

# Servants' Preparation Faith Program

## COURSE SYLLABUS

### NT 101 – INTRODUCTION TO THE FOUR GOSPELS

WINTER 2010 – FRIDAY APRIL 30 – MAY 7

6:00 PM – 8:15 PM

INSTRUCTOR: FR. PISHOY WASFY

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#### I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is one of two courses offered as part of the New Testament requirement of the faith program. This '4-session/2-week' course will provide you with an overview of the four canonical gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John) as well as a deeper understanding of the source, canonicity and authenticity of these 4 biographies of our Lord Jesus Christ. Also, you will learn the particularities of each gospel, be able to compare all four as well as gain an insight into the harmonization of the gospels in order to develop an overall big picture. It is the intent of this course that you –as a student- receive an overview and background information on the writing of each gospel so as to facilitate your understanding as you read and study the Bible.

#### II. LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of the course, you should be able to:

- Articulate why there are only 4 gospels and what is the source of each.
- Compare all four gospels based on dates, place written, recipients, mega themes, symbolism and portrait of Christ.
- Develop a deeper understanding of each gospel, its purpose and how it fits in harmony with the others.
- Demonstrate competence in applying your understanding of course material to your study of Biblical passages within any of the four gospels.

#### III. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

##### A. REQUIRED TEXTS

1. NT101 GOSPELS AND ACTS Booklet – Servants' Preparation Program.  
Coptic Orthodox Diocese of the Southern United States  
([http://www.suscopts.org/servantsprep/pdf/NT/NT\\_101.pdf](http://www.suscopts.org/servantsprep/pdf/NT/NT_101.pdf))

##### B. ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

1. **Quiz #1 (Take-home):** Due May 7, 2010: 30% of final grade.
2. **Quiz #2 (Take-home):** Due May 14, 2010: 50% of final grade.
3. **Reading report:** Due on May 14, 2010; 20% of final grade. Indicating how much of the reading you were able to accomplish (either 0%, 50% or 100%)  
Indicate this reading report on the last page of your Quiz #2 (due May 14, 2010).

### **C. GUIDELINES FOR THE SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN WORK**

**Title Page and Documentation:** The title page should include the name of the course, name of the instructor, title of the paper/assignment, student's name, and the date due. Students are expected to honestly reflect use of materials other than their own. The Church does not tolerate plagiarism in any form. Any sources used in the paper should be properly documented as a reference or bibliography at the end of the paper.

**Papers** must be typed and double-spaced. Students are required to retain a copy of all assignments in hard copy or electronic form. Proper spelling, grammar and style are expected.

**Class policy on late assignment:** For each day late, the grade will be reduced by 1/3 of a letter grade. Extensions will be considered if the circumstances are extreme. No final assignments or examinations will be accepted later than Friday May 28, 2010. Requests for an extension of the due date must be submitted to the course instructor prior to the due date for the assignment.

**Assignments may be handed in at the course session. Only hardcopies are accepted, no email copies will be graded.**

### **D. SUMMARY OF ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING**

Evaluation is based upon the completion of the following assignments:

1. Quiz #1 (Take-home):
  - a. This will cover: (1) General introduction and (2) the Gospel of St. Matthew
2. Quiz #2 (Take-home):
  - a. This will cover the Gospel of Sts. Mark, Luke and John.
3. Reading Report:
  - a. You are asked to read some material in preparation for the lectures. On the last page of Quiz #2 (due May 14, 2010) indicate whether you have 0%, 50% or 100% read the material.
4. In order to pass this course, you need to earn an overall grade of not less than 75%.

## **IV. COURSE SCHEDULE, CONTENT, AND REQUIRED READINGS**

**SESSION I April 30**

- Overview of course and assignments
- Evidences, reasons for and sources of the 4 gospels
- Comparison of the 4 gospels

**SESSION 2 April 30**

**(Quiz #1 to be taken home)**

- The Gospel according to St. Matthew

**SESSION 3 May 7**

**(Quiz #1 due at beginning of class)**

- The Gospel according to St. Mark
- The Gospel according to St. Luke – Part I

**SESSION 4 May 7**

**(Quiz #2 to be taken home and is due May 14, 2010)**

**(in Quiz #2: indicate how much of the reading was done on the last page)**

- The Gospel according to St. Luke – Part II
- The Gospel according to St. John

**(Reading Report: pages 3-32 is due May 14, 2010)**