

St. Athanasius Academy

Class Syllabus – New Testament

Teacher Information

Name: Fr Alex Mackoul

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Class Schedule: Wednesdays 1:00 PM to 1:50 PM E.S.T. (10:00 AM to 10:50 AM P.S.T.)

Course Description

This course is designed to prepare students for a basic understanding of the New Testament, the good news of Christ's salvation. We will begin with a swift explanation of how the New Testament list of books came about. After that, we will move through specific stories and key events, and how they are central to our understanding of God, the world, and our personal situation. Our approach will be broad and swift to help the student come to a basic knowledge of the books, understanding what the good news means in our fallen world. Our goal is to help the student appreciate the importance of the New Testament, its place in Christianity and in the Orthodox Church, and how it shapes and changes how we see life!

Required Text (to be purchased by the parents/guardians)

- The Orthodox Study Bible (preferred)

Course Competencies/Learning Objectives

- The creation of the New Testament.
- The core message and purpose of the gospels and how it reorients our life
- The core message and purpose of Acts to Revelation and how it reorients our life.

Teaching Methods

I teach by discussion. Students will be called upon but they are not required to speak. Occasionally I will record videos to be watched before the class.

Grading/Evaluations

Faculty assess achievement of the student and assign grades according to a collegial GPA: 4 (A, excellent), 3 (B, above average), 2 (C, average), 1 (D, below average), 0 (F, requirements not met). Every effort will be given by the faculty to help students succeed, but laziness and lack of achievement cannot be ignored. Also, it is unfair to give two students the same grade who did not apply themselves equally. Therefore, grades will be at the discretion of the teacher.

Showing Up-50%

Participating/Paying Attention During Class-25%

Being Respectful-25%

Attendance

We do not have an official attendance policy, but a lack of attendance could affect participation and final grading by the teacher. The virtual classrooms are available to any students with internet access. We attempt to record all video calls to make them available for students who are absent. The recorded videos, while not as useful as live interaction, are made available for enrolled students to review when absent. We are unable to promise that 100% of all video calls will be recorded and posted online.

Classroom Expectations

1. Arrive to class on time
2. Be prepared
3. Respect your classmates and teacher
4. Give your all, all the time
5. Be responsible for your actions

6. No eating, drinking, cell phones, or extra electronics permitted during class time

Class Requirements

Occasionally there will be prerecorded videos that introduce what we will be discussing in class. It is the student's responsibility to watch those videos in preparation for class. I will send an email out to the whole

class every Thursday informing them of any preparatory reading and/or preparatory videos for the upcoming class. While there is no "homework", an occasional assignment may be given at the instructor's discretion.

Plagiarism, Cheating, and Academic Integrity

Plagiarism is the practice of copying words, sentences, images, or ideas for use in written or oral assessments without giving proper credit to the source. Cheating is defined as the giving or receiving of illegal help on anything that has been determined by the teacher to be an individual effort. Both are considered serious offenses and will significantly affect your course grade.

General Information

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions about the course or just need a "pastoral ear". This class is about life, the life that God has given us to become like him and share in his beauty!