

Course Syllabus
KNB2665HF – The Gospel of Luke
Knox College
Toronto School of Theology
Summer 2018

Instructor Information

Instructor: Frank Z. Kovacs, PhD
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Office Hours:

Course Identification

Course Number: KNB2566HF L0101
Course Name: The Gospel of Luke
Course Location: [Room Number TBD], Knox College
Class Times: Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri - 9:30-12:30
Prerequisites:

Course Description

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 lectures and tutorials. In addition to prepared participation (20%), students are required to write two reflection papers (20% each) and a final research paper (40%).

Course Resources

Required Course Texts

- Green, Joel B. *The Theology of the Gospel of Luke* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2001)

- Aland, Barbara, et al. 2012. *Novum testamentum graece*. 28. Aufl. Stuttgart: Deutsche Bibelstiftung.

Course Website(s)

- Blackboard <https://weblogin.utoronto.ca/>

This course uses Blackboard for its course website. To access it, go to the UofT portal login page at <http://portal.utoronto.ca> and login using your UTORid and password. Once you have logged in to the portal using your UTORid and password, look for the **My Courses** module, where you'll find the link to the website for all your Blackboard-based courses. (Your course registration with ROSI gives you access to the course website at Blackboard.) Note also the information at <http://www.portalinfo.utoronto.ca/content/information-students>. Students who have trouble accessing Blackboard should ask [TBA] for further help.]

- Personal Website: N/A

Course Learning Objectives

Knox College

BD Level

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

(A) IN RESPECT OF GENERAL ACADEMIC SKILLS

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

(B) IN RESPECT OF THE UNDERSTANDING OF THE CONTENT OF THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

- i. describe and discuss the general cognitive or logical structure, themes and purposes of Luke's Gospel.
- ii. 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

- i. 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

- i. apply research methods and interpretive methods to explicate, analyze, and interpret Biblical texts.
- ii. apply one's understanding of Scripture to ethical, justice, social and ecclesial issues in the world today.

Evaluation

Requirements

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

(1) **Preparation, class and tutorial participation and reading (20%)** – students are expected to participate in the regular activity of the class, including the reading of the required texts.

(2) **Reflection papers (40%)** – Students are expected to submit two reflection papers engaging with an aspect of the Gospel as it relates to application (7-10 pages). The first paper is a student's written reflection describing in outline her/his own familiarity with and also highlighting prior use of the Gospel of Luke. **This first paper is due upon course commencement.** The second paper is a student's written reflection on the content of Gospel, describing particular learning developments and challenges to the praxis of those learnings in relevant ministry context. **This second paper is due on course conclusion.**

(3) **Final research paper (40%)** – A substantial scholarly paper on an approved text (~20 pages).

Grading System

A+ (90-100)
A (85-89)
A- (80-84)
B+ (77-79)
B (73-76)
B- (70-72)
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. [The instructor should stipulate the penalty for late work.] This penalty is not applied to students with medical or compassionate difficulties; 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. The absolute deadline for the course is the examination day scheduled for the course. Students who for exceptional reasons (e.g., a death in the family or a serious illness) are unable to complete work by this date may request an extension (SDF = "standing deferred") beyond the term. An SDF must be requested from the registrar's office in the student's college of registration no later than the last day of classes 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. Course grades may be adjusted where they do not comply with University grading policy (<http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/grading.htm>) or college grading policy.

Policies

Accessibility. Students with a disability or health consideration are entitled to accommodation. Students 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* (linked from <http://www.tst.edu/content/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. Students 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).

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 are required to have a valid utoronto email address. Students must have set up a utoronto email address which is entered in the ROSI system. Information is available at 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.

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 should 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.

Day 1

May 28

Introduction to Luke's Gospel

Topics: Socio-Rhetorical Criticism; Introductory Matters; Luke 1:1-4.

Reading:

- TBA

DUE: First reflection paper on The Gospel of Luke (7-10 pages).

Day 2

May 29

Restoration

Topics: Exile & Restoration; God's Plan; Salvation; Associating and paralleling John and Jesus; Luke 1:1-4.

Reading:

- TBA

Day 3

May 30

Covenants & Mandate of Jesus

Topics: Abrahamic, Mosaic, Davidic, New Covenants; Jesus announces his mandate. Luke 1:5-2:52; 3:1-4:30.

Reading:

- TBA

Day 4

May 31

Ministry of Jesus in Galilee

Topics: Display of Jesus mandate. God's domain and authority revealed in beneficent activity of Jesus. Jesus' identity and destiny. Visitation, Kingdom & Symposium. Parables. Luke 4:31-9:50.

Reading:

- TBA

Day 5

June 1

Journey of Jesus to Jerusalem - Central Section (9:51-19:27)

Topics: Discipleship and Ministry. Lord's Prayer and Prayer. God as Benefactor. Purity and status. Luke 9:51-13:21.

Reading:

- TBA

Day 6

June 4

Journey of Jesus to Jerusalem - Central Section (9:51-19:27)

Topics: Kingdom Value System. Honour-Shame and Wealth-Poverty contrasts. Luke 13:22-17:10.

Reading:

- TBA

Day 7

June 5

Journey of Jesus to Jerusalem – Central Section (9:51-19:27)

Topics: Kingdom revelation and entry. Samaritans. Prayer and perseverance. Luke 17:11-19:27.

Reading:

- TBA

Day 8

June 6

Jerusalem Ministry

Topics: Divine visitation. Lament. Authority. Conflict. Widows. Luke 19:28-21:38.

Reading:

- TBA

Day 9

June 7

Passion Narrative

Topics: Lukan soteriology. Resurrection. Luke 22:1-24:12.

Reading:

- TBA

Day 10

June 8

Anticipating Acts and Summary

Topics: Exaltation. Witness. Holy Spirit. Luke 24:13-24:53.

Reading:

- TBA

DUE: Second reflection paper on The Gospel of Luke (7-10 pages).

FINAL PAPER DUE: Within three weeks after last class, final research paper.

DRAFT

General References

Reference Works

Berger, Peter L. *The Sacred Canopy: Elements of a Sociological Theory of Religion*. New York: Anchor Books, 1990.

Berger, Peter L., and Thomas Luckmann. *The Social Construction of Reality; A Treatise in the Sociology of Knowledge*. Garden City, N.Y.: Doubleday, 1966.

Carroll, John T. "Luke, Evangelist." In *New Interpreters Dictionary of the Bible*. Vol. 3. Edited by Katherine Doob Sakenfeld, 719–720. Nashville: Abingdon, 2008a.

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Harrington, Daniel J. *Meeting St. Luke Today: Understanding the Man, His Mission, and His Message*. Chicago: Loyola, 2009.

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Plümacher, Eckhard. "Luke as Historian." In *Anchor Bible Dictionary*. Vol. 4. Edited by David Noel Freedman, 398–402. New York: Doubleday, 1992.

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Surveys of Research

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Commentaries

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Bovon, François. *Luke 1: A Commentary on the Gospel of Luke 1:1–9:50*. Translated by Christine M. Thomas. Edited by Helmut Koester. Hermeneia—A Critical and Historical Commentary on the Bible. Minneapolis: Fortress, 2002.

Culpepper, R. Alan. "Luke." In *The New Interpreter's Bible*. Vol. 9, *The Gospel of Luke, The Gospel of John*. Edited by Leander E. Keck, 1–490. Nashville: Abingdon, 1995.

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Betz, Hans Dieter. *The Sermon on the Mount: A Commentary on the Sermon on the Mount, including the Sermon on the Plain (Matthew 5:3–7:27 and Luke 6:20–49)*. Edited by Adela Yarbro Collins. Hermeneia—A Critical and Historical Commentary on the Bible. Minneapolis: Fortress, 1995.

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Trites, Allison A. "The Transfiguration in the Theology of Luke: Some Redactional Links." In *The Glory of Christ in the New Testament: Studies in Christology in Memory of George Bradford Caird*. Edited by L. D. Hurst and N. T. Wright, 71–81. Oxford: Clarendon, 1987.

Travel Narrative

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Parables

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Christology

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Discipleship

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Eschatology

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Law

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Meals

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