

Course Number & Title – BIB204 Early Church: NT II

Department – Bible & Theology

Contacting Your Professor – To contact your professor, in Canvas, select “Inbox” from the global navigation bar on the left-hand side of your screen. After selecting “Inbox,” click the pencil in the top right of your screen to begin your message. Type in your professor's name and your message before sending.

Delivery – Online

Course Description – This course traces the growth of the church from its inception to the end of the 1st century AD. Particular attention is given to the development of the early church as recorded in the book of Acts, as well as the historical contexts and theology of Acts through Revelation. (3 credits)

Course Prerequisites – None

Student Learning Outcomes – As a result of this course, the student will do the following:

1. Summarize the major historical events in the early church of the first century according to the narrative of the book of Acts and the remaining NT books.
2. Discuss historical and cultural aspects of the Roman Empire and Palestine in the first century AD that affected the apostolic church.
3. Interpret select passages from Acts through Revelation using a hermeneutical process that analyzes the genre in light of its larger literary and socio-historical context.
4. Evaluate significant theological issues and their appropriation to the present-day context.
5. Demonstrate the appropriate use of scholarly resources in studying NT literature.
6. Develop a deeper appreciation for the study of Acts through Revelation and love for the God of whom they speak.

Course Requirements

1. *Textbooks*
 - a. Blomberg, Craig L., *From Pentecost to Patmos: An Introduction to Acts through Revelation*, B&H Academic, 2006. ISBN: 9780805432480 (This book is also available as a free ebook in the library's permanent collection.)
 - b. Hawthorne, Gerald et al., eds., *Dictionary of Paul and His Letters*, Intervarsity Press, 1993. ISBN: 9780830817788 (This book is also available as a free ebook in the library's permanent collection.)

- c. Martin, Ralph P. and Peter H. Davids, eds., *Dictionary of the Later New Testament & Its Developments*, Intersity Press, 1997. ISBN: 9780830817795 (This book is also available as a free ebook in the library's permanent collection.)
- d. Evans, Craig A. and Stanley Porter, eds., *Dictionary of New Testament Background*, Intersity Press, 2000. ISBN: 9780830817801 (This book is also available as a free ebook in the library's permanent collection.)

2. *Materials*

- a. None

3. *Assignments*

- a. **Read and Discuss Forums (25%):** Discussions will take place throughout the course, typically in response to course materials or a set of questions provided by the instructor. These discussions are meant to build and enhance the learning community as we interact with each other as a class. As this is the case, discussion posts will not be accepted late. Specific instructions will be given in the course. (SLOs 1–6)
- b. **Read and Respond Assignments (25%):** Students will be regularly required to read course material and/or view videos and provide responses to questions provided by the instructor. These assignments are designed to reinforce the reading and video material and, thus, enhance student learning. (SLOs 1-5)
- c. **Reflection Journals (5%):** Throughout the course, you will reflect on what you are learning through various journal entries. These short papers provide you with an opportunity to make connections between the course and your life. Specific instructions regarding each journal will be provided within the course. (SLOs 1-6)
- d. **Hypothetical Monologues (10%):** To assist you in more closely researching and understanding a key individual, group, city, or region as it relates to our study in the book of Acts, you will be given a list of items to choose from, and after careful research, present an imaginary monologue in which you represent that individual, group, city, or region. Specific instructions will be given in the course. (SLOs 1–4, 6)
- e. **Theological Applications (10%):** Occasionally, students will be required to apply their learning through special application assignments. The type of assignment/work will vary, but the goal in each case will be to cultivate student motivation and enhance student learning through innovative variety. Specific instructions are given in the course. (SLOs 3-4)
- f. **Short Summary Statements (10%):** At times during the course, you will be reading an incomplete and inaccurate summary of the course content from a single week. You will need to revise the summary statement and provide a detailed rationale for your new summary that contains your course notes gleaned from the readings this week. Specific instructions will be given in the course. (SLOs 1-6)
- g. **Meeting Participation Reports (5%)** – Each week, you will participate in a live meeting led by your instructor to discuss course topics, ask questions, and reflect on what you're learning. These meetings will be conducted online, and you are required to

participate either through live attendance or by watching the recording and completing a reflective activity. Further details will be provided by your instructor.

4. *Exams and Quizzes*

- a. **Quizzes (10%):** Throughout the course, you will complete quizzes based on assigned readings and lectures. These quizzes will assess your ability to accurately and thoroughly recall key ideas and historical concepts from the course. Quizzes will be taken directly from assigned readings in the book of Acts and related topics. (SLOs 1-4, 6)

5. *Extra Credit*

- a. None

Course Procedures

- 1. *Course Practices* – This online course uses discussions, readings, videos, and other resources and activities to aid and measure the learning of its objectives. Work through the weeks in sequential order, completing the learning explorations and assignments. Please take these opportunities to interact with the instructor and fellow students about the course content, the learning experience, and the relationships between the material and one's experience.
- 2. *Grading Policy, Rating Scale, Use of Rubrics, etc.*

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|------------------|----|---|--------|----------------|----|---|-------|----------------|----|---|-------|
| <i>Excellent</i> | A | = | 94–100 | | B- | = | 80–83 | | D+ | = | 67–69 |
| | A- | = | 90–93 | | C+ | = | 77–79 | <i>Passing</i> | D | = | 64–66 |
| | B+ | = | 87–89 | <i>Average</i> | C | = | 74–76 | | D- | = | 60–63 |
| <i>Good</i> | B | = | 84–86 | | C- | = | 70–73 | <i>Failure</i> | F | = | 0–59 |

The weight of each assignment in relation to your final grade is allocated in the following grading categories:

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|-------------------------------|-----|
| Read and Discuss Forums | 25% |
| Read and Respond Assignments | 25% |
| Reflection Journals | 5% |
| Hypothetical Monologues | 10% |
| Theological Applications | 10% |
| Short Summary Statements | 10% |
| Meeting Participation Reports | 5% |
| Quizzes | 10% |

- 3. This course adheres to [LBC | Capital's Global undergraduate policies and services](#). These include:
 - a. Attendance Policy
 - b. Late Assignment Policy
 - c. Make-up Policy
 - d. Ally Center Statement
 - i. Accessibility Services
 - ii. Writing Services
 - iii. Academic Mentoring Services

- e. Academic Integrity Statement
- f. Statement on Self-Care

Course Resources

1. *Technology Difficulties* – The Help Desk is available to help you with computer and technology problems and questions. Call 717.560.8200 ext. 4357 (HELP), email help@lbc.edu, or visit lbc.edu/helpdesk.
2. *Library Resources* – The library subscribes to numerous databases to provide access to scholarly and peer-reviewed journal articles, eBooks, newspapers, magazines, and much more. Online resources are accessible anywhere on campus or remotely 24/7 using your LBC username and password. To access these resources, go to lbc.edu/library. The library website also includes links for students to request research assistance:
 - CHAT NOW is for immediate assistance – usually from a non-LBC librarian.
 - ASK US is for information from an LBC librarian within 24 hours (Monday–Friday).
 - SCHEDULE A MEETING is for arranging an appointment with a librarian, either in-person or online.
3. *Program/Content Coordinator* – b&t@lbc.edu
4. *Bibliography* – None
5. *Extra Resources* – None