DESCRIPTION:
The Gospel of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John are the earliest surviving accounts of the life and ministry of Jesus. We will approach the Gospels, thematically, that is taking a certain topic and comparing passages throughout the Gospel that relate to the same motif.

OBJECTIVES:
1. Explain the structure, main themes, literary characteristics and theological meaning of selected passages in the Gospels.
2. Demonstrate the capacity to move from technical knowledge to pastoral application.
3. Explore the historical, social, and religious backgrounds of the various texts.

COURSE FORMAT AND EVALUATION:
1. This course will combine lecture and class discussions. Discussions will be based on assigned readings.
2. Students are required to submit three written assignments:
   a. Students are required to write a two page ESSAY, double space (Times New Roman 12 pts font) on the below listed article answering the following questions:
      i. What is the author’s purpose in writing the article/chapter?
      ii. What new information have you learned that has helped you understand the biblical text better?
      iii. Has the author’s contributions challenged, clarified or enhanced previous knowledge of the biblical text?
      iv. Have you gained any spiritual insight into the understanding of God, his Word?


*This book may be found in the reference section of Beran library.
b. Students are required to write a reflection paper 4-5 pages long, based on a gospel passage exegete in class. See handout on how to actualize a text.

c. Final exam (June 13).

3. Late work will be accepted for a grade only if the professor grants an extension. Out of fairness to those who submit their work on time, late work will normally be docked 5 points per 24 hour period.

4. Audio Recording of the lecture is not allowed.

5. All written assignments must be submitted electronically by 11:59 pm on the due date to Turnitin. You must enroll on Turnitin by accessing their web site at www.turnitin.com and open an account. Your ClassID for the Gospels is 12733013 and the Enrollment Password is Mary. Please use your UST email address. All papers must be submitted on “Word” format.

6. The final grade will be computed as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Summary Essay</td>
<td>33.33%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reflection Paper</td>
<td>33.33%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>33.33%</td>
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</tbody>
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7. The letter grading scale is stipulated by the institutional catalogue and is summarized below. Definition of Grades:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>93-94</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
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<td>B</td>
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<td>D+</td>
<td>75-76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>69-74</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ETHICS OF AUTHORSHIP:
Especially when writing your paper, you are welcome to use any form of scientific literature relevant for the subject of your study. However, you are absolutely obliged to give the exact references when you use somebody else’s thoughts and arguments. Plagiarism (from the Latin word: plagiar – “kidnapping”: taking and using thoughts, writings and publications of another person as one’s own without naming the author or source) of any kind will not be tolerated. It will lead to nullification of your paper and bring down your overall course grade significantly.
REQUIRED TEXT:

RECOMMENDED TEXTS:

COURSE OUTLINE:
We meet on May 23, 24, 25, 26, 31 and June 1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 9, 13 from 7-9:45 p.m. in Nold 204.

THEMES AND PASSAGES TO BE COVERED IN CLASS:

1. **May 23: Overview of Salvation History:**
   - The different Covenant and their Canonical Meaning *(see handout)*

2. **May 24: Jesus, the Christ**

3. **May 25: Jesus as Son of God**
     - Jesus and the Samaritan Woman (Jn 4:4-42).
     - “All real life is encounter” (Martin Buber).

4. **May 26: The Kingdom of God is at Hand**
   - The Seed Growing Secretly: Mk 4:26-29 [Healy, 90-34]
   - The Mustard Seed: Mk 4:30-34
   - The Breath of the Kingdom: Lk 13:18-19
   - The Hidden Treasure: Mt 13:44
   - The Pearl of Great Price: Mt 13:45-46
5. **May 31: On Baptism and Temptation**

- Why was Jesus baptized?, Mk 1:9-11; Mt 3:13-17; Lk 3:21-22; [Brown, pp. 338-39; Healy, 34-37].
- The Temptation of Jesus: (Mk 1:12-13; Mt 4:1-11; Lk 4:1-13), [Healy, pp. 37-39].

6. **June 1: Jesus’ Teaching of Discipleship**

- The different elements of discipleship: Mk 1:16-20; Mt 4:18-22; Mt 8:18-22; Lk 5:1-11; Jn 1:35-51; 13:1-17 [Brown, pp. 351-52; Healy, pp. 42-44.]

7. **June 2: Mary’s Role in the Church**

- Mary’s Discipleship: Lk 26:28;
- Mary at the Wedding of Cana: Jn 2:1-11
- Mary as a symbol of the Church: Jn 19:25-30

8. **June 6: Eucharistic Allusion**

- The Feeding of the Five Thousand: Mk 6:35-44; 8:1-10; Mt 14:13-21; Lk 9:10-17; Jn 6:1-15), [Healy, pp. 126-129].
- The bread of life discourse: Jn 6:22-41

9. **June 7: On Prayer**

- The Parable of the Persistent Widow: Lk 18:1-8
- The Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector: Lk 18:9-14
- Ask, Seek and Knock: Mat 7:7-12

10. **June 8: The Son of Man Must Suffer and Be Raised**

- Suffering, betrayal and death: Mk 15:16:1-8, [Healy, pp. 313-335].

11. **June 9: Con’t, The Son of Man Must Suffer and Be Raised**


12. **June 13: Final Exam**