THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA
SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES

TRS 811A The Gospel According to Matthew
Fall 2013

Credit Hours: 3
Prerequisite: Biblical Greek; either German or French

Classroom: Caldwell 432
Days and Times: Th 9:40 am – 12:10 pm

Professor Contact information
Dr Ian Boxall
Caldwell 437
Phone: 202-319-6449
E-mail: boxall@cua.edu
Office Hours: by email appointment

Course Description
Initial sessions will be devoted to introductory issues in recent Matthean scholarship, followed by analysis of specific passages and themes from the Gospel conducted by the professor with the active participation of the students. After these initial sessions, each student will present a paper.

Instructional Methods
Short lecture and seminar.
Blackboard: relevant material will be posted on Blackboard.

Required Texts (copies are on reserve in the Library)


Libraries
The CUA Libraries' wide range of resources and services, including databases, online journals,
and FAQs are on the main web site. For assistance on papers and assignments, consult the research guides or schedule an appointment with a subject librarian.

Course Goals

The goals of this seminar are to introduce doctoral students to: (1) the contemporary scholarly discussion of the Gospel of Matthew, (2) exegetical method based on the Greek text of the Gospel of Matthew, and (3) the nature and method of doctoral research.

Goals for Student Learning

At the conclusion of the course students will be able to:
- situate the Gospel of Matthew against its historical background, and in relation to the other canonical gospels;
- distinguish Matthean theological themes;
- appreciate the diversity of interpretations of Matthew, including in the Gospel’s wider reception history;
- work with specialized exegetical tools and know where to find them;
- read and critically evaluate scholarly articles on issues of Matthean scholarship.

Course Requirements

Students will be required to:
- Prepare reading assignments, translations and other material for class analysis and discussion;
- Participate actively in the class sessions;
- Prepare an seminar paper on a chosen passage or topic from Matthew, and deliver a version of this to the seminar;
- Prepare a written summary of the required books listed on the STL, MA or PhD comps list.

Assignments

Seminar Paper:

Text Selection: select the topic or textual passage that you will work on for your paper (if a passage, then this should be a short pericope of approximately 5-10 verses), in consultation with the professor. NB each student must choose a different topic or passage, so these will be assigned on a first-come, first served basis. Post your choice on the Discussion Board in Blackboard. Deadline: Sept 12.

Bibliographical Research: assemble as comprehensive a scholarly bibliography as you can on your chosen topic or passage, including major commentaries, monographs/books, and articles (including works in French and/or German). Bibliographical resources include the bibliography provided here and in the main commentaries on Matthew, New Testament Abstracts, and the various library search tools. Be consistent in bibliographical style: use either the CBQ style or The SBL Handbook of Style. Please submit a draft by email to the professor. Deadline: noon on Oct 3.

Paper for Seminar Presentation: this should be 20-25 pages long, including footnotes and bibliography (12-point font, double-spaced; Greek font should be used rather than transliterated Greek). Whether this is topic-based or exegetical, you should ensure that it is a thesis-driven
paper, with a clear introduction and conclusion. Please post your paper as a Word document on Blackboard and email it to all seminar participants by the Thursday before you are due to present it to the seminar. All students should read and post a critique of it before the presentation. Final version: the final version of the paper, revised in the light of peer critique, must be posted on Blackboard by noon on Tuesday December 10.

Summary of books on Comps List:
Prepare a 5-7 page written summary of the following books from the comps lists, concluding with a reflection on how the approach of each book affects the interpretation of Matthew’s Gospel (copies are on reserve in the Library):


This should be emailed as a Word document to the professor, and will provide the basis for the seminar discussion in the final week. Deadline: noon on Friday November 15th.

Expectations and policies

Attendance: Students are expected to prepare for, attend, and actively participate in every seminar session. Students are expected to come to class on time, out of respect for other participants in the seminar. One absence per semester may be permitted for exceptional circumstances.

Academic honesty: Academic honesty is expected of all CUA students. Faculty are required to initiate the imposition of sanctions when they find violations of academic honesty, such as plagiarism, improper use of a student’s own work, cheating, and fabrication. The following sanctions are presented in the University procedures related to Student Academic Dishonesty (from http://policies.cua.edu/academicundergrad/integrityprocedures.cfm): “The presumed sanction for undergraduate students for academic dishonesty will be failure for the course. There may be circumstances, however, where, perhaps because of an undergraduate student’s past record, a more serious sanction, such as suspension or expulsion, would be appropriate. In the context of graduate studies, the expectations for academic honesty are greater, and therefore the presumed sanction for dishonesty is likely to be more severe, e.g., expulsion. ...In the more unusual case, mitigating circumstances may exist that would warrant a lesser sanction than the presumed sanction.”

Please review the complete texts of the University policy and procedures regarding Student Academic Dishonesty, including requirements for appeals, at http://policies.cua.edu/academicundergrad/integrityfull.cfm and http://policies.cua.edu/academicundergrad/integrityprocedures.cfm.
Accommodations for students with disabilities: Any student who feels s/he may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the instructor privately to discuss specific needs. Please contact Disability Support (dss.cua.edu) to coordinate reasonable accommodations for students with documented disabilities.

Academic Support Services
The university’s primary academic support resources are located on the 2nd floor of the Pryzbyla Center. These affiliated offices and services include:

The Undergraduate Advising Center offers guidance to all undergraduates, especially first-year students, as they move toward their academic goals.
**Phone:** (202) 319-5545  **Email:** cua-advising@cua.edu  **Web:** advising.cua.edu

The Center for Academic Success provides academic support services for all students through a broad base of programs and services, including Tutoring Services, Workshops, Academic Coaching, Individual Skills Meetings, Peer Mentoring, and more.
**Phone:** (202) 319-5655  **Email:** cua-academicsuccess@cua.edu  **Web:** success.cua.edu

The Writing Center provides free, one-on-one consultations with trained graduate instructors for writing projects across all disciplines at any stage of the process, from brainstorming to revising. Appointments in the main location, 202 Pryz, can be scheduled in advance online (http://english.cua.edu/wc/). Drop-in appointments are also welcome based on availability in the Pryz and at the satellite location in the Mullen Library Lobby (see website for days and hours).
**Phone:** (202) 319-4286  **Email:** cua-writingcenter@cua.edu  **Web:** english.cua.edu/wc/

Disability Support Services provides programs and services designed to support and encourage the integration of students with disabilities into the mainstream of the university community.
**Phone:** (202) 319-5211  **Email:** cua-disabilityservices@cua.edu  **Web:** dss.cua.edu

The Counseling Center provides free individual and group counseling services, psychiatric consultation, alternative testing, and emergency services to CUA students. In addition, we provide consultation services and outreach programs to the CUA community. Appointments can be scheduled in person in 127 O’Boyle Hall, or by phone.
**Phone:** (202) 319-5765.  **Web:** counseling.cua.edu

Assessment
The final grade will be awarded as follows:
- Seminar paper: 40%
- Class attendance and overall participation in discussions: 20%
- Blackboard comments on seminar papers of peers: 20%
- Summary of books on comps list: 20%

University grades: The University grading system is available at http://policies.cua.edu/academicgrad//gradesfull.cfm#iii for graduate students.
Reports of grades in courses are available at the end of each term on [http://cardinalstation.cua.edu](http://cardinalstation.cua.edu).

### Course Schedule

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<tr>
<th>Week 1 (Aug 29th): General Introduction</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 2 (Sept 5th): Author, Implied Audience(s), Date, Place of Origin</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Reading:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Davies and Allison vol. 1, pp. 7-58, 127-147.</td>
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<th>Week 3 (Sept 12th): Matthew and the Synoptic Problem</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Reading:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<th>Week 4 (Sept 19th): The ‘Infancy Narrative’</th>
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<tr>
<td>Prepare the text of Matt 1–2 (and consult Metzger pp. 1-9).</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Reading:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<th>Week 5 (Sept 26th): Sermon on the Mount</th>
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<tr>
<td>Prepare the text of Matt 5–7 (and consult Metzger pp. 12-20)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Reading:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<th>Week 6 (Oct 3rd): The Miracles Narrative</th>
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<tr>
<td>Prepare the text of Matt 8–9 (and consult Metzger pp. 20-25)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Reading:</strong></td>
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**Week 7 (Oct 10th): The Characterization of Peter in Matthew**

Prepare the text of Matt 16 (see especially Aland §§158-159).

*Reading:*


J.D. Kingsbury, ‘The Figure of Peter in Matthew’s Gospel as a Theological Problem,’ JBL 98 (1979) 67-83.

**Week 8 (Oct 17th): The Passion Narrative**

Prepare the text of Matt 26–27 (Aland §§305ff., and consult Metzger pp. 64-71).

*Reading:*


**Week 9 (Oct 24th): Seminar Paper Presentations**

**Week 10 (Oct 31st): Seminar Paper Presentations**

**Week 11 (Nov 7th): Seminar Paper Presentations**

**Week 12 (Nov 14th): Seminar Paper Presentations**

**Week 13 (Nov 21st): Seminar Paper Presentations**

**Week 14 (Nov 28th): THANKSGIVING: NO SEMINAR**

**Week 15 (Dec 5th): Discussion of Reading from Comps List.**

**Supplementary Bibliography**

*Additional Recommended Commentaries*


**Pre-Critical Commentaries**


**Surveys of Matthean Scholarship**


