Introduction to the New Testament

Syllabus  Spring 2019  Mr. Hong

Course Description

This introductory course begins with a study of the arrangement of Bible books and the development of the Hebrew Bible and English Bibles. Students acquire skills in the use of Bible research and reference tools. The course focuses upon the books of the Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John), especially upon the stories, characters, plots, themes, etc. which inspire and influence art, literature, music, law, politics, etc. Students gain a familiarity with the influence of Biblical literature upon culture.

Bible Courses in Public Education

Teaching academic Bible courses in public education is a legal enterprise as ruled by the Supreme Court. In Abington Township v. Shempp, the Supreme Court stated “the Bible is worthy of study for its literary and historic qualities alone.” The court went on to say in Stone v. Graham that “the Bible may constitutionally be used in an appropriate study of history, civilization, ethics . . . and the like.”

Clearly it is quite evident that history, culture, literature, music, law, politics, and art have been so profoundly affected by Biblical influences that one could argue that without a general knowledge of Biblical literature, one is not educated at all.

Academic Expectations

Students are expected to stay awake, pay attention, participate in class and follow all classroom rules and CCS policies. Keeping a well-organized notebook is essential for academic success. All assignments (homework, class work, projects, papers, etc.) should be completed in a quality manner by the deadline. Work that is turned in past the due date will be given a 10% deduction for each school day it is late. Special circumstances should first be approved by the teacher and documented by the parent or guardian.

Students must make up all work missed during any absence from class. Students are responsible for obtaining missed assignments from the teacher upon their return to class. Students must speak with the teacher immediately if they do not understand a missed assignment or if they are concerned about meeting the deadline. Grades will be calculated according to the following weighted categories:

- Daily Work/Homework: 20%
- Notebook/Quizzes: 40%
- Tests/Projects: 40%

Materials/Supplies Needed

Each student will need a two-pocket folder, a Bible, loose-leaf notebook paper, pencils/pens and a highlighter.

Teacher Contact/Wish List

If you have questions, concerns, or information that you feel would be helpful for me to know, please leave a voicemail message at 704-260-6720 ext. 45108 or send an email to alex.hong@cabarrus.k12.nc.us. Our classroom needs include:

* 8.5 x 11 inch copy and print paper
* Boxes of Anti Bacterial Kleenex
* Anti-Bacterial Hand Sanitizer
**Class Expectations**

1) **Be Safe:** Follow all school and class rules. Be in your seat when the bell rings and maintain personal space.

2) **Be Responsible:** Bring materials to class daily. See me if you need help or have any issues. Stay awake, listen, and participate in class.

3) **Be Respectful** of both the teacher and your fellow students. Use respectful language and follow instructions the first time they are given. Raise your hand to speak.

**Consequences**

1st Offense: Redirection/teacher conference

2nd Offense: Teacher-assigned consequence that “fits the crime” (detention, sentences, etc.),

3rd Offense: Teacher-assigned consequence; Parent contact plus Minor referral

4th Offense +: Class consequence; Parent contact plus Minor/Major referral

Failure to complete a consequence (ex: not showing up for a detention, without prior rescheduling with the teacher) will result in higher consequence. Severe offenses may result in the maximum consequence, regardless of whether or not a warning was given.

**About the Bible Program**

The Bible Program at Northwest Cabarrus High School is entering its 38th year and these courses have been made possible through the generous support of community members, churches, and businesses. This valuable academic supplement to your child's education is offered completely free of any charge. Fundraising for the program is overseen by the Northwest Cabarrus Bible Teaching Association (NCBTA). NCBTA board members are volunteers from our community and all monies collected by the NCBTA go directly toward funding the Bible Program at NCHS. Donations are tax-deductible. In addition to receiving private donations, the NCBTA coordinates several fundraising opportunities each year. This semester you can help us in the following ways:

- **Come to our Charity Car Show:** March 30, 2019 at NCHS. This is a wonderful family event! We would love for you to join us as a car show entrant or as a spectator. We are also always looking for more sponsors. Please contact me for more info.

- **Support us by selecting the NCBTA as your charity on Amazon:** simply go to smile.amazon.com and choose the Northwest Cabarrus Bible Teaching Association as your charity of choice. Then, begin shopping at the smile.amazon.com page whenever you shop with Amazon and Amazon.com will make a small donation to the NCBTA with every purchase you make!

If you have any questions about the Bible Program, or would like to find out more about how you can be involved, please feel free to contact me. The mailing address for the NCBTA is: PO Box 3242, Concord, NC 28025.

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**Please complete and sign the following portion and return it to Mr. Hong.** Students should keep the syllabus in the front of their notebook.

I have read the Course Syllabus. I agree that all classroom policies and Cabarrus County Policies will be followed by the student named below. Date: __________

Print Student's first and last name: ________________________________________________________________

Student Signature: ____________________________________________________________________________

Print the name of the parent or guardian: __________________________________________________________

Parent/Guardian Signature: ____________________________________________________________________

Phone # of parent/guardian (Home) ___________________________ (Cell) _____________________________

E-mail address of parent: _______________________________________________________________________

If you are interested in receiving future email updates about the Bible Program, please initial here: _____

**BYOT Policy**

Cell phones, tablets, etc. should only be used for educational purposes and at the discretion of the teacher. *When students are allowed to use their BYOT, they should have them on their desk and in plain view.*

If a student is caught using their BYOT inappropriately, they will have the option of turning it in to Mr. Hong for the duration of class, or progress through class consequences.