



Spiritual Education and Enrichment
BI265 - Jesus' Teachings
10 Hours

Required Material	Bible (NRSV) <i>The Historical Jesus: An Essential Guide</i> by James Charlesworth
Recommended Material	<i>The Revealing Word</i> by Charles Fillmore
Recommended Prerequisites	None

Course Description:

In this course, students will use the Gospels, as well as ancient literary sources outside biblical canon, to discover both the concepts that have been reported that Jesus taught and the methods he used to teach his disciples. Students will learn to build a strong spiritual foundation based on what we believe Jesus actually taught rather than what others taught about him and his work.

Learning Objectives:

Students will be able to:

- Examine the historical Jesus information and compare with one's own theological viewpoint in order to (re)create an understanding of who Jesus was and is for oneself.
- Evaluate both biblical and extra-biblical sources to understand the teachings of Jesus and the teachings about Jesus.
- Formulate his/her own critical understanding of Jesus' life and teachings based on content and methodologies learned during the class.
- Define and describe examples of Jesus' most used teachings methods: parables and aphorisms.
- Apply the teachings of Jesus to situations in their own lives.

Assignments and Expectations:

- Attend class and participate in all class discussions and activities
- Complete the "Reflection and Review" assignments between class sessions as assigned.
- Write a 500 – 800 word final paper and reflect on what you have learned and how it may be useful in your life.

Session	Topic	Reading Assignments
One	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quest for historical Jesus • Own relationship and understanding of Jesus • Deconstruct Jesus 	Introduction Ch 1: No Quest, the Old Quest, the New Quest, and Jesus Research (Third Quest)
Two	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do reports about Jesus exist outside the New Testament? • Are the Gospels objective biographies? • • HANDOUT 	Ch 3: Sources, Especially Josephus Ch 4: The Judaism of Jesus HANDOUT: Two Portraits of Jesus
Three	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What was Jesus' fundamental message? • When did Jesus imagine God would inaugurate his Rule? • What term did Jesus use for God? • KINGDOM OF GOD 	Ch 8: Jesus' Proclamation of God's Rule (the Kingdom of God) and his Parables.
Four	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PARABLES • Resurrection 	HANDOUT – Parables of Jesus Ch. 9: Jesus' Crucifixion and Resurrection HANDOUT – Four Accounts of Resurrection
Five	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reconstruct Jesus • Continue topics from previous days 	HANDOUT – Once and Future Christ of Faith

Grade Scale:

- AU Audit – student is not seeking credentialing (no assignments required).
 EX Expired – for administrative use only.
 I Incomplete – waiting for final assignment.
 NC No Credit – did not complete final assignment within three months of end of course and/or did not meet attendance requirements.
 S Satisfactory – met all requirements.