

NEW TESTAMENT STUDIES
Comprehensive Examinations
Edition approved November 4, 2003

Each examination is designed to require four to six hours to write. The professor responsible for each exam will provide a bibliography or assist the student in developing an approved bibliography for this exam.

Items chosen for special study are expected to represent a broad pattern of preparation. They are selected in consultation with, and with the consent of, the student's committee.

I. NEW TESTAMENT TIMES

- A. **Jewish and Gentile Backgrounds** (2-3 hours)
- B. **History of Apostolic Period and Christian Origins** (2-3 hours)

II. NEW TESTAMENT LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

- A. **NT Greek** (2-3 hours)
- B. **Introduction to NT Literature** (2-3 hours)

III. NEW TESTAMENT INTERPRETATION

- A. **History and Methods of NT Interpretation** (2-3 hours)
- B. **NT Exegesis** (two parts totaling 2-3 hours)
 - 1. Students will choose one of the following areas:
 - a. **Matthew and Mark**
This area may not be chosen by students electing theology of the Synoptic Gospels and Acts. See under Theology of the NT below.
 - b. **Luke and Acts**
This area may not be chosen by students electing Theology of the Synoptic Gospels and Acts. See under Theology of the NT below.
 - c. **John and Revelation**
This area may not be chosen by students electing Theology of the Johannine Writings. See under Theology of the NT below.
 - 2. Students will choose one of the following areas:
 - a. **Romans and Galatians**
This area may not be chosen by students electing Theology of the Pauline Writings. See under Theology of the NT below.
 - b. **1 & 2 Corinthians**
 - c. **1 & 2 Thessalonians and Prison Epistles**
 - d. **Hebrews and Pastoral Epistles**
This area may not be chosen by students electing Theology of the Pauline Epistles including Hebrews. See under Theology of the NT below.
 - e. **The General Epistles**

IV. NEW TESTAMENT THEOLOGY

- A. **Major Area of NT** (2-3 hours)
 - Students will choose one of the following areas:
 - 1. **Theology of the Synoptic Gospels and Acts**
This area may not be chosen by students electing Matthew and Mark or Luke and Acts for Exegesis.

2. **Theology of the Pauline Epistles including Hebrews**
This area may not be chosen by students electing Romans and Galatians, or Hebrews and Pastoral Epistles for Exegesis.
3. **Theology of the Johannine Writings**
This area may not be chosen by students electing John and Revelation for Exegesis.

- B. Major Motif of New Testament Theology** (1-1½ hours)
Students will choose a major theological motif which runs through the New Testament as a whole.
Examples: Sin, the Death of Christ, Righteousness, Faith, the Holy Spirit, the Church, Baptism.
- C. Approaches to New Testament Theology** (1-1½ hours)

V. COGNATE (4-6 hours)

If the student takes the Old Testament cognate, which is recommended, then he or she must pass the doctoral Hebrew proficiency exam. If the Hebrew proficiency exam is not passed, evidence must be presented of having passed Intermediate Hebrew through course work.

COGNATE IN NEW TESTAMENT STUDIES **Comprehensive Examination Guidelines**

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Students must demonstrate an intermediate Greek proficiency by passing the regular (M.Div.) Greek Proficiency exam at a level of 60 percent.

In consultation with their advisor and the NT Department those not majoring in NT may elect any of the four NT examinations as their cognate. It is also possible to combine 2-3 hour portions of two different examinations. Most cognate students choose Exam 4 (NT theology) or a combination of parts of Exam 3B and 4.