

**Course Syllabus**  
**KNB2665HF – The Gospel of Luke**  
**Knox College**  
**Toronto School of Theology**  
**Summer 2020**

***Instructor Information***

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Instructor: Frank Z. Kovacs, PhD, Sessional Instructor  
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Office Hours: By appointment

***Course Identification***

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Course Number: KNB2665HF L0101  
Course Format: Online (Adapted format due to health restrictions imposed in response to COVID - 19)  
Course Name: The Gospel of Luke  
Course Location: Online  
Class Times: Monday - Friday 9:00am – 12:00pm  
Prerequisites: NA

***Course Description***

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This course examines the Gospel of Luke in its historical, social and literary contexts. The life of Jesus presented as a culminating event in the Lukan view of salvation generates a number of distinctive theological themes. An exploration therefore of literary features, editorial activity in the Lukan account, its relation to the Acts of the Apostles and its situation to socio-cultural conceptions of first century Judaic and Greco-Roman discourse will provide a network of meaning-effects accounting for the theological character and purpose of the Gospel. Major themes in Luke's work will be further explored, including such topics as the kingdom of God, exaltation Christology, the marginalized and eschatology. This course will solicit discussion and reflection on our own religious contexts within developing diverse twenty-first century societies. Course content delivery will consist of online lectures. In addition to prepared participation (20%), students are required to complete two online quizzes (10% each) and a final research paper (40%).

***Course Resources***

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**Required Course Texts**

- Joel B. Green, *The Theology of the Gospel of Luke* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2001). Available as Online Book from UofT Library.
- [www.stepbible.org](http://www.stepbible.org) – a free and reputable online resource developed by Tyndale House (Cambridge, England) – for bible versions (ESV etc.), ancient language versions,

parsing information, word searches of English & ancient language texts, as well as for topical searches, interlinear texts, dictionaries, etc.

### **Recommended Course Texts**

- Craig Bartholomew, Joel B. Green, Anthony C. Thiselton, *T Reading Luke: Interpretation, Reflection, Formation* (Grand Rapids, Mich.: Zondervan, 2005)

### **Course Website(s)**

- Quercus: <https://q.utoronto.ca/>

This course uses Quercus for its course website. To access it, go to the UofT Quercus login page at <https://q.utoronto.ca/> and login using your UTORid and password. Once you have logged in to Quercus using your UTORid and password, look for the **My Courses** module, where you'll find the link to the website for all your Quercus-based courses. (Your course registration with ACORN gives you access to the course website in Quercus.) Information for students about using Quercus can be found at: <https://community.canvaslms.com/docs/DOC-10701>. Students who have trouble accessing Quercus should ask [insert college contact] for further help.]

- Personal Website: NA

## ***Course Learning Objectives/Outcomes***

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### **Knox College**

#### **Basic Degree Level**

Students successfully completing this course will be able to demonstrate the following learning outcomes.

##### **(A) IN RESPECT OF GENERAL ACADEMIC SKILLS**

1. describe and compare the various research and interpretive methods used in Biblical studies to explicate and interpret texts.
2. demonstrate the ability to engage the semantic fields and grammatical features of the text.

##### **(B) IN RESPECT OF THE UNDERSTANDING OF THE CONTENT OF ONE OR MORE THEOLOGICAL DISCIPLINES**

1. describe and discuss the general cognitive or logical structure, themes and purposes of Luke's Gospel.
2. describe the ancient socio-cultural context in which the Gospel of Luke developed and discuss the interactions between the ancient socio-cultural context and the literature and theology.

##### **(C) IN RESPECT OF PERSONAL AND SPIRITUAL FORMATION**

1. integrate interpretive methods, religious heritage and cultural context with one's own grounding in faith to demonstrate growth.

##### **(D) IN RESPECT OF MINISTERIAL AND PUBLIC LEADERSHIP**

1. apply research methods and interpretive methods to explicate, analyze, and interpret Biblical texts.

2. apply one's understanding of Scripture to ethical, justice, social and ecclesial issues in the world today.

## ***Evaluation***

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### **Requirements**

The final grade for the course will be based on evaluations in three areas:

Basic Degree Students:

(1) Participation (20%) – *In addition to participating in the regular online lectures of the class, including assigned readings from the required text, students are expected to participate in discussions.*

(2) Quizzes (20%: 2x 10%) – *Students are expected to complete two online quizzes accessible on Quercus.*

(3) Final paper (40%) – *A substantial scholarly paper on a text from a list of pericopes (20 pages or so).*

### **Grading System - Basic Degree Students**

1000, 2000 and 3000 level courses use the following numerical grading scale (see section 11.2 of the BD Handbook):

90-100 (A+)	Exceptional
85-89 (A)	Outstanding
80-84 (A-)	Excellent
77-79 (B+)	Very Good
73-76 (B)	Good
70-72 (B-)	Acceptable
0-69 (FZ)	Failure

Please see the appropriate handbook for more details about the grading scale and non-numerical grades (e.g. SDF, INC, etc).

***Late work (BD).*** Basic Degree students are expected to hand in assignments by the date given in the course outline. It is the policy of Knox College to assess a penalty for late assignments: *Four percentage points will be deducted per week that an assignment is late, with partial deductions for partial weeks* (2003). The absolute deadline for the course is the examination day scheduled for the course or the last day of exam week for the semester in which the course is taught, whichever is sooner.

Students with disability issues who may need academic accommodation need to have registered with Accessibility Services and have provided the instructor with a confirmation document at the start of the course/semester. See below.

This penalty is not applied to students with documented medical or compassionate difficulties or exceptional reasons (e.g., a death in the family or a serious illness); students facing such difficulties are kindly requested to consult with their faculty adviser or basic degree director, who should make a recommendation on the matter to the instructor and request an SDF. The absolute deadline for obtaining an SDF for the course is the examination day scheduled for the course or the last day of examination week, whichever is sooner. An SDF must be requested

from the registrar's office in the student's college of registration no later than the last day of exam week in which the course is taken. The SDF, when approved, will have a mutually agreed upon deadline that does not extend beyond the conclusion of the following term. If a student has not completed work but has not been granted an SDF, a final mark will be submitted calculating a zero for work not submitted.

**Course grades.** Consistently with the policy of the University of Toronto, course grades submitted by an instructor are reviewed by a committee of the instructor's college before being posted to ACORN. Grades are not official until they are posted to ACORN. Course grades may be adjusted where they do not comply with University Assessment and Grading Practices Policy found at [www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/Assets/Governing+Council+Digital+Assets/Policies/PDF/grading.pdf](http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/Assets/Governing+Council+Digital+Assets/Policies/PDF/grading.pdf), policies found in the TST conjoint program handbooks, or college grading policy.

## **Policies**

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**Accessibility.** Students with a disability or health consideration, whether temporary or permanent, are entitled to accommodation. Students in conjoint degree programs must register at the University of Toronto's Accessibility Services offices; information is available at <http://www.accessibility.utoronto.ca/>. The sooner a student seeks accommodation, the quicker we can assist.

**Plagiarism.** Students submitting written material in courses are expected to provide full documentation for sources of both words and ideas in footnotes or endnotes. Direct quotations should be placed within quotation marks. (If small changes are made in the quotation, they should be indicated by appropriate punctuation such as brackets and ellipses, but the quotation still counts as a direct quotation.) Failure to document borrowed material constitutes plagiarism, which is a serious breach of academic, professional, and Christian ethics. An instructor who discovers evidence of student plagiarism is not permitted to deal with the situation individually but is required to report it to his or her head of college or delegate according to the TST *Basic Degree Handbook* and the Graduate program Handbooks (linked from <http://www.tst.edu/academic/resources-forms/handbooks> and the University of Toronto *Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters* <http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/AssetFactory.aspx?did=4871>). A student who plagiarizes in this course will be assumed to have read the document "Avoidance of plagiarism in theological writing" published by the Graham Library of Trinity and Wycliffe Colleges [http://www.trinity.utoronto.ca/Library\\_Archives/Theological\\_Resources/Tools/Guides/plag.htm](http://www.trinity.utoronto.ca/Library_Archives/Theological_Resources/Tools/Guides/plag.htm).

**Other academic offences.** TST students come under the jurisdiction of the University of Toronto *Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters* <http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm>.

**Back-up copies.** Please make back-up copies of essays before handing them in.

**Obligation to check email.** At times, the course instructor may decide to send out important course information by email. To that end, all students in conjoint programs are required to have a valid utoronto email address. Students must have set up their utoronto email address which is entered in the ACORN system. Information is available at [www.utorid.utoronto.ca](http://www.utorid.utoronto.ca). The course instructor will not be able to help you with this. 416-978-HELP and the Help Desk at the Information Commons can answer questions you may have about your UTORid and password. *Students should check utoronto email regularly* for messages about the course. **Forwarding**

your utoronto.ca email to a Hotmail, Gmail, Yahoo or other type of email account is not advisable. In some cases, messages from utoronto.ca addresses sent to Hotmail, Gmail or Yahoo accounts are filtered as junk mail, which means that emails from your course instructor may end up in your spam or junk mail folder. Students in non-conjoint programs should contact the Registrar of their college of registration.

***Email communication with the course instructor.*** The instructor aims to respond to email communications from students in a timely manner. *All email communications from students in conjoint programs must be sent from a utoronto email address.* Email communications from other email addresses are not secure, and also the instructor cannot readily identify them as being legitimate emails from students. The instructor is not obliged to respond to email from non-utoronto addresses for students in conjoint programs. Students in non-conjoint programs should only use the email address they have provided to their college of registration.

## ***Course Schedule***

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### **Day 1**

May 25,  
View

Introduction to Luke's Gospel: Luke 1:1-4, Idea of God, Themes & World

### **Day 2**

May 26,

Luke 1:5-56 – Structure, Reversal & Re-mapping

### **Day 3**

May 27,

Luke 1:57-2:52 – Covenant & Restoration

### **Day 4**

May 28,

Luke 3:1-2; 4:16-9:50 – Galilean Ministry

### **Day 5**

May 29,

Luke 9:51-13:21 – Journey to Jerusalem: Discipleship & Ministry

Due: Quiz One

### **Day 6**

June 1,  
Poverty

Luke 13:22-17:10 – Journey to Jerusalem: Kingdom Values, Wealth &

### **Day 7**

June 2,

Perseverance

Luke 17:11-19:27 – Journey to Jerusalem: Kingdom, Prayer &

### **Day 8**

June 3,

Luke 19:28-20:44 – Jerusalem Ministry: Authority, Conflict & Widows

### **Day 9**

June 4,

Luke 22:1-24:11 – Passion Narrative: Lukan Soteriology & Resurrection

**Day 10**

*June 5,*

Luke 24:13-53 – Resurrection Appearances & Anticipating Acts

Due: Quiz Two

Final Research Paper Due within Three (3) weeks after last class