

**College of Humanities
Religion Program
RELI 2220A - Early Christianity**

Mondays/Wednesdays 10:05 -11:25, SA 415

Professor Janet H. Tulloch
Office: Paterson Hall 329C

Office phone: 613-520-2600, ext. 1682 or
leave a message with Barb Truscott 613-520-2100

Office Hours: Monday 11:30am-1:00 pm, or by appt.
Email: Janet_Tulloch@Carleton.ca

Course Objective: This course introduces you to some of the historical methods used by scholars in the study of Christian origins and the writings of the New Testament. These methods will be demonstrated by focusing on selected texts from the New Testament in their chronological order (i.e. oldest to newest, not in the order they appear in the NT) and in their social-historical context. This course seeks to understand the canonical writings of early Christianity by understanding the historical, social, cultural, and communal forces that created them. Note that our approach to the texts is entirely historical and NOT faith-based. The writings are approached in the same manner as one would approach other ancient writings such as Ovid's *Metamorphoses* or Virgil's *Aeneid*.

Course Evaluation

1. Map Quiz – 10%
2. Mid-term – 30%
3. Annotated Bibliography – 30%
3. Final Exam – 30% (2 hours)

Required Texts

1. Bart D. Ehrman, *The New Testament: A Historical Introduction to the Early Christian Writings*. Oxford, 2008 (4th edition).

- **Note:** 2nd hand versions of Ehrman's text are quite different; make sure to buy the 4th edition for this course.

2. Steve Mason and Tom Robinson, eds., *Early Christian Reader: Christian Texts from the first and second centuries in contemporary English translations including the New Revised Standard Version of the New Testament*. Introductions and Annotations by the authors. Hendrickson Publishers Inc., 2004.

THESE TEXTS ARE AVAILABLE THROUGH MOTHER TONGUE BOOKS, 1067 BANK STREET (AT SUNNYSIDE) 613-730-2346.

3. See course website for further readings where indicated.

Weekly Lecture Outline and Required Reading

- Sept 13/15 Introduction to the course (Ehrman - Chapter 1 – pp. 1-10; ECR – Introduction – pp.3-19); The Social World (I) - Honor and Shame, Gender, and Household Cults in the Late Roman Republic, early Empire.
- Sept 20 The Social World (II) – Families and the Patronage System in the Late Roman Republic, Early Empire.
- Sept 22 **Guest Lecture: Professor Zeba Crook**
“The Manuscripts of the New Testament and Textual Criticism (I)” (Ehrman - Figures 1-8 between pp. 468 and 469; Chapter 30); **See further required readings on course web-site.**
- Sept 27 **Guest Lecture: Professor Zeba Crook**
“The Manuscripts of the New Testament and Textual Criticism (II)” (Ehrman - Figures 1-8 between pp. 468 and 469; Chapter 30); **See further required readings on course web-site.**
- Sept 29 Library research session with Trish O’Flaherty
Reminder: See study maps in ECR pp. 777-779.
- Oct 4 **Map Quiz – last half hour of class**
Intro to Early Judaism.
Early Judaism (Ehrman – Chapters, 3; 16)

- Oct. 6 Early Judaism – cont'd **See further required readings on course web-site.**
- Oct 11 Statutory Holiday – no class.
- Oct 13 The Letters of Paul (ECR – The Letters of Paul – pp. 23-32.)
Life of Paul (Ehrman - Chapter 19).
- Oct 18/20 Paul and his converts (ECR – To the Assembly in Corinth/ 1 Corinthians – pp. 44-72;
Ehrman – Chapter 21 – pp.324-334);
Paul and his opponents (ECR – To the Assemblies of Galatia/Galatians – pp. 106-119;
Ehrman – Chapter 21 – pp.339-348).
- Oct 25 Midterm**
- Oct 27 NT Authorship and Pseudepigraphy (Ehrman - Chapter 24);
Gospel Genre and Transmission of Material (ECR – Biography, Anecdote, and History –
pp. 243-282);
- Nov 1 The Synoptic Problem (Ehrman – Chapter 7).
- Nov 3 Markan Themes, Issues, and Ending (ECR – The Origin of the Gospel/ Mark - pp. 283-
326; Ehrman – Chapter 6).
- Nov 8/10 Matthean Themes and Issues (ECR – The Book of the Genesis of Jesus the Messiah/
Matthew – pp. 327-396; Ehrman – Chapter 8).
- Nov 15/17** Apocalyptic Literature (ECR – The Disclosure of Jesus Christ to John/ Revelation - pp.
596 – 622; Ehrman - Chapter 29).
Annotated Bibliography due November 17.
- Nov 22/24 The Quest for the Historical Jesus; **See further required readings on course web-site.**
Portraits of Jesus (Ehrman - Chapters 14-15). **Short Film?**
- Nov 29/
Dec 1 Non-Canonical 'Jesuses' (Ehrman - Chapter 13).
See further required readings on the course web-site.
- Dec 6 Exam review**

Email Communication

- Carleton's Connect Mail is the official mode of email communication for all matters having to do with the university and with this course.
- **All communications sent by me to you via Carleton Connect are official, and you are expected to read them.**
- It is not an option to claim you did not receive some announcement or request because you have another email address. You can configure your connect account to forward university emails to another address, but you must be reachable through your connect account.

Map Quiz (Oct. 4th) – 10%

- Maps on which you will be tested can be found either in your texts or on the course web-site.
- You will be asked to identify items on the map (e.g., place, a body of water, or territory: e.g. Qumran; Sea of Galilee, Judaea).
- You will be tested on the same maps from which you studied.

Midterm (October 25th) – 30%

- Some short answer questions, passage identifications. Choice of short essay questions.

Annotated Bibliography (November 17th) – 30 %

- Topics, format and research methods to be discussed Sept 29th

Final Exam – (TBA) – 30%

- Final exam will be 2 hours in length
- The final will involve short answer questions, passage identifications, and choice of short essay questions. The precise layout of the exam will be made clear to the class well before the final exam.

REGULATIONS COMMON TO ALL HUMANITIES COURSES

COPIES OF WRITTEN WORK SUBMITTED

Always retain for yourself a copy of all essays, term papers, written assignments or take-home tests submitted in your courses.

PLAGIARISM

The University Senate defines plagiarism as “*presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.*” This can include:

- reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else’s published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one’s own without proper citation or reference to the original source;
- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another’s data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s works and/or failing to use quotation marks;
- handing in “*substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs.*”

Plagiarism is a serious offence which cannot be resolved directly with the course’s instructor. The Associate Deans of the Faculty conduct a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They can include a final grade of “F” for the course

GRADING SYSTEM

Letter grades assigned in this course will have the following percentage equivalents:

A+ = 90-100 (12)	B = 73-76 (8)	C - = 60-62 (4)
A = 85-89 (11)	B- = 70-72 (7)	D+ = 57-59 (3)
A- = 80-84 (10)	C+ = 67-69 (6)	D = 53-56 (2)
B+ = 77-79 (9)	C = 63-66 (5)	D - = 50-52 (1)

F	Failure. Assigned 0.0 grade points
ABS	Absent from final examination, equivalent to F
DEF	Official deferral (see “Petitions to Defer”)
FND	Failure with no deferred exam allowed -- assigned only when the student has failed the course on the basis of inadequate term work as specified in the course outline.

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean.

WITHDRAWAL WITHOUT ACADEMIC PENALTY

The last date to withdraw from **FALL TERM** courses is **DEC. 6, 2010**. The last day to withdraw from **FALL/WINTER (Full Term)** and **WINTER** term courses is **APRIL 5, 2011**.

REQUESTS FOR ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term because of disability, pregnancy or religious obligations. Please review the course outline promptly and write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. You can visit the Equity Services website to view the policies and to obtain more detailed information on academic accommodation at: carleton.ca/equity/accommodation/

Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course must register with the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) for a formal evaluation of disability-related needs. Documented disabilities could include but not limited to mobility/physical impairments, specific Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/psychological disabilities, sensory disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), and chronic medical conditions. Registered PMC students are required to contact the PMC, 613-520-6608, every term to ensure that your Instructor receives your Letter of Accommodation, no later than two weeks before the first assignment is due or the first in-class test/midterm requiring accommodations. If you only require accommodations for your formally scheduled exam(s) in this course, please submit your request for accommodations to PMC by the last official day to withdraw from classes in each term. For more details visit the PMC website: carleton.ca/pmc/accommodations/

PETITIONS TO DEFER

If you miss a final examination and/or fail to submit a **FINAL** assignment by the due date because of circumstances beyond your control, you may apply a deferral of examination/assignment. If you are applying for a deferral due to illness you will be required to see a physician in order to confirm illness and obtain a medical certificate dated no later than one working day after the examination or assignment deadline. This supporting documentation must specify the date of onset of the illness, the degree of incapacitation, and the expected date of recovery.

If you are applying for a deferral for reasons other than personal illness, please **contact** the Registrar’s Office directly for information on other forms of documentation that we accept.

Deferrals of assignments must be supported by confirmation of the assignment due date, for example a copy of the course outline specifying the due date and any documented extensions from the course instructor.

Deferral applications for examination or assignments must be submitted within **5 working days** of the original final exam.

ADDRESSES: (Area Code 613)

College of the Humanities 520-2809	300 Paterson
Greek and Roman Studies Office 520-2809	300 Paterson
Religion Office 520-2100	2A39 Paterson
Registrar's Office 520-3500	300 Tory
Student Academic Success Centre 520-7850	302 Tory
Paul Menton Centre 520-6608/TTY 520-3937	501 Uni-Centre
Writing Tutorial Service 520-2600 Ext. 1125	4 th Floor Library
Learning Support Service 520-2600 Ext 1125	4 th Floor Library