, but laziness and lack of achievement cannot be ignored. Also, it is unfair to give two students the same grade who did not apply themselves equally. Therefore, grades will be at the discretion of the teacher. Grades for this class will be weighed as follows:
 - Attendance: 50%
 - Participation in class: 25%
 - Showing respect to others: 25%