

BI 366 THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

Spring 2024

Instructor: Troy Troftgruben

An Advanced Bible: New Testament course. The course includes some translating of NT Greek for students who have learned Greek.

Credits: 3 hrs

DESCRIPTION: The course engages our only work of church history in the New Testament to explore movements of mission, theological emphases, and experiences with God and in church ministry leadership in Luke's "second volume" about God's purposes in Jesus. The course will include careful exegesis, theological reflection, consideration of church ministry practices today, and teaching experiences.

OBJECTIVES:

- To read in sustained fashion the book of Acts, reflecting theologically on its message for faith and church ministry today. (*practice of biblical and theological wisdom*)
- To interpret scripture communally, listening to the voices of published interpreters, church people, and our colleagues in our classroom. (*practice of collegiality*)
- To claim our own interpretive voices, practicing faithful interpretation that bears bold witness to the ever-changing contexts of ministry today. (*evangelical listening and speaking the faith to others*)
- To teach others how to enter deeply into scripture for themselves, using digital resources now available to us. (*practice of Missio Dei in Word and Sacrament*)

PROCEDURES: The course is partially driven by presentations and resources (facilitated by the instructor), and partially oriented toward interpretive conversation and student leadership of scripture study.

EVALUATION: Evaluation will be based on two papers, half a dozen translation exercises, and the leading of a Bible study among peers.

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Required:

A Bible (NRSV recommended).

A Greek New Testament (for students who have taken Greek)

Beers, Holly. *A Week in the Life of a Greco-Roman Woman*. Downers Grove Ill: InterVarsity Press, 2019.

Recommended:

- Gaventa, Beverly Roberts. *Acts*. Abingdon NT Commentaries. Nashville: Abingdon, 2003.
- Fitzmyer, Joseph A. *Acts*. Anchor Bible Commentary 31. New York: Doubleday, 1998.
- González, Justo L. *Acts: the Gospel of the Spirit*. Maryknoll, N.Y.: Orbis, 2001.
- Jennings, Willie James. *Acts*. Belief: A Theological Commentary on the Bible. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2017.
- Keener, Craig S. *Acts: An Exegetical Commentary*. 4 vols. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2012–2015.
- Johnson, Luke Timothy. *Prophetic Jesus, Prophetic Church: The Challenge of Luke-Acts to Contemporary Christians*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2011.