

School of Arts, Languages & Cultures, Faculty of Humanities  
Course Unit Descriptor

23.02.2016 / 11/08/2020

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

Credit Rating	<b>10</b>
Course Unit Title	<b>John: Gospel and Letters</b>
Unit Code	324
Unit Level	3
Contact Hours	22 hours
FHEQ Level	6
Teaching Period	Flexible delivery
Teaching Staff	Dr Peter Phillips
ECTS	5

**EXTERNAL FACING COURSE UNIT OVERVIEW**

The unit compares the Fourth Gospel with the Synoptics, with the Johannine Epistles and with Revelation. Different approaches to John's Gospel are explored and selected themes of the Gospel are discussed. Students are led in exegetical study of selected passages and consideration is given to their application. [A distance learning unit on this Gospel is offered at level 5, see unit 8225.]

**COURSE UNIT OVERVIEW**

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**AIMS**

To increase the students' insight into biblical theology and their exegetical skills, based on a study of the Johannine literature.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES**

**Knowledge and Understanding**

By the end of this unit students will be able to:

- Demonstrate a detailed knowledge and understanding of the Fourth Gospel
- Analyse the contribution of the Gospel and the Letters to the New Testament as a whole and to Christian theology and proclamation

**Intellectual Skills**

By the end of this unit students will be able to:

- Discuss critically the unity and diversity of the Johannine corpus
- Assess current trends in Johannine studies

## Practical Skills

By the end of this unit students will be able to:

- Demonstrate developed and mature exegetical skills
- Communicate their views orally in a class context

## Transferable Skills and Personal Qualities

By the end of this unit students will be able to:

- Interpret a first century text with attention to its background, style and characteristics
- Show the ability to consider varied opinions and evaluate them appropriately.

## Employability Skills

Students will further consolidate skills such as interpreting texts appropriately, giving attention to detail, managing and evaluating detailed information, organizing and presenting their ideas with clarity and precision. They will also develop their evaluative ability. These skills are vital to a range of employment contexts.

## SYLLABUS

1. Prologues: John 1 and 1 John – the problems of 2 and 3 John
2. 1 John; with an introduction to the Johannine literature
3. John and the Synoptics
4. The Gospel as history – John 2 - 3
5. The role of the author, ambiguity and symbolism
6. Further literary aspects – John 8
7. Historical background: authorship, date, aim
8. The role of the Hebrew Bible in John – John 7
9. The Community and Jewish Leadership - Anti-Semitism? – John 8-10 Louis Martyn
10. Christology – Jesus in John vs Jesus in the Synoptics – John 17
11. John's Women – John 4, 11, 12, 19

## TEACHING AND LEARNING METHODS

Interactive lectures

Unit materials are available at Spurgeon's *Online* to support student learning

## ASSESSMENT METHODS

Assessment task	Length	Weighting within unit
<b>Formative:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Oral contributions to exegetical processes</li></ul>	n/a	n/a
<b>Summative:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Written essay or project</li></ul>	3000 words	100%

## FEEDBACK METHODS

- Oral feedback in class
- Written feedback on formative and summative written submissions within 15 working days

## REQUISITES

Available on which programme(s)?	BA in Theology
Available as Free Choice (UG) or to other programmes (PG)?	Available as Free Choice (UG)
Pre-requisite units	103 Reading and Using the Bible or 112 Introduction to the Bible or equivalent
Co-requisite units	n/a

### Online commentaries on the Gospel

Don Carson (Pillar) at <https://ereader.perlego.com/1/book/1470286/0>

Karoline Lewis (Fortress) at <https://perlego.com/book/1733892/>

Ramsey Michaels (NICNT) at <https://perlego.com/book/2015749/>

Marianne Thompson (NTL) at <https://perlego.com/book/2100818/>

### Online commentaries on the Epistles

Tom Thatcher (Expositor's) at <https://ereader.perlego.com/1/book/559514/1>

Karen Jobes (Zondervan) at <https://perlego.com/book/560429/>

Akala, Adesola Joan, *The Son-Father Relationship and Christological Symbolism in the Gospel of John*, (London: Bloomsbury, 2014); online at <https://perlego.com/book/803983/>

Bauckham, Richard J. (ed.), *The Gospels for all Christians: Rethinking the Gospel audiences*, (Edinburgh: T&T Clark, 1998)

Bauckham, Richard J., *The Testimony of the Beloved Disciple: Narrative, history, and theology in the Gospel of John* (Grand Rapids: Baker, 2007); online at <https://perlego.com/book/2039463/>

Bauckham, Richard J. and Carl Mosser, *The Gospel of John and Christian Theology* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2008)

Edwards, Ruth, *Discovering John: Content, Interpretation, Reception* (London: SPCK, 2014); online at <https://perlego.com/book/1469925/>

Beasley-Murray, George R., *John*. Word Biblical Themes (Dallas: Word, 1989); online at <https://ereader.perlego.com/1/book/1504924/150>

Myers, Alicia, *Reading John and 1,2,3 John: A Literary and Theological Commentary* (Macon: Smyth & Helwys, 2019)

Schubert, Judith, *The Gospel of John: Question by Question* (Eugene: Wipf & Stock, 2016); online at <https://perlego.com/book/1721567/>

Thatcher, Tom (ed.), *Why John Wrote a Gospel* (Eugene: Wipf & Stock, 2012); online at <https://perlego.com/book/1724560/>

Williams, Catrin & Rowland, Christopher (eds.), *John's Gospel and Intimations of Apocalyptic* (London: Bloomsbury, 2014); online at <https://perlego.com/book/802924>

## RECOMMENDED READING

### SCHEDULED ACTIVITY HOURS

22 contact hours

### PLACEMENT HOURS

n/a

### INDEPENDENT STUDY HOURS

78 hours

### ADDITIONAL NOTES

## APPROVAL

Date approved by UGC

Valid from Date (Publishing Date)

