



Queensland  
Theological College



# NT424/NT434/NT624/NT634

## The Fourth Gospel

### Unit Outline

#### **About this Unit Outline**

This unit outline contains information essential to finding your way around the unit **The Fourth Gospel**. It provides a structure for your learning, giving details of lecture topics, assessment requirements, and key resources.

**SEMESTER 1 2019**

## Important notice

While every care has been taken to ensure accuracy in the information given below, **it is the personal responsibility of each student to check the current ACT Undergraduate or Postgraduate Handbook**, copies of which may be found in the Library or online at [www.actheology.edu.au](http://www.actheology.edu.au)

It is very important that students plan their time carefully to ensure that reading and especially assignments receive adequate attention and so as to prevent a bottleneck of work at the end of the semester.

It is very important that all quoted material in assignments be properly footnoted and acknowledged. The attention of students is drawn to the section in the current ACT Undergraduate or Postgraduate Handbook, headed **"Academic Misconduct"**. Failure to comply with the standards required will incur penalties as outlined in the ACT Undergraduate or Postgraduate Handbook.

The attention of students is also drawn to the section in the current ACT Handbook, headed **"Guidelines for Essays."** See also the QTC Student Handbook. All essays should comply with these standards.

# Information about this unit

## Unit description

This is one of the exegetical units available in the New Testament field. For those who are studying this unit as a follow up to the study of New Testament Greek, you will find it very satisfying to put into practice what you have learned and to see the fruit of all that Greek study.

In this unit students will learn to employ exegetical methods of modern critical study to various genres found within the First Gospel. Moreover, they will learn about key historical and theological issues related to this ancient text. For further information on the issues covered, see Learning Outcomes and Unit Timetable.

## Learning Outcomes

Each course code for this unit has a distinct set of learning objectives, with some overlap.

### NT424 Learning Outcomes

On completion of the unit, students will:

#### Know and understand:

- The Fourth Gospel: authorship, date, occasion, formation, setting, purpose
- The themes and theology of the Fourth Gospel
- Interplay between narrative, encounter, sign and teaching
- Relation to the synoptic gospels and the gospel tradition
- The English text of the Fourth Gospel
- The nature and methods of New Testament exegesis

#### Be able to:

- Use sources such as biblical and theological dictionaries, commentaries and on-line resources
- Recognise literary form, genre, structure and rhetorical conventions
- Compare and contrast translations
- Evaluate matters relating to authorship, date and purpose
- Utilize the historical, social and cultural contexts
- Assign passages to the literary and canonical contexts
- Establish the meaning of significant words and phrases in the contexts of the Gospel and John's other writings
- Trace inter-textual references and allusions
- Discuss the main themes, arguments and theological teachings
- Exegete the English text of selected passages of the Fourth Gospel

#### Be in a position to:

- Exegete the English text of the Fourth Gospel for personal understanding and for use in ministry contexts
- Integrate perspectives from the Fourth Gospel into biblical interpretation and Christian thinking
- Apply the teaching of the Fourth Gospel to situations and issues in contemporary Christianity and society

### **NT434 Learning Outcomes**

On completion of the unit, students will:

#### Know and understand:

- The Fourth Gospel: authorship, date, occasion, formation, setting, purpose
- The themes and theology of the Fourth Gospel
- Interplay between narrative, encounter, sign and teaching
- Relation to the synoptic gospels and the gospel tradition
- The Greek text of the Fourth Gospel
- The nature and methods of New Testament exegesis

#### Be able to:

- Use sources such as lexicons, theological dictionaries, grammars, textual analyses, commentaries and on-line resources
- Identify the authorship, date and purpose
- Translate into English
- Evaluate textual variants and issues in the history of the text
- Recognise literary form, genre, structure and rhetorical conventions
- Utilize the historical, social and cultural contexts
- Assign passages to the literary and canonical contexts
- Establish the meaning of significant words and phrases in the contexts of John's writings
- Trace inter-textual references and allusions
- Discuss the main themes, arguments and theological teachings
- Translate and exegete the Greek text of selected passages from the Fourth Gospel

#### Be in a position to:

- Exegete the Greek text of the Fourth Gospel for personal understanding and for use in ministry contexts
- Integrate perspectives from the Fourth Gospel into biblical interpretation and Christian thinking
- Apply the teaching of the Fourth Gospel to situations and issues in contemporary Christianity and society

### **NT624 Learning Outcomes**

On completion of the unit, students will:

#### Know and understand:

- The Fourth Gospel: authorship, date, occasion, formation, setting, purpose.
- The themes and theology of the Fourth Gospel.
- Interplay between narrative, encounter, sign and teaching.
- Relation to the synoptic gospels and the gospel tradition.
- The English text of the Fourth Gospel.
- The nature and methods of New Testament exegesis.
- A selection of historic and contemporary interpretations of the Fourth Gospel.

#### Be able to:

- Use sources such as biblical and theological dictionaries, commentaries and on-line resources.
- Recognise literary form, genre, structure and rhetorical conventions.
- Compare and contrast translations.

- Evaluate matters relating to authorship, date and purpose.
- Utilize the historical, social and cultural contexts.
- Assign passages to the literary and canonical contexts.
- Establish the meaning of significant words and phrases in the contexts of the Gospel and John's other writings.
- Trace inter-textual references and allusions.
- Discuss the main themes, arguments and theological teachings.
- Exegete the English text of selected passages of the Fourth Gospel.
- Discuss interpretations of the Fourth Gospel.

Be in a position to:

- Exegete the English text of the Fourth Gospel for personal understanding and for use in ministry contexts.
- Integrate perspectives from the Fourth Gospel into biblical interpretation and Christian thinking.
- Apply the teaching of the Fourth Gospel to situations and issues in contemporary Christianity and society.
- Evaluate interpretations of the Fourth Gospel.

**NT634 Learning Outcomes**

On completion of the unit, students will:

Know and understand:

- The Fourth Gospel: authorship, date, occasion, formation, setting, purpose.
- The themes and theology of the Fourth Gospel.
- Interplay between narrative, encounter, sign and teaching.
- Relation to the synoptic gospels and the gospel tradition.
- The Greek text of the Fourth Gospel.
- The nature and methods of New Testament exegesis.
- A selection of historic and contemporary interpretations of the Fourth Gospel.

Be able to:

- Use sources such as lexicons, theological dictionaries, grammars, textual analyses, commentaries and on-line resources.
- Identify the authorship, date and purpose.
- Translate into English.
- Evaluate textual variants and issues in the history of the text.
- Recognise literary form, genre, structure and rhetorical conventions.
- Utilize the historical, social and cultural contexts.
- Assign passages to the literary and canonical contexts.
- Establish the meaning of significant words and phrases in the contexts of John's writings.
- Trace inter-textual references and allusions.
- Discuss the main themes, arguments and theological teachings.
- Translate and exegete the Greek text of selected passages from the Fourth Gospel.
- Discuss interpretations of the Fourth Gospel.

Be in a position to:

- Exegete the Greek text of the Fourth Gospel for personal understanding and for use in ministry contexts.

## THE FOURTH GOSPEL

- Integrate perspectives from the Fourth Gospel into biblical interpretation and Christian thinking.
- Apply the teaching of the Fourth Gospel to situations and issues in contemporary Christianity and society.
- Evaluate interpretations of the Fourth Gospel.

## How this Unit Contributes to the Course

The unit counts towards the ACT Diploma of Theology, Bachelor of Theology Degree, Bachelor of Ministry Degree, Associate Degree in Theology, Graduate Diploma of Divinity, and Master of Divinity degree. It has been chosen by QTC as a suitable unit to balance the unit on the synoptic gospels, and thus provide a wider understanding of the gospels.

This unit caters for students studying for the following ACT courses:

### **DipTh/ BTh/ BMin/ AssocDegTh:**

NT424 The Synoptic Gospels (English Text)

NT434 The Synoptic Gospels (Greek Text)

### **MDiv / GradDipDiv:**

NT624 The Synoptic Gospels (English Text)

NT634 The Synoptic Gospels (Greek Text)

## Pre-requisites and Co-requisites

The pre-requisites for NT434/634 are successful completion of NT301/501 plus LA004A & LA004B.

The pre-requisite for NT424/624 is successful completion of NT301/501.

Students enrolled in NT434 cannot also take NT424. Students enrolled in NT634 cannot also take NT624.

Students enrolled in NT424 cannot also take NT434. Students enrolled in NT624 cannot also take NT634.

## How this unit is organized & what we expect of you

### **LECTURE TIMES.**

See lecture timetable on the following pages for details.

**TRANSLATION:** Students are expected to come to class having made a "reasonable attempt" to translate the assigned verses (e.g., all Greek words translated, some understanding of how the syntax of the sentences works to produce meaning).

**LECTURE CONTENT:** The unit outline (below) lists which aspects of John's Gospel will be dealt with in each lecture. A lecture outline shall be handed out or posted on Moodle, but students are expected to take notes from the lectures and required reading.

**READING:** Students are expected to read through the Gospel of John before the first lecture, and again at least once throughout the thirteen week semester.

**WEEKLY STUDY COMMITMENT:** The Unit is worth 4 credit points towards your qualification. At Diploma or Bachelor level, a 4 credit point unit is considered to require a total time commitment of 6-8 hours per week, and 7-9 hours at Master of Divinity level. Those taking the unit based on the Greek text may require more time. Students are required to attend all lectures, complete any set pre-reading and complete assessment tasks by the relevant due date.

## Teaching staff

LECTURER AND UNIT COORDINATOR:

Rev. Dr. Nick Brennan

E [nbrennan@qtc.edu.au](mailto:nbrennan@qtc.edu.au)

P 07 3062 6939

## Other Key Contacts

### Registrar's office

Contact the Registrar's office for any queries about which unit to enrol in next, if you wish to change your enrolment, defer due to illness, family circumstances etc., or request an extension for your assessment (criteria apply).

E [registrar@qtc.edu.au](mailto:registrar@qtc.edu.au)

### Moodle functions and queries

Contact the Registrar or the Assistant Registrar for help if something on Moodle is not working, if you need help using Moodle etc.

E [registrar@qtc.edu.au](mailto:registrar@qtc.edu.au)

### Library/Resources

Contact the Librarian for help with finding resources for your assessment, finding full-text database articles, for help with logging into the library databases and catalogue, and for help with how to renew a book for longer, or place a hold on a book currently out to another person.

E [library@qtc.edu.au](mailto:library@qtc.edu.au)

## Unit timetable: topics & teaching and learning activities

	Translation <i>Greek students only</i>	Exegesis lecture <i>All students</i>	Tutorial hour	English class <i>English students only</i>
WEEK 1	Greek John 1:1-18	Course outline Intro to John <i>structure/purpose</i>	1:1-18 Prologue & gospel	K & S ch 1 discussion
WEEK 2	John 1:19-51	John 1:19-51	Christology in John	K & S ch 2 discussion
WEEK 3	John 2	John 2	Signs in John	K & S ch 3 discussion
WEEK 4	John 3:1-21	John 3:1-21	Temple in John	K & S ch 4 Discussion
WEEK 5	John 3:22-36	John 3:22-36	Ecclesiology and Salvation in John	K & S ch 5 discussion
WEEK 6	John 5:1-30	John 5:1-30	Believing in John	John 4
WEEK 7	John 5:31-47	John 5:31-47	Anti-Semitism in John	John 4
WEEK 8	John 6:1-24	John 6:1-24	The "I am" statements	John 7
WEEK 9	John 6:25-59	John 6:25-59	Sacraments in John	John 7
WEEK 10	John 6:60-71	John 6:60-71	Ethics in John	John 8
WEEK 11	John 11	John 11	Resurrection in John	John 8
WEEK 12	John 15	John 15	The Death of Jesus in John	John 14
WEEK 13	John 16	John 16	The Spirit in John	John 14

K & S = Andreas J. Kostenberger, & Scott R. Swain. *Father, Son and Spirit: The Trinity in John's Gospel*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP 2008.

## NT424 (English Text) Assessments

Assessments are submitted online via Moodle

In order to pass the unit, you must submit all assessment pieces and attain a mark of at least 50% for the unit as a whole.

Unless an extension has been applied for and granted in accordance with the Policy found in the QTC Handbook, where a student submits an assessment past its due date, in accordance with the ACT Late Penalties Policy, the assessment marks will be reduced at the rate of 3% of the total possible marks for the assessment item per calendar day, up to 14 days late, after which point the mark awarded shall be zero. Where the assessment is a take-home exam, the assessment marks will be reduced at the rate of 6% of the total possible marks for the assessment item per calendar day, up to 7 days late, after which point the mark awarded shall be zero.

Your submitted assessment items must also be within 10% of the required word limit, and failure to meet this requirement shall result in a penalty of 10% of the total possible mark being deducted. Please see the ACT Handbook for full details on what is included within your total word count. QTC seeks to prepare you for ministry, and in ministry delivering presentations on time and within an acceptable length are essential skills.

ASSESSMENT TASK	DESCRIPTION
<p><b>Tutorial paper</b>  <b>1,800 words</b>  <b>30%</b></p>	<p>A paper on an aspect of the history, genre, or theology of John:            Write a paper of <b>1800</b> words on <b>ONE</b> of the following books:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Kostenberger, A. <i>The Missions of Jesus and the Disciples according to the Fourth Gospel</i>. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1997.</li> <li>2. Koester, Craig. <i>Symbolism in the Fourth Gospel</i>. Augsburg, 2003.</li> <li>3. Koester, Craig. <i>The Word of Life: A Theology of John's Gospel</i>. Eerdmans, 2008.</li> <li>4. Stibbe, Mark. <i>John as Storyteller: Narrative Criticism and the Fourth Gospel</i>. CUP, 1995.</li> <li>5. Aston, John. <i>Understanding the Fourth Gospel</i>. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed. OUP, 2009.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Exegesis Major Paper</b>  <b>2,500 words</b>  <b>45%</b></p>	<p>A paper on a passage within the selected passages in John:            Write an exegetical essay (<b>2500</b> words) on <b>ONE</b> of the following passages based on the <b>English</b> Text:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. John 7:37-52</li> <li>2. John 8:48-59</li> <li>3. John 11:55-12:8</li> </ol>

<b>Take-Home Exam</b> <b>1500 words</b> <b>25%</b>	<p>Take Home Exam: Three compulsory questions, 500 words each (Total of 1500 words.) Students will receive the exam questions three days before the due date.</p> <p>These questions will be on topics covered in the weekly one-hour lecture specifically for students who are taking this unit based on the English Text.</p> <p>Topics will include studies of the Gospel of John Chapters 4, 7, 8, &amp; 14, and readings and discussions based on Andreas J. Kostenberger, &amp; Scott R. Swain, 'Father, Son and Spirit: The Trinity in John's Gospel' (Apollos/IVP 2008), Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.</p>
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## NT434 (Greek Text) Assessments

Assessments are submitted online via Moodle

In order to pass the unit, you must submit all assessment pieces and attain a mark of at least 50% for the unit as a whole.

Unless an extension has been applied for and granted in accordance with the Policy found in the QTC Handbook, where a student submits an assessment past its due date, in accordance with the ACT Late Penalties Policy, the assessment marks will be reduced at the rate of 3% of the total possible marks for the assessment item per calendar day, up to 14 days late, after which point the mark awarded shall be zero. Where the assessment is a take-home exam, the assessment marks will be reduced at the rate of 6% of the total possible marks for the assessment item per calendar day, up to 7 days late, after which point the mark awarded shall be zero.

Your submitted assessment items must also be within 10% of the required word limit, and failure to meet this requirement shall result in a penalty of 10% of the total possible mark being deducted. Please see the ACT Handbook for full details on what is included within your total word count. QTC seeks to prepare you for ministry, and in ministry delivering presentations on time and within an acceptable length are essential skills.

ASSESSMENT TASK	DESCRIPTION
<b>Tutorial paper</b> <b>1,800 words</b> <b>30%</b>	A paper on an aspect of the history, genre, or theology of John: Write a paper of <b>1800</b> words on <b>ONE</b> of the following books: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Kostenberger, A. <i>The Missions of Jesus and the Disciples according to the Fourth Gospel</i>. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1997.</li> <li>2. Koester, Craig. <i>Symbolism in the Fourth Gospel</i>. Augsburg, 2003.</li> <li>3. Koester, Craig. <i>The Word of Life: A Theology of John's Gospel</i>. Eerdmans, 2008.</li> <li>4. Stibbe, Mark. <i>John as Storyteller: Narrative Criticism and the Fourth Gospel</i>. CUP, 1995.</li> <li>5. Aston, John. <i>Understanding the Fourth Gospel</i>. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed. OUP, 2009.</li> </ol>
<b>Exegesis Major Paper</b> <b>2,500 words</b> <b>45%</b>	A paper on a passage within the selected passages in John: Write an exegetical essay ( <b>2500</b> words) on <b>ONE</b> of the following passages based on the <b>Greek</b> Text: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. John 18:1-11</li> <li>2. John 19:23-37</li> <li>3. John 20:11-23</li> </ol>

<b>Greek Translation and Significance for Meaning Tests</b> <b>25%</b>	You will take <b>6 Translation Tests</b> on Moodle, each of one hour, between Weeks 2 and 12 of the semester. You will write about 250 words for each test, which will assess your understanding of the Greek text studied that week. The average of your quiz marks will be used to calculate a mark out of 25% of your total mark for the unit. A student who fails to complete a test by the due date without valid reason will not be able to take it later, and will receive 0. The date for each quiz will be advised by the lecturer at the end of the relevant lecture. These tests are to encourage you to complete the Greek homework each week and to actively and consistently learn in the weekly Greek class times.
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## NT624 (English Text) Assessments

Assessments are submitted online via Moodle

In order to pass the unit, you must submit all assessment pieces and attain a mark of at least 50% for the unit as a whole.

Unless an extension has been applied for and granted in accordance with the Policy found in the QTC Handbook, where a student submits an assessment past its due date, in accordance with the ACT Late Penalties Policy, the assessment marks will be reduced at the rate of 3% of the total possible marks for the assessment item per calendar day, up to 14 days late, after which point the mark awarded shall be zero. Where the assessment is a take-home exam, the assessment marks will be reduced at the rate of 6% of the total possible marks for the assessment item per calendar day, up to 7 days late, after which point the mark awarded shall be zero.

Your submitted assessment items must also be within 10% of the required word limit, and failure to meet this requirement shall result in a penalty of 10% of the total possible mark being deducted. Please see the ACT Handbook for full details on what is included within your total word count. QTC seeks to prepare you for ministry, and in ministry delivering presentations on time and within an acceptable length are essential skills.

ASSESSMENT TASK	DESCRIPTION
<b>Tutorial Paper</b> <b>2,200 words</b> <b>30%</b>	A paper on an aspect of Johannine theology or scholarship: Write a paper of <b>2200</b> words on <b>ONE</b> of the following topics. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What relationship is there between John's Gospel and the community at Qumran and how does the answer to this question affect the interpretation of the Gospel?</li> <li>2. Discuss John's use of 'light' and 'darkness' in his Gospel.</li> <li>3. Discuss the concept of Jesus as "the one whom the Father has sent" in John's Gospel.</li> <li>4. What is the place of the Jewish feasts in John?</li> <li>5. Choosing either a) the cleansing of the Temple or b) the timing of Jesus' death, discuss alleged conflict between John's and the Synoptic Gospels' records of this event, and both <b>detail and evaluate</b> proposals to reconcile them.</li> </ol>
<b>Exegesis Major Paper</b> <b>3,000 words</b> <b>45%</b>	A paper on a passage within the selected passages in John: Write an exegetical essay ( <b>3000</b> words) on <b>ONE</b> of the following passages in the <b>English</b> Text: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. John 10:1-18</li> <li>2. John 10:22-42</li> <li>3. John 12:20-36</li> </ol>

<p><b>Take-Home Exam</b></p> <p><b>1800 words</b></p> <p><b>25%</b></p>	<p>Take Home Exam: Three compulsory questions, 600 words each (Total of 1800 words). Students will receive the exam questions three days week before the due date.</p> <p>These questions will be on topics covered in the weekly one-hour lecture specifically for students who are taking this unit based on the English Text.</p> <p>Topics will include studies of the Gospel of John Chapters 4, 7, 8, &amp; 14, and readings and discussions based on Andreas J. Kostenberger, &amp; Scott R. Swain, 'Father, Son and Spirit: The Trinity in John's Gospel' (Apollos/IVP 2008), Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.</p>
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## NT634 (Greek Text) Assessments

Assessments are submitted online via Moodle

In order to pass the unit, you must submit all assessment pieces and attain a mark of at least 50% for the unit as a whole.

Unless an extension has been applied for and granted in accordance with the Policy found in the QTC Handbook, where a student submits an assessment past its due date, in accordance with the ACT Late Penalties Policy, the assessment marks will be reduced at the rate of 3% of the total possible marks for the assessment item per calendar day, up to 14 days late, after which point the mark awarded shall be zero. Where the assessment is a take-home exam, the assessment marks will be reduced at the rate of 6% of the total possible marks for the assessment item per calendar day, up to 7 days late, after which point the mark awarded shall be zero.

Your submitted assessment items must also be within 10% of the required word limit, and failure to meet this requirement shall result in a penalty of 10% of the total possible mark being deducted. Please see the ACT Handbook for full details on what is included within your total word count. QTC seeks to prepare you for ministry, and in ministry delivering presentations on time and within an acceptable length are essential skills.

ASSESSMENT TASK	DESCRIPTION
<b>Tutorial Paper</b> <b>2200 words</b> <b>30%</b>	A paper on an aspect of Johannine theology or scholarship: Write a paper of <b>2200</b> words on <b>ONE</b> of the following topics. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What relationship is there between John's Gospel and the community at Qumran and how does the answer to this question affect the interpretation of the Gospel?</li> <li>2. Discuss John's use of 'light' and 'darkness' in his Gospel.</li> <li>3. Discuss the concept of Jesus as "the one whom the Father has sent" in John's Gospel.</li> <li>4. What is the place of the Jewish feasts in John?</li> <li>5. Choosing either a) the cleansing of the Temple or b) the timing of Jesus' death, discuss alleged conflict between John's and the Synoptic Gospels' records of this event, and both <b>detail and evaluate</b> proposals to reconcile them.</li> </ol>
<b>Exegesis Major Paper</b> <b>3,000 words</b> <b>45%</b>	A paper on a passage within the selected passages in John: Write an exegetical essay ( <b>3000</b> words) on <b>ONE</b> of the following passages in the <b>Greek</b> Text: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. John 1:1-18</li> <li>2. John 13:1-17</li> <li>3. John 13:21-38</li> </ol>

<b>Greek Translation and Significance for Meaning Tests</b> <b>25%</b>	You will take <b>6 Translation Tests</b> on Moodle, each of one hour, between Weeks 2 and 12 of the semester. You will write about 300 words for each test, which will assess your understanding of the Greek text studied that week. The average of your quiz marks will be used to calculate a mark out of 25% of your total mark for the unit. A student who fails to complete a test by the due date without valid reason will not be able to take it later, and will receive 0. The date for each quiz will be advised by the lecturer at the end of the relevant lecture. These tests are to encourage you to complete the Greek homework each week and to actively and consistently learn in the weekly Greek class times.
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## Guide to Assessments

All students are expected to read the guidelines for written assignments provided in the ACT Handbooks, available in the library or online. You should also read the relevant sections of the QTC Student Manual.

All written work for this unit should conform to the guidelines of the *SBL Handbook of Style* (with the exception of Australian spelling conventions).

All Greek and Hebrew cited must be typed in a Unicode font; SBL BibLit is commended as one font covering Greek Hebrew and Roman Unicode ranges, but is not required. It is freely available from the SBL website: <http://www.sbl-site.org/educational/biblicalfonts.aspx>.

The Learning Resources listed in this outline provide a beginning point for research for assessments for this unit. Students are expected to engage with the works listed there, but are not limited to these resources. The literature on Matthew's Gospel is massive, and you are encouraged to consult widely.

Do note carefully the *number of words required* for each assessment item, depending on whether you are enrolled for NT424 (based on the English Text) or NT434 (Greek Text) or NT624 (English Text) or NT634 (Greek Text).

### **NT424/434 Assessment 1: Tutorial Paper - Critical Book Review**

This paper is essentially a book review, however with an emphasis on being critical. The primary aim of the assessment is to evaluate the assigned book's treatment of John's Gospel. Before the semester starts you will be assigned one of the listed books to read and review. The essay requires you to briefly summarise the book, and, in particular, to analyse its strengths and weaknesses as a reading of John. While the essay is not asking you to read far beyond the assigned text and the text of John's Gospel, you would be wise to consult published reviews of the book, in order to compare your own impressions with those of others. A normal book review will cover material which you do not need to, e.g. print quality, typographical errors, lengthiness etc. What you do need to focus on is whether and why you feel the author's primary thesis or theses represent an accurate reading and interpretation of the issues it addresses in reading John.

Because of the need to have access to the books for review, a student's allocation of which book to review must be spread across the five options. You are encouraged to make known to the lecturer your first, second and third choice for which book you would prefer to review as early as possible.

### NT622/632 Assessment 1: Research Essay

The paper should be written in standard essay format. Show that you have read widely and deeply on the specific aspect of Johannine scholarship you have selected and thoroughly considered the text of John's Gospel. Make sure your essay covers all aspect of the question posed, including: noting the range of views in scholarship, critically interacting with the arguments of others, engaging with the full range of pertinent texts in John related to your question, and making a well-ordered and substantiated argument for the position you take.

### NT424/434/624/634 Assessment 2: Exegesis Major Paper

Purpose:

1. To assess your ability to exegete the chosen passage in detail and critically interact with scholarship on that passage.
2. To assess your ability to build a sustainable argument for how you believe the passage should be interpreted.

There are two parts to this task:

- A. Introduction, Setting and Structure; and
- B. Translation, Analysis and Synthesis

**HOWEVER, you need only include material from A if it makes a significant contribution to your interpretation of the passage. The only necessary aspects of A required are to situate the chosen text within the Gospel and its immediate context, and discuss the structure of the given pericope.**

#### **A Introduction, Setting and Structure:**

- *Introduction*: a brief statement of intent or purpose.
- Mention the *authorship*, and defend it if controverted.
- Discuss the *historical setting* of the passage (time, place, occasion of writing and recipients).
- Discuss the *canonical setting* of the passage (where it fits into John, and perhaps where it fits in the wider framework of the NT).
- Describe the *immediate context* of your passage, and explain and defend its *boundaries* as a self-contained unit of Scripture.
- You may need to discuss *critical questions* about which is the best *text* of the passage, especially if you are studying John in Greek.
- Describe the *structure* of the passage and its *literary features*, including its literary genre (narrative, parable, discourse, poetry, etc.).

**B Translation, Analysis and Synthesis:** This is the heart of your task.

**Translation and Grammatical Remarks:**

- *Translate* the passage, taking textual variants into account.
- Study carefully *key words or phrases*, historically and within the present context.
- Provide a detailed *grammatical discussion of significant issues* (though NOT simply the parsing of individual words).
- Attempt to *give a solution* for any grammatical and exegetical problems.
- Remember that your *structural outline* should provide the basic outline of your approach to the passage.
- The conclusions that you have drawn from your discussion of *critical questions* should be incorporated here.

**Analysis of the Passage:**

- Give a faithful *exposition of the meaning of the passage*, on the basis of all the preceding work.
- *Compare or contrast* this passage with other passages that cover the same or similar topics.

**Synthesis and Conclusion:**

- Summarise *the message* of the passage.
- Outline any major *Biblical themes* that emerge from the passage.
- The synthesis will often involve the discussion of matters that first emerged in the *structural outline*.

Your paper should include a **bibliography** in the usual SBL format. See the SBL Handbook of Style in the Library and as an eBook.

**Assessment 3:**

**Take Home Exam (NT424/624 English Text)**

Your main aim in each of your take-home exam answers should be to summarize briefly the major important points in relation to the set question, in a way that directly answers the question.

Normal footnotes or references are required according to the usual ACT standards whenever you quote from textbooks, set readings, or any other published source (print or online). However, you do not need to reference quotations from notes taken in lectures.

**Please include a bibliography**, listing all sources which you have directly cited in your text or your footnotes.

Please note also that although this exam is not to be completed under normal examination conditions, it must represent work that is entirely your own, being produced without the assistance of others.

Your examination answers must not include material you have submitted earlier this semester in your essay for this unit, or for assessment items in any other unit at any time.

### **Weekly online tests (NT434/634 Greek Text)**

On six of the 13 weeks you will have a 60 minute online test covering the passage translated in class for that week. You will be expected to write about 250-300 words for your answers to each test. There will be questions on the grammar and meaning of constructions discussed in class. You will not know in which weeks the test will be held until after the classes. The best preparation is to do the set translation and review it in class in preparation for the possible test that week. See the assessment tables above for details. The key to success is to learn as consistently and actively in class as you can each week, and to keep on top of any homework given.

In the case of students studying John in the Greek Text, translation and study of the Greek-text passages allocated each week is critical.

## Learning Resources

### **Textbooks for NT424 The Fourth Gospel English (Undergraduate level):**

Kostenberger, A. J. and Scott R. Swain. *Father, Son and Spirit: The Trinity in John's Gospel*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP, 2008.

AND ONE OF:

Carson, D. A., *The Gospel According to John*. Pillar. Leicester: IVP, 1991.

Ridderbos, Herman. *The Gospel of John: a Theological Commentary*. Eerdmans, 1997.

NT424 Students may also need to buy one book to use for the Critical Book Review assessment, dependent on library availability. An email will be sent to you outlining the options and associated books.

### **Textbooks for NT434 The Fourth Gospel Greek (Undergraduate level):**

Michaels, J. Ramsay. *The Gospel of John*. NICNT. Eerdmans, 2010.

NT434 Students may also need to buy one book to use for the Critical Book Review assessment, dependent on library availability. An email will be sent to you outlining the options and associated books.

### **Textbooks for NT624 The Fourth Gospel English (Postgraduate level):**

Kostenberger, A. J. and R. Scott. *Father, Son and Spirit: The Trinity in John's Gospel*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP, 2008.

AND ONE OF:

Carson, D. A. *The Gospel According to John*. Pillar. Leicester: IVP, 1991.

Ridderbos, Herman. *The Gospel of John: a Theological Commentary*. Eerdmans, 1997.

### **Textbooks for NT634 The Fourth Gospel Greek (Postgraduate level):**

Michaels, J. Ramsay. *The Gospel of John*. NICNT. Eerdmans, 2010.

### **Other Helpful Commentaries**

Brown, R. E. and F. J. Maloney. *An Introduction to the Gospel of John*. New York: Doubleday, 2003.

Kruse, C. G. *The Gospel according to John*. rev. ed. Leicester: InterVarsity, 2004.

Keener, C. S. *The Gospel of John: A Commentary*. 2 Vols. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 2003.

Lincoln, A. T. *The Gospel According to Saint John*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 2005.

Moloney, F. J. *The Gospel of John*. Collegeville, MN: Liturgical, 1998.

### **Classics**

Schnackenburg, R., *The Gospel According to St. John*. 2 vol. New York: Seabury Press, 1980.

Witherington, B., *John's Wisdom: A Commentary on the Fourth Gospel*. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox, 1995.

### **Helpful Reference Texts:**

Carter, W. *John: Storyteller, Interpreter, Evangelist*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 2006.

Ferreira, J. *Johannine Ecclesiology*. Sheffield: SAP, 1998.

Fortna, R. T. and T. Thatcher Eds., *Jesus in Johannine Tradition*. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox, 2001.

Lincoln, A. T. *The Gospel According to Saint John*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 2005.

Malina, B. J. and R. L. Rohrbaugh. *Social Science Commentary on the Gospel of John*. Minneapolis, MN: Fortress, 1998.

Orton, D. E., *The Composition of John's Gospel: Selected Studies from Novum Testamentum*. Leiden: Brill, 1999.

Painter, J., R. A. Culpepper & F. Segovia Eds., *Word, Theology and Community in John St. Louis*, MO: Chalice, 2002.

Thatcher, T., *Why John Wrote a Gospel: Jesus, Memory, History*. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox, 2006.

### **Classics**

Ashton, J., (ed.), *The Interpretation of John* 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Edinburgh: T & T Clark, 1997.

Culpepper, R. A. and C. C. Black Eds. *Exploring the Gospel of John*. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox, 1996.

Porter, S. E. and C. A. Evans Eds. *The Johannine Writings: A Sheffield Reader*. Sheffield: SAP, 1995).

Pryor, J. W., *John: Evangelist of the Covenant People: The Narrative and Themes of the Fourth Gospel*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1992.

Smalley, S. S. *John: Evangelist & Interpreter*. Exeter: Paternoster, 1998.

Smith, D. M. *The Theology of the Gospel of John*. Cambridge: CUP, 1995.

### **Students exegeting from the Greek text will also require the following:**

*The Greek New Testament* (4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> ed, United Bible Societies)

Danker, *Greek English lexicon (BDAG)* (University of Chicago)

### **OTHER USEFUL REFERENCE BOOKS**

Daniel B Wallace, *Greek Grammar beyond the basics*. (Zondervan, 1996). Anyone interested in continuing to grow in his or her understanding of NT Greek needs access to a book of this kind and this one will be used during the unit.

John Alsup, *An index to the revised Bauer-Arndt-Gingrich Greek Lexicon*, (Zondervan, 1981). A great time saver and help. If a Greek word is mentioned in BAGD, this index takes you to the place where it is cited for that verse.

Nathan E Han, *A parsing guide to the Greek New Testament*, (Herald Press, 1971). Gives a verse-by-verse parsing of all verbs and related words. It is a bit simpler than an *Analytical concordance*, but does not include non-verb forms.

Bruce M Metzger, *A textual commentary on the Greek New Testament*, UBS 1971. This gives the reasoning behind the choice of textual variants in the UBS Greek NT and students will need to consult it for textual comment. There is no need to buy a copy, as multiple copies are available in the library.

## ACT Standards: Grades

Grades in assessment instruments are awarded in the following categories-

Grade	Score	GPA
Fail (F)	0-49%	0
Pass (P)	50-57%	1
Pass+ (P+)	58-64%	1.5
Credit (C)	65-74%	2
Distinction (D)	75-84%	3
High Distinction (HD)	85+%	4