

Course Number... Bi203 – Fall, 2015

Course Name ..... ACTS

Credit Hours ..... 3

Instructor..... Carl J. Simonsen M.Div;

Email: professor@csimonsen.org;

Phone: 209.257.1742

Cell: 209.753.7989 – Text Enabled



Bible Institute

at

New Life Christian Center

#### COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Bi203 is a survey course covering the Book of Acts. Key elements to be studied during this course will include:

- The Holy Spirit, and it's empowering of the Early Church.
- Beginnings of the early Church – It's Hebrew foundations and it's Gentile expansion
- Realization of the Great Commission of Matthew 28:18-20 and restated in Acts 1:8
- Key early church individuals including Peter, Steven, Philip, and Saul/Paul

#### PREREQUISITE:

- none

#### STATEMENT OF MISSION:

The Mission of the Bible Institute at New Life Christian Center is to be a center for ministry education and training for the Mother Lode Region we serve and the Central Pacific District. We strive to instruct and equip the saints who desire to enhance and increase their ability for service in the Kingdom of God through a Bible College setting in the local church.

This preparation is accomplished in the students' lives through:

- 1) The acquisition of biblical and theological knowledge,
- 2) The pursuit of general studies from a Christian perspective,
- 3) The development of their character and
- 4) The formation of ministry and leadership skills.

The Bible Institute helps to fulfill this mission in Bi 203 by giving students a thorough grasp of God's word as it is contained in the book of Acts, and by challenging the student to respond in the context of his or her life and ministry to the truth that will be discovered in the course of study.

#### COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Upon completion of the course, the student will:

- be able to present and review the work of the Holy Spirit in the early church
- understand the Great Commission, and show it's progression in Acts,
- be able to compare and contrast the Early Jewish Church to the Early Gentile Church
- be able to compare and contrast the early evangelists including Steven, Philip, Peter, and Paul

- be able to apply the principles taught in the Book of Acts to their lives and that of their local church home.

COURSE TEXTBOOKS:

**Required:** Bruce, F.F.. *The New International Commentary on the New Testament : The Book of ACTS Revised.* Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company:1988

**Required:** Any Bible translation (must be a translation – not a paraphrase)

**Suggested:** *The ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®)* copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. ESV® Text Edition: 2011.

**Alternate 1:** *The NIV® Bible (The Holy Bible, New International Version®)* copyright © 2011 by Biblia, Inc, Published by Zondervan

**Alternate 2:** *The HCSB® Bible (The Holy Bible, Holman Christian Standard Version® )* copyright © 2009 by Holman Bible Publishers,

**Recommended:** Arnold, Clinton E. *Zondervan Illustrated Bible Background Commentary: ACTS* Grand Rapids: Zondervan: 2002

Other readings as supplied in the course notebook.

ONLINE CLASS RESOURCE

Materials provided by the instructor including this syllabus, various charts and forms and most class notes will be available as ACROBAT pdf files through an online web site. To obtain these documents, set your web browser to: [csimonsen.org/bi\\_documents.php](http://csimonsen.org/bi_documents.php). From there, they may be individually selected and downloaded.

## Course information to guide your reading and preparation for the course assignments

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

1	Attendance - This class is a three-unit class and scheduled for thirteen three hour class periods during the semester. A student may miss 1 session without penalty. However, for each class session missed after that there will be a reduction of one full grade. One point is given for each 10 minutes tardy. After 30 minutes, the student will be charged with a full absence. The tardy points accrue and one absence will be given for every four tardy points. Please note that it is a general policy that when a student leaves class after roll is taken, he/she will be counted absent for the entire class period. If some sudden emergency occurs that would prompt his/her exit, the student should give a note to the professor when he/she returns stating why and for how long he/she was gone from the	50 Pts
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	classroom. The student should always make arrangements with another student to obtain classroom notes as exams and quizzes include classroom lecture material.	
2	<p>Course Reading – There are both Biblical Text readings, and Text book readings due each week at the beginning of class. As readings are completed they are to be initialed and dated on the weekly Reading Assignment &amp; Log Sheet (to be handed out Week 1). Completing a reading late, or not completing a reading will result in a loss of points as indicated on the Reading Assignment &amp; Log Sheet.</p> <p><b>Note: The reading assignments are reduced for Audit Students, see the reading Assignment &amp; Log Sheet for exact Audit reading requirements</b></p>	50 Pts
3	<p>Memory Work – There are 4+1 memorization assignments distributed throughout the semester. Upon memorization of a verse, the student is responsible to have an alternate student "listen" to confirm memorization and sign the "memorization log sheet." (To Be handed out week 1) Points for each memorization will be halved if it is not signed off on time.</p> <p><b>Note: Memory work is reduced for AUDIT Students, see memorization log sheet for the exact assignments</b></p>	50 Pts
4	<p>Ad Hoc Assignments – will be assigned throughout the semester. Each Ad Hoc assignment will be turned in the week following its distribution. The Ad Hoc work may be a short study, a prayer, an exhortation, a letter or even an expression of your creative talent. This is an excellent chance to apply the language and hermeneutical skills you have learned or to express in some other creative form the inner meaning of assigned passage or topic. NOTE: Ad Hoc assignments are due at the beginning of class.</p> <p><b>NOTE: Audit students are expected to participate in the Ad Hoc Assignments.</b></p>	5@40 Pts (200 total)
5	<p>Pop Quiz - There will be 2 twenty minute quizzes administered at the beginning of class. The quiz will be incremental typically over the prior 2 weeks readings and lecture material</p> <p>Each quiz may include multiple choice, fill in the blank, matching and short answer questions.</p> <p><b>NOTE: Audit students are expected to participate in the Pop Quiz</b></p>	2@50 Pts (100 total)
6	<p>Exams</p> <p>There will be 2 one hour exams as indicated on the schedule. These exams will be incremental in nature.</p> <p>The first exam will cover class room lectures, notes, and course assignments from the beginning of class through session 4</p>	2@100 Pts (200 total)

	<p>The second exam will cover class room lectures, notes and course assignments from class session 5 through session 9.</p> <p>The Incremental Exams may include multiple choice, fill in the blank, matching, short answer and essay questions.</p> <p><b>NOTE: Audit students are expected to participate in the EXAMS</b></p>	
7	<p>Final</p> <p>There will be a two hour comprehensive exam at the conclusion of the course. It will be based on lectures, assigned course reading, memory work and related study material including any study sheets or instructor prepared notes.</p> <p>The Final Exam may include multiple choice, fill in the blank, short answer, and essay questions.</p> <p><b>Note: The Final Exam is optional for AUDIT Students.</b></p>	200 Pts
8	<p>Exegesis Project – Each student will select a topic / passage and prepare an exegetical paper based on it. Details for topics and detailed requirements will be given during Week 06</p> <p><b>Note: The Exegesis project is optional for AUDIT Students.</b></p>	150 Pts
Total Grade Points		1000 Pts

### COURSE GRADING SCALE:

F	D	C-	C	C+	B-	B	B+	A-	A
<= 59	60-69	70-72	73-78	79-80	81-83	84-88	89-91	92-94	95-100

### NOTES REGARDING GRADING:

- 1) Final Scores will not be rounded off, 90.99 will be a "B", etc.
- 2) Exams may be retaken if a failing grade is received. The two scores would then be averaged out and this could bring the students score up to a C. The student will need to take the initiative contacting the course instructor in order to retake a failed exam. Please note that other than the retaking of a failing exam there are no other make-ups or bonus options that will impact grading. Please do the assignments as noted in the Course Syllabus, and the various reading and memorization logs. In all cases it is the student's responsibility to arrange for an exam retake within a week of the return of a graded exam.

### ADDITIONAL COURSE POLICIES:

1. **ASSIGNMENTS ARE DUE** at the beginning of class on the assigned day. Assignments may either be submitted in paper form, or be eMailed to the instructor's eMail of record but it is the student's responsibility that the eMail arrives prior to the start of class and in a format readable by the instructor<sup>1</sup>. Unexcused late work will receive the reduction of one grade (or

<sup>1</sup> Preferred format is \*.doc; Also acceptable are \*.rtf, and \*.pdf

10%) for each day late, including Saturdays. Late work will only be accepted in the case of illness or emergency.

It is the student's responsibility to take the initiative to call and inform the professor **BEFORE** such a case exists. Arrangements will be made by the course instructor at that time as to when the work will be due because of the mitigating circumstances.

2. If necessary, the course instructor will dismiss any student from class for rude, interruptive or other inappropriate behavior (or dress). This includes sleeping in class or doing homework in class. If noted, the professor will ask the student to leave and the student will receive an absence for that class.
3. **ALL CELL PHONES**, pagers, or any other type of "attention getting devices" are to be turned off before the beginning of class to avoid interfering with class time. If it is critical that you be reached then make sure that your device(s) is(are) on a QUIET setting so that the rest of class is not disturbed.
4. **COMPUTER USAGE** during class to aid in note taking and interacting with the course material is encouraged. However this time is NOT to be used for email, chatting, blogging, surfing, gaming or any other activities which might interfere with others participating in class.
5. **STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:** Any student in this course who has a disability that might prevent him/her from fully demonstrating his/her abilities should meet with the Registrar as soon as possible to initiate disability verification and discuss accommodations that may be necessary to ensure your full participation in the successful completion of the course requirements
6. **WRITTEN DOCUMENT FORMATTING:** All written assignments are expected to conform to basic MLA standards. These can be summarized as:
  - a) Use one inch margins on all page borders.
  - b) Use 12pt Times New Roman for the page body font.
  - c) Use standard double spaced lines for all paragraphs.
  - d) Place the page number on every page in the header prefixed by the student's last name.
  - e) The first page of any written assignment should contain:  
Student Name and Student Email,  
The Instructors Name; The course ID and Course name,  
The Due Date for the assignment.
  - f) A basic MLA reference document is available on the course material website. The course website is: [http://csimonsen.org/bi\\_documents.php](http://csimonsen.org/bi_documents.php)
  - f) A Word format<sup>2</sup> and Acrobat Format "template" file will be available for anyone that would like to use it.

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<sup>2</sup> uSoft 2003 \*.doc

**CLASS SCHEDULE Bi203, Fall 2015 Thursday, 6:15pm to ~9:15pm**

Date	Lecture	In-Class Activity	Reading Assignment	Assignment(s) Due
W01 Sep 10	Class Introduction			
W02 Sep 17	Preparation for Witness		See Reading Log	Memorization #1
W03 Sep 24	Christian Community	Quiz 1	See Reading Log	Home Work #1
W04 Oct 01	Witness Beyond Jerusalem		See Reading Log	Memorization #2
W05 Oct 08	Conversion of Saul/Paul	Exam 1		Home Work #2
W06 Oct 15	Peter to the Gentiles		See Reading Log	
W07 Oct 22	Missionary Journey 1 Jerusalem Council		See Reading Log	Home Work #3
W08 Oct 29	Missionary Journey 2	Quiz 2	See Reading Log	Memorization #3
W09 Nov 05	Missionary Journey 3		See Reading Log	Home Work #4
W10 Nov 12	Arrested in Jerusalem	Exam 2		
Nov 19	Thanks Giving			
Nov 26	Break			
W11 Dec 03	Before the Sanhedrin Witness in Caesarea		See Reading Log	Exegesis Project
W12 Dec 10	Witness in Rome Class Review		See Reading Log	Memorization #4
W13 Dec 17		FINAL	Turn in Reading Log	Turn in Memorization Log

Note: Audit Students will only be expected to complete those In Class Activities and Assignments that are highlighted in **YELLOW**.  
Please review the Reading Log sheet for both Audit and Credit reading assignments  
The Exegesis Project will be assigned in Week 06.

Revision History:

- Rev 1.0, August 6, 2015 – Initial Release
- Rev 1.1, September 10, 2015 – Included Audit Student class requirements.