

NT5500 — New Testament Foundations

Course Syllabus, Spring 2024 — RTS-Orlando

1. Course Details

- Three credit hours
- Meeting time: Tuesdays from 1:00pm–4:00pm
- *This course is designed for counseling students. It will provide a basic introduction to the New Testament. The New Testament will be approached from a canonical, covenantal, and redemptive-historical perspective with sensitivity to the original historical and literary context out of which it arose. This approach should provide students with the ability to contextualize the course material in a variety of personal and vocational contexts with special attention to the role of the New Testament in Christian counseling.*
- Pre-requisite: Admission to RTS Orlando's MA in Counseling degree program

2. Instructor Information

- Gregory R. Lanier, Ph.D., Associate Professor of New Testament
- Email: glanier@rts.edu
- Office hours: email to arrange meeting

3. Objectives

- Explain with confidence the nature, design, and message of the New Testament from a Reformed, covenantal perspective.
- Understand the basic contribution of each individual book in the New Testament.
- Understand and interact with some of the basic challenges related to the interpretation and application of the New Testament to the Christian life, especially Christian counseling.
- Be familiar with quality, secondary sources that may be used in subsequent research.

This course will meet the following CACREP standards:

- Critiquing Research - The importance of research in advancing the counseling profession, including how to critique research to inform counseling practice (2.F.8.a)
- Evidence-based practices - Identification of evidence-based counseling practices (2.F.8.b)
- Data Interpretation - Gathering and interpreting data about the need for programs and services (2.F.8.c)
- Outcome Measures - Development of outcome measures for counseling programs (2.F.8.d)
- Evaluation of Counseling - Evaluation of counseling interventions and programs (2.F.8.e)
- Research Methods - Qualitative, quantitative, and mixed research methods (2.F.8.f)
- Research Design - Designs used in research and program evaluation (2.F.8.g)
- Review of Statistics - Statistical methods used in conducting research and program evaluation (2.F.8.h)
- Data Analysis – Analysis and use of data in counseling (2.F.8.i)
- Ethics in Research - Ethical and culturally relevant strategies for conducting, interpreting, and reporting the results of research and/or program evaluation (2.F.8.j)

4. Required Texts

- The Holy Bible: each student must bring his/her own copy of the Bible (in a modern English translation, e.g., ESV, NASB, NIV) to class each day
- G.K. Beale and Benjamin Gladd, *The Story Retold: A Biblical-Theological Introduction to the New Testament* (IVP Academic, 2020)
- Richard Gaffin, *By Faith, Not by Sight: Paul and the Order of Salvation* (P&R Publishing, 2013)
- Richard Hays, *The Moral Vision of the New Testament* (HarperCollins, 1996)

5. Course Assignments

- *Details about assignments will be provided be a separate handout in Canvas*
- **Reading.** Students will read the following:
 - The New Testament (all)
 - Beale/Gladd (all)
 - Gaffin (all)
 - Hays (250 pages of your choice)
- **Write up #1.** Students are required to compose and submit a brief paper. See handout for further explanation of this assignment.
- **Write up #2.** Students are required to compose and submit a brief paper. See handout for further explanation of this assignment.
- **Final, Synthetic Assignment.** Students will be required to submit a final assignment that synthesizes topics surveyed in the course. See handout for further explanation of this assignment.

6. Grading

• Reading	30%	(you will indicate completion in Canvas)
• Writeup #1	20%	
• Writeup #2	20%	
• <u>Final, Synthetic Assignment</u>	<u>30%</u>	
	100%	

7. Other Details

- Attendance is expected. Student must notify the instructors by email regarding any absence.
- Students are permitted to use laptops or tablets in class. Phones must be turned on silent mode. You are expected to make use of technology in a way that honors Christ and respects your brothers/sisters sitting near you.

Course Objectives Related to MAC Student Learning Outcomes

Course: NT5500 New Testament Foundations

Professor: Gregory R. Lanier, Ph.D.

Campus: Orlando

Date: Spring 2024

<u>MAC Student Learning Outcomes</u> <i>In order to measure the success of the MAC curriculum, RTS has defined the following as the intended outcomes of the student learning process. Each course contributes to these overall outcomes. This rubric shows the contribution of this course to the MAC outcomes.</i>	<u>Rubric</u> ➤ Strong ➤ Moderate ➤ Minimal ➤ None	<u>Mini-Justification</u>
<u>FOUNDATIONS</u> Understands and applies the basic knowledge needed to be an effective counselor including: the history and philosophy of counseling/soul care, a variety of counseling models and theories, ethics and professional standards of practice, and a psychological, biblical and theological framework for counseling/soul care.	Moderate	Comprehensive overview of the NT as it relates to soul care and counseling
<u>COUNSELING, PREVENTION, AND INTERVENTION</u> Able to describe and apply the principles of mental and spiritual health, including prevention, intervention, consultation, education, and advocacy, as well as the operation of programs and networks that promote mental health in a cultural/global society.	Minimal	Writing assignments and case studies focused on application
<u>DIVERSITY AND ADVOCACY</u> Understands and demonstrates how living in a cultural/global society affects clients who are seeking clinical mental health counseling services, as well as the effects of sin such as racism, discrimination, sexism, power, privilege, and oppression on one's own life and career and those of the client.	Minimal	Writing assignment focused on a theological topic of relevance to these set of issues
<u>ASSESSMENT</u> Understands and applies various models and approaches to clinical evaluation and their appropriate uses, including diagnostic interviews, mental status examinations, symptom inventories, and psychoeducational and personality assessments, and is sensitive to the complications of diagnosis and interpretation of formal and informal evaluation.	None	
<u>RESEARCH AND EVALUATION</u> Understands and demonstrates the ability to critically evaluate research relevant to the practice of clinical mental health counseling through a biblical worldview.	Moderate	Writing assignments requiring research in Scripture and secondary sources
<u>DIAGNOSIS</u> Knows and applies the principles of the diagnostic process, including differential diagnosis, and the use of current diagnostic tools, such as the current edition of the <i>Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM)</i> , and evaluates them through a biblical and theological framework.	None	
<u>INTEGRATION</u> Integration of biblical & theological concepts with counseling practices.	Strong	Main focus of the course
<u>SANCTIFICATION</u> Demonstrates a love for Triune God	Strong	Main focus of the course