



BibleMesh Institute Four Gospels

BibleMesh Institute exists to promote trusted theological education around the world forming students in the Great Commandment, Great Commission, and Great Tradition.

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- I. **Course Description**—Based on the textbook *Four Portraits, One Jesus* by Mark L. Strauss, this course is a thorough yet accessible introduction to the Gospels and their subject, the life and person of Jesus. Like different artists rendering the same subject using different styles and points of view, the Gospels paint four highly distinctive portraits of the same remarkable Jesus.
- II. **BibleMesh Core Competencies: This course promotes BMI Core Competencies in the following ways:**
 1. Biblical Understanding and Exposition—by providing a foundational understanding of the content of the four Gospels.
 2. Theological Aptitude—by teaching the view of God provided in the Gospels.
 3. Cultural Engagement—by connecting appropriate application of the biblical text between the ancient and modern contexts and communities.
 4. Christian Formation—by training personal spiritual formation through accurate and Spirit-lead application of the text to the student’s life.
- III. **Student Learning Outcomes: At the end of this course, the student will be able to:**
 1. Demonstrate the ability to identify the purpose, audience, and themes of the Gospels.
 2. Articulate the overarching theology of the Gospels.
 3. Become familiar with the historical and cultural context in which the Gospels were written (able to recognize/identify key people, groups, and systems of thought).

4. Understand the core messages, structure, and content of each Gospel.
5. Understand the challenges and key developments of research about Jesus.
6. The above SLOs will be assessed by reflection pieces/journaling, quizzes, midterm, final exam, assessments through Cerego learning engine.

IV. Course Textbooks/Readings (560 pp., 2036 minutes)

1. Mark Strauss, *Four Portraits, One Jesus* (Zondervan)

V. Course Requirements (4960 mins)

1. 20 Video Lectures (about 600 mins)
2. 160 Reflection/journaling exercises (10 min./exercise; 1600 mins)
3. 16 quizzes (960 mins)
4. Midterm Exam (4 hour study, 1 hour take; 300 mins)
5. Final Exam (4 hour study, 1 hour take; 300 mins)
6. 16 Cerego Study Sessions (1200 mins)

VI. Course Expectations and Grading

1. This course meets the BMI standard for a 3hr credit course.
2. Each assignment listed in the course requirements counts as ___% of the student's overall grade.
3. Questions about the grading, assignments, expectations of the assignment, etc. should be submitted to the professor.
4. Plagiarism and Cheating:
 - i. Cheating or plagiarism of any kind will result in an immediate failing grade on the assignment with no chance for resubmission. The professor does have the option either to allow the student to remain in and complete the course or to dismiss the student from the course completely. Regardless of the professor's ruling, all cases of cheating or plagiarism will be reported to the Director of BibleMesh Institute where further disciplinary action will be considered. A record of the infraction will be kept in the BMI records.
5. Grading Scale
 - A = 100–90
 - B = 80–89
 - C = 70–79
 - D = 60–69
 - F = 69–0

VII. Miscellaneous Information

1. Due Dates: Please be attentive to all due dates. The professor is happy to be flexible when unusual circumstances necessitate it, but students are expected to communicate clearly and often about their situation. The professor is not obligated to make allowances in every case. Decisions are made at the Professor's discretion.
2. Please email the Professor to schedule phone or video conference meetings.
3. This course aims to form students in the Great Commandment, Great Commission, and Great Tradition. May you love God and His world more as a result of this course.

VIII. Course Schedule

<u>Wk#</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Reading</u>	<u>Assignments</u>
01	What Are the Gospels?	Unit 1	All reading, videos, and assessment.
02	Exploring the Origin and Nature of the Gospels	Unit 2	All reading, videos, and assessment.
03	Reading and Hearing Gospel Stories	Unit 3	All reading, videos, and assessment.
04	The Historical Setting of the Gospels	Unit 4	All reading, videos, and assessment.
05	The Religious, Social, and Cultural Settings of the Gospels	Unit 5	All reading, videos, and assessment.
06	Mark	Unit 6	All reading, videos, and assessment.

07	Matthew	Unit 7	All reading, videos, and assessment.
08	Luke	Unit 8	All reading, videos, and assessment.
09	John	Unit 9	All reading, videos, and assessment.
10	MIDTERM		Midterm Exam
11	Searching for the Real Jesus	Unit 10	All reading, videos, and assessment.
12	Historical Reliability of the Gospels	Unit 11	All reading, videos, and assessment.
13	Contours and Chronology of Jesus' Ministry	Unit 12	All reading, videos, and assessment.
14	Jesus' Birth, Childhood, and Early Ministry	Unit 13	All reading, videos, and assessment.
15	Message and Miracles of Jesus	Unit 14	All reading, videos, and assessment.
16	Messianic Words and Actions of Jesus	Unit 15	All reading, videos, and assessment.
17	Death and Resurrection of Jesus	Unit 16	All reading, videos, and assessment.
18	FINAL EXAM		Final Exam