Inhabiting the Lives of the Early Christians: Text, Interpretation, Application
The Honors College, Florida International University
IDH 2003 – Fall 2015
Tuesdays & Thursdays: 8:00 – 9:15 AM

Classrooms and Professor Contacts

Ruben Garrote: Office hours by apt., DM 246; garroter@fiu.edu; (305) 348-1620
Janet McDaniel: Office hours by apt., DM 233; jmcdanie@fiu.edu; (305) 348-4100

Required Texts


ISBN 978-0-8423-1213-4


ISBN 978-0-310-28289-1

Additional Readings will be posted on Blackboard.

Attendance and Classroom Etiquette

Class attendance is an important component of your grade. You will be allowed one unexcused absence or one unexcused instance of tardiness, no questions asked, with no penalty. Note well: this is one absence OR one lateness, not one of each (the logical OR function, not the logical AND function). Any additional absence will incur a 12-point penalty per occurrence. Additional lateness occurrences are penalized as follows; 0-5 minutes = no penalty, 5-20 minutes = 6 points, >20 minutes = 12 points. If you notify your professor BEFORE class, these penalties may be excused for emergency situations at the discretion of the professor. If you do not notify the professor before class, there is no possibility of waiving the penalty. Since professors will only consider waving the penalty for extreme emergencies, we suggest that you save your one excused absence until the end of the semester.
The use of laptops, cellular phones, or any other device for voice or text communication is prohibited for the duration of the class. YOU MUST TURN OFF AND PUT AWAY ALL ELECTRONIC DEVICES AT THE BEGINNING OF CLASS (this includes Smart Watches).

Course Requirements
Please take the time to read through the description of each course requirement. (Percentage of the total grade for the semester is shown in parentheses.) If you have any questions, talk to us early in the semester.

**Quizzes (20% — 5% per quiz):** Quizzes will be taken during class with Blue Books. You will have 10 -15 min at the beginning of class to take the quizzes. Make-up quizzes will only be permissible with instructors’ permission. Make-ups will be a different, harder quiz and it will be your responsibility to make an appointment with either Professors Garrote or McDaniel. Please make every effort to write legibly. If we cannot read your handwriting, you will have to arrange a meeting and read your answers out-loud. Quizzes will cover content from the readings and in class lectures. You will be allowed to use your notes. No talking, computers, phones or open books will be allowed during the quizzes. Doing so will result in an F.

**In-Class Exercises (20%):** In class exercises will happen primarily on Greek language days. You will not be able to make these up if you miss.

**City as Text Group (40%):** The semester project will be an adaptation of “City as Text”. This exercise would normally involve students interacting in multiple ways with the space and inhabitants of a particular city in order to “read” it. In this course you will attempt this exercise in relation to an ancient city. In order to read it you will first have to “reconstruct” it by means of research and creative application of that research.

The assignment will have both a group (25%) and an individual (15%) component. Both groups and individuals will produce portfolios during their process of reading/reproduction, leading to the final presentation which will include material artifacts (maps, images, etc.) as well as an oral presentation.

Detailed instructions will be available on the Blackboard site. We will also take some time to discuss the assignment during class.

**Class Participation (20%):** Class participation means active participation. Merely showing up for attendance does not constitute an A in class participation. **Points will be deducted if you are engaged in work for another class while this class is in session.**

**Guidelines for Written Work**
All written work must consistently adhere to Kate L. Turabian's *Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, 8th ed. (i.e. with the *Chicago Manual of Style*). Students are advised to carefully proofread all papers before submitting them. All students are encouraged to take advantage of the University resources for writing to be found in the Center for Excellence in
Writing, a full-service writing center providing writing assistance and feedback to university students, from first year students to PhD candidates. Thus Center is particularly helpful to those seeking to polish their writing skills. Center offices are located in GL 120 (MMC), Glen Hubert Library, First Floor (BBC), and EC 2780 at the Engineering Center. For more information, go to http://writingcenter.fiu.edu/.

*Chicago Manual of Style*, 16th ed.:
https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/717/01/

Turabian, 8th ed.:
http://www.press.uchicago.edu/books/turabian/turabian_citationguide.html

**Format:** All written work must include your name, Panther ID number, course number and the name of the professor on the title page.

- Title Page Name
- Panther ID, course number, name of your professor
- Double spaced, 1-inch margins (top, bottom, left and right)
- 12 point font, Times New Roman

**Grading Scale**
Grades are based on accumulated points, 100 in total

- 93 – 100 A  74 – 76 C
- 91 – 92 A-  71 – 73 C-
- 87 – 90 B+  67 – 70 D+
- 84 – 86 B  64 – 66 D
- 81 – 83 B-  61 – 63 D-
- 77 – 80 C+  60 & below F

**Academic Misconduct Policy**
Registration in this course implies an acceptance of and compliance with the Honors College policies for students and the FIU Code of Academic Integrity. Please refer to the following documents for additional information:

- FIU Code of Academic Integrity: http://www.fiu.edu/~dwyere/academicintegrity.html
- FIU Honors College Student Handbook: http://honors.fiu.edu/handbook0910.html
- FIU Honors College Plagiarism Policy: http://honors.fiu.edu/current_policy_plagiarism.html
Honors Citizenship Requirements

Honors College students are required to accumulate at least **20 citizenship points** each academic year (Fall and Spring) by attending Honors College activities. Students attending only one semester (Fall or Spring) are required to accumulate **10 citizenship points**.

Each activity has a point value. Students may select which events and activities they want to attend. The new system is designed to be more flexible for students, offering events at various days and times (including some weekend events) and allowing for a variety of ways to meet the requirements. Please plan accordingly.

The **point value** of an event will be noted on emails and flyers when it is promoted. For a general breakdown, see the value table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Point Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Colloquium</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Club Meeting</td>
<td>1 (max of 3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honors Hour</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HEARTS Event (all types)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honors College Event – Honors Place</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honors College Night – Athletics</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (Specific HC Sponsored Event)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library Study Room (GL 310A) Visits</td>
<td>10 visits = 1 (max of 1)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Because of the added flexibility of the new system, all students must fulfill the annual requirement—no exceptions.

Students must arrive at the activities on time. After 10 minutes, they will be turned away at the door.

Students will track their points at [http://myhonors.fiu.edu](http://myhonors.fiu.edu). We encourage students to earn as many points as they can. At the end of each academic year, the top ten point earners will be recognized by appointment to the **Dean’s Citizenship List**.

**Volunteer Hours**: As always, Honors College students must also complete **20 volunteer service hours**. These hours DO NOT count toward the 20 citizenship points discussed above.

**Honors Hours**: Honors Hours provide informational sessions, social and entertainment opportunities, and workshops to expand your undergraduate experience. **Each Honors Hour session has a 2-point value**. For a full list of Honors Hours for the current semester, go to: [http://honors.fiu.edu/events/honorhours/](http://honors.fiu.edu/events/honorhours/).

If you have ideas for Honors Hours workshops you would like to see, email us at honors@fiu.edu.
Colloquia: Every semester we invite Honors College faculty fellows to give presentations on topics of interest. Each Colloquium has a 3-point value. For a full list of Colloquia for the current semester, go to http://honors.fiu.edu/events/.

Community Service (20 Hours of Community Service per Academic Year): An important part of being a member of the Honors College student is demonstrating leadership by serving the extended community. The Honors College service requirement is modest—at least 20 hours per academic year to a non-profit endeavor. There are many ways you can get involved—campus fundraising for non-profit organizations, volunteering for community projects, and so on.. If you’re not sure what to do, please contact the Coordinator of Student Programs at 305-348-4100. The Honors College has many community initiatives in which you can participate, particularly with the City of Sweetwater (e.g., tutoring, computer classes for the elderly, citizenship classes, etc).

Documenting your Community Service Hours: To document your community service hours, log on to the MyHonors website.

Student Portfolios

The Honors College will be using a portfolio method to assess students’ learning outcomes. The portfolio method allows for maximum flexibility in gauging student learning. You will decide (with instructor consultation) what “artifacts” or assignments to include for consideration in your portfolios to demonstrate successful achievement of each of the student learning outcomes.

Portfolios provide a rich context for students to show what they have learned and to explain their learning process. Because the Honors curriculum is meant to be thought-provoking and reflective, student self-assessment through portfolios will facilitate learning and provide in-depth assessment.

Each Honors College course includes at least one assignment that could potentially fit portfolio requirements.

General Learning Objectives

Evolution of Ideas: Throughout the semester, you will analyze the process of how ideas change, and evolve as they are transmitted through language, time (linear history) and space (cultural, economic, political, religious syncretism).

Evolution of Language: Throughout the semester, you will demonstrate an understanding of how language evolves focusing on the semantic range of individual words through time and space and its connectivity with the transmission of ideas.

Process of Effective Debate: Through classroom discussions and debates, you will engage in the process of effective, respectful debate in a manner that utilizes logical, evidence based arguments.

This course has been certified as meeting the university’s Global Learning requirement.
**Global Awareness:** Through your engagement in learning Greek and word studies, you will demonstrate knowledge of the interrelated dynamics (social-cultural, political, economic, etc.) that shape the diverse thinking of multiple figures in diverse cultural contexts.

**Global Perspective:** Through your engagement in the Text as City Project, you will be able to analyze the multiple causal forces that shape the perspectives of historical individuals — economic, political, sociological, technological, cultural, etc.

**Global Engagement:** Through your engagement in classroom debates, discussions and quizzes, you will demonstrate a willingness to engage in evidence-based negotiation in order to formulate a decision on source criticism.

**Global Learning Co-curricular Activity:** You will perform at least twenty hours of Community Service per academic year either through the Honors College service partnerships (Sweetwater, Overtown Youth Center, etc.) or through other community service projects and/or events. If you want to apply this service to your graduation portfolio, be sure to document your hours.

**Religious Observances**
Every effort will be made, where feasible and practical, to accommodate students whose religious practices coincide with class requirements or scheduling. Please make sure to notify your instructor at the beginning of the semester of which dates you will be absent or any anticipated problems with completing course work.

**Physical, Mental and Sensory Challenges**
Every effort will be made, where feasible and practical, to accommodate students who are so challenged. Should you require accommodations, contact the Disability Resource Center, if you have not done so already.

**Honors Education in the ARTS (HEARTS)**
The HEARTS program is designed to give Honors College students opportunities to “explore and appreciate different artistic and cultural traditions and modes of artistic expression. HEARTS will also serve as a clearinghouse (and curatorial framework) for our students to experience the arts on campus and in the community by providing them with information about cultural activities and access to performances with free or discounted tickets. See [http://honors.fiu.edu/hearts/](http://honors.fiu.edu/hearts/).
Class Schedule

8/25  Introduction.

8/27  Worldviews and presuppositions: How we approach texts.
  - “What Would it Look Like if You Knew a Little Greek?” pgs. xiii – xx, in *Greek For the Rest of Us*

9/1  Greek Lesson: *Greek For the Rest of Us*
  - “Week 1: Getting Acquainted with Greek” pgs. 1-9, 13-42.

9/3  Methodology
  - “The History of the Bible and Textual Criticism,” pgs. 251-268 in *Greek For the Rest of Us*

9/8  Feminist Approaches

9/10 Greek Lesson: *Greek for the Rest of Us*
  - “Week 2: The Building Blocks of Language.” pgs. 43-79.
  - **QUIZ 1**

9/15 In-Class Exercises: Texts and Reliability

9/17 Beginnings: Judaism

9/22 Beginnings: Neo-Platonism – Hellenism
  - Harris, Stephen L. “Chapter 4: The World of Greek Thought and Culture,” *The New Testament: A Student’s Introduction*

9/24 Beginnings: Music

9/29 Greek Lesson: *Greek For the Rest of Us*
• “Week 3: How Do We Modify Ideas?” pgs. 81-108

10/1 Beginnings: Interpreting Eve and Adam
• Genesis 1-3, English choice of translation and LXX
• “Eve in the New Testament,” in *Women in Scripture*

10/6 Rome and Judea
• Harris, Stephen L. “Chapter 5: The World of Roman Political Power.” *The New Testament: A Student’s Introduction*

10/8 Earliest Christianity – The First Century
• NT Selections: Matthew, John, Acts

10/13 Greek Lesson: *Greek For the Rest of Us*
• “Week 4: How Do We Describe Action?” pgs. 143-175
• QUIZ 2

10/15 Earliest Christianity: The First Century, Formation of the Church and Schools of Paul
• *Lost Christianities,* “Ch. 2 The Ancient Forgery of a Discovery,” pgs. 29-46
• Selections: Romans, 1 Corinthians, 1 & 2 Timothy

10/20 Writings Attributed to Thomas and Peter
• *Lost Christianities,* “Ch. 1 “The Ancient Discovery of a Forgery: Serapion and the Gospel of Peter” pgs. 13-28 and “Ch. 3 The Discovery of an Ancient Forgery: The Coptic Gospel of Thomas,” pgs. 47-65
• Selections from the actual texts?

10/22 Greek Lesson: *Greek For the Rest of Us*
• “Week 5: What Else is in a Verb?” pgs. 177-220

10/27 The Gospel of Thomas
• In Class Activity: Gospel of Thomas and Synoptic Parallels.
• *Greek NT a Must!*

10/29 Apostolic Fathers
• *1 Clement;* Ignatius of Antioch: *Romans, Smyrnaeans;* Hermas, *The Shepherd*

11/3 Apostolic Fathers
- Polycarp of Smyrna, *Philippians; Didache;* Justin, *First Apology* (excerpts)

11/5 Greek Lesson: *Greek For the Rest of Us*

- “Week 6: How Do We Describe Things?” pgs. 221-250
- **QUIZ 3**

11/10 Heresy and Orthodoxy

- *Lost Christianities,* Ch. 5 & 6 (Ebionites, Worlds of Gnosticism)

11/12 Second-Century Apologists


11/17 Heresy and Orthodoxy

- *Lost Christianities,* “Ch. 7 “On the Road to Nicea: The Broad Swath of Proto-Orthodox” pgs. 136-158, Part Three: “Winners and Losers,” and Ch 8 “The Quest for Orthodoxy,” pgs. 159-202

11/19 Heresy and Orthodoxy

- *Lost Christianities,* ” Ch. 9 10 – Arsenal of Conflicts and Polemics
- **QUIZ 4**

**THANKSGIVING BREAK**

12/1 Student Presentations

12/3 Student Presentations

12/7 Student Presentations