

# BIL-404: Acts of the Apostles

## Course Description

Primarily a study of the Book of Acts. Attention will be given to the development of the concept of the church, as well as its historical setting in the first two centuries of the Christian era.

**Credit Hours:** 3

**Prerequisite Courses:** BIL-202 or BIL-203 or permission of the program director.

**Prerequisite Skills and Knowledge:** None

## Course Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, you should be able to:

1. Describe the geography, characters, events, structure, and major themes of the book of Acts.
2. Skillfully employ the various tools of Inductive Bible Study on the narratives and speeches of Acts.
3. Explain the historical-cultural background of Acts and how it impacts the interpretation of particular passages.
4. Formulate key leadership principles taught throughout the book of Acts.
5. Analyze the role of either the church or the Holy Spirit across the book of Acts.
6. Develop a Bible study lesson focused on either the church or the Holy Spirit in Acts.

## Course Textbook

Thompson, R. (2014). *Acts: A commentary in the Wesleyan Tradition*. New Beacon Bible Commentary. Kansas City, KS: Beacon Hill Press

## Course Technology

Website: [Blue Letter Bible](#)

## Grading Scale

Grade	Quality Points Per Credit	Percentage	Score
A	4.0	95%-100%	950-1000
A-	3.7	92%-94.9%	920-949
B+	3.3	89%-91.9%	890-919
B	3.0	85%-8.9%	850-889
B-	2.7	82%-84.9%	820-849
C+	2.3	79%-81.9%	790-819
C	2.0	75%-78.9%	750-789
C-	1.7	72%-74.9%	720-749
D+	1.3	69%-71.9%	690-719
D	1.0	65%-68.9%	650-689
F	0.0	0%-64.9%	0-649

## Grading Policies

Your grading policy for your course is dependent on your school and program. Your grading policies can be found in the IWU Catalog.

## Letter Grade Equivalencies

Grade	Description of Work
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<b>A</b>	Clearly stands out as excellent performance. Has unusually sharp insights into material and initiates thoughtful questions. Sees many sides of an issue. Articulates well and writes logically and clearly. Integrates ideas previously learned from this and other disciplines. Anticipates next steps in progression of ideas. Example "A" work should be of such nature that it could be put on reserve for all cohort members to review and emulate. The "A" cohort member is, in fact, an example for others to follow.
<b>B</b>	Demonstrates a solid comprehension of the subject matter and always accomplishes all course requirements. Serves as an active participant and listener. Communicates orally and in writing at an acceptable level for the degree program. Work shows intuition and creativity. Example "B" work indicates good quality of performance and is given in recognition for solid work; a "B" should be considered a good grade and awarded to those who submit assignments of quality less than the exemplary work described above.
<b>C</b>	Quality and quantity of work in and out of class is average. Has marginal comprehension, communication skills, or initiative. Requirements of the assignments are addressed at least minimally.
<b>D</b>	Quality and quantity of work is below average. Has minimal comprehension, communication skills, or initiative. Requirements of the assignments are addressed at below acceptable levels.
<b>F</b>	Quality and quantity of work is unacceptable and does not qualify the student to progress to a more advanced level of work.

## Course Workshop Summary

Workshop	Discussion	Assignment	Total Points per Workshop
<b>Workshop One</b>	2/50	2/100	150
<b>Workshop Two</b>	2/50	1/50, 1/25	125
<b>Workshop Three</b>	2/50	2/125	175
<b>Workshop Four</b>	1/25	2/125, 1/25	175
<b>Workshop Five</b>	1/25	2/125, 1/50	200
<b>Workshop Six</b>	2/50	2/125	175
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10/250</b>	<b>14/750</b>	<b>1000</b>

## Workshop One Outline

Title	Due Dates	Time	Points
<b>1.1 Discussion: What is Acts about?</b>	Post your initial response by the end of the fourth day of the workshop and your three responses by the end of the workshop.	2 hours	25
<b>1.2 Discussion: What is Leadership</b>	Post your initial response by the end of the fourth day of the workshop and your three responses by the end of the workshop.	3 hours	25
<b>1.3 Assignment: The People, Places, and Events of Acts</b>	Due by the end of the fifth day of the workshop.	4:30 hours	50
<b>1.4 Assignment: Book Survey of Acts</b>	Due by the end of the workshop	4:30 hours	50
<b>Totals</b>		<b>14 hours*</b>	<b>150</b>

## Workshop Two Outline

Title	Due Dates	Time	Point
<b>2.1 Discussion: Studying Historical-Cultural Background in Acts</b>	Post your initial response by the end of the fourth day of the workshop and your three responses by the end of the workshop.	2:30 hours	25
<b>2.2 Discussion: Reading the Speeches of Acts</b>	Post your initial response by the end of the fourth day of the workshop and your three responses by the end of the workshop.	3:30 hours	25
<b>2.3 Assignment: Leadership Lessons from Peter</b>	Due by the end of the workshop	2 hours	25
<b>2.4 Assignment: Detailed Observation and Interpretation of Acts 2:42-47</b>	Due by the end of the workshop	6:30 hours	50
		Totals	<b>14:30 hours*</b>
			<b>125</b>

### Workshop Three Outline

Title	Due Dates	Time	Point
<b>3.1 Discussion: Evaluation of Acts 2:42-47</b>	Post your initial response by the end of the fourth day of the workshop and your three responses by the end of the workshop.	2 hours	25
<b>3.2 Discussion: Reading the Narratives of Acts</b>	Post your initial response by the end of the fourth day of the workshop and your three responses by the end of the workshop.	3 hours	25
<b>3.3 Assignment: Historical-Cultural Background in Acts chs. 1-12</b>	Due by the end of the workshop	3 hours	50
<b>3.4 Assignment: Detailed Observation and Interpretation of Acts 10:34-48</b>	Due by the end of the workshop	6 hours	75
		Totals	<b>14 hours*</b>
			<b>175</b>

### Workshop Four Outline

Title	Due Dates	Time	Point
<b>4.1 Discussion: The Jerusalem Conference</b>	Post your initial response by the end of the fourth day of the workshop and your two responses by the end of the workshop.	3 hours	25
<b>4.2 Assignment: Leadership Lessons from Paul</b>	Due by the end of the workshop	3 hours	25
<b>4.3 Assignment: Historical-Cultural Background in Acts 13-20</b>	Due by the end of the workshop	3 hours	50
<b>4.4 Assignment: Detailed Observation and Interpretation of Acts 16:6-15</b>	Due by the end of the workshop	6 hours	75
		Totals	<b>14 hours*</b>
			<b>175</b>

### Workshop Five Outline

Title	Due Dates	Time	Point

<b>5.1 Discussion: Paul's Missionary Methods</b>	Post your initial response by the end of the fourth day of the workshop and your two responses by the end of the workshop.	2 hours	25
<b>5.2 Assignment: Christian Leadership According to Acts</b>	Due by the end of the workshop.	4 hours	50
<b>5.3 Assignment: Application</b>	Due by the end of the workshop.	2 hours	50
<b>5.4 Assignment: Survey and Interpretation of Acts 25:13-26:32</b>	Due by the end of the workshop.	6 hours	75
<b>Totals</b>		<b>14 hours*</b>	<b>200</b>

## Workshop Six Outline

Title	Due Dates	Time	Points
<b>6.1 Discussion: The End of Acts and the Purpose of Acts</b>	Post your initial response by the end of the fourth day of the workshop and your three responses by the end of the workshop.	2 hours	25
<b>6.2 Discussion: The Resurrection of Jesus in Acts</b>	Post your initial response by the end of the fourth day of the workshop and your three responses by the end of the workshop.	2 hours	25
<b>6.3 Assignment: Book Level Interpretation of Acts</b>	Due by the end of the workshop	7 hours	75
<b>6.4 Assignment: Teaching the Book of Acts</b>	Due by the end of the workshop	2 hours	50
<b>Survey/Quiz: End of Course Survey</b>	Due by the end of the workshop	30 minutes	10 Extr. Credit
<b>Totals</b>		<b>13.5 hours*</b>	<b>175</b>
<b>Course Totals</b>		<b>86 hours*</b>	<b>1000</b>

\* These timings are based on estimations of average times to complete each assignment. Actual assignment completion times will vary.

## Course Development Resources

Arnold, C. E. (2007). Zondervan Illustrated Bible Background Commentary: Acts. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishers.

Fernando, A. (1998). The NIV Application Commentary: Acts. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.

Gonzales, J. (2001). Acts: The gospel of the Spirit. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books.

Green, J. B., & McKnight, S., (Eds). (1992). Dictionary of Jesus and the Gospels. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.

Green, M. (2004). Thirty years that changed the world: The book of Acts for today (3rd ed.). Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans Publishers.

Johnson, L. T. (1992). The Acts of the Apostles. Sacra Pagina vol. 5. Collegeville, MN: The Liturgical Press.

Patzia, A. G. (2001). The emergence of the church: Context, growth, leadership & worship. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.

Peterson, D. G. (2009). Acts of the apostles. Pillar New Testament Commentary. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans Publishing Company.

Stott, J. (2008). Acts: Seeing the Spirit at work (2nd ed.). John Stott Bible Studies. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.

Thompson, R. (2014). Acts: A commentary in the Wesleyan tradition. New Beacon Bible Commentary. Kansas City, KS: Beacon Hill Press.

Spencer, F. S. (2004). Journeying through Acts: A literary-cultural reading (Rev. ed.). Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic.

Tannehill, R. (1989). The narrative unity of Luke-Acts, Vol. 2. Minneapolis, MN: Fortress Press.

Willimon, W. (2010). Acts: Interpretation: A Bible commentary for teachers and preachers. Philadelphia: John Knox Press.

## Expectations, Policies, and Important Student Information

School/Division	Link
DeVoe School of Business Division of Liberal Arts School of Services and Leadership	<a href="#">View School/Division Expectations, Policies, and Student Information</a>
School of Educational Leadership	<a href="#">View School/Division Expectations, Policies, and Student Information</a>
Wesley Seminary @ IWU	<a href="#">View School/Division Expectations, Policies, and Student Information</a>
Nursing - Undergraduate	<a href="#">View School/Division Expectations, Policies, and Student Information</a>
Nursing - Graduate	<a href="#">View School/Division Expectations, Policies, and Student Information</a>