Unit Code

B7368

Unit Name

Johannine Literature

Unit Weighting

9 cps

Type of Unit

Specialised unit

Prerequisites, corequisites or exclusions

18 B cpts

Academic Staff

Margaret Beirne BA(UNE 1973), MA (BC 1978), BD (MCD 1984), MEd (UNSW 1986), DTheol (MCD 2000), MACE. The faculty register lists all faculty accredited to teach this course unit.

Curriculum Objectives

This course unit builds upon the knowledge and skills learned in the pre-requisite units. It examines the historical context, literary forms and theological content of the Gospel and Letters of John, and their application to a range of spiritual and pastoral concerns.

Learning Outcomes

At the end of this unit, students will be able to:

- 1. assess the historical, cultural and religious background of the Johannine community
- 2. identify the principal literary forms in the Gospel and letters of John and show how they communicate their theological content
- 3. demonstrate well-developed critical exegetical skills in written essays on selected passages from the Fourth Gospel
- 4. integrate significant secondary literature into critical studies of the Johannine corpus
- 5. apply insights gained from the Johannine Literature to contemporary Christian preaching, teaching and spirituality

Content

- 1. Introduction: issues of authorship, date, relationship of the Gospel with the Synoptics
- 2. History and religious perspective of the Johannine community especially as reflected in the Johannine epistles.
- 3. Distinctive literary style, imagery and narrative features of the Fourth Gospel
- 4. Key theological themes of the Johannine tradition
- 5. Exegesis of selected passages from the Fourth Gospel

Teaching Methods

Lectures, tutorials, field work, student presentations, seminars - in class and/or online

Assessment Profile

- 1. Critical book review that might be linked to class or online discussion [Outcomes 1, 2, 5]
- 2. Written exegetical essay on a selected passage from the Fourth Gospel using accepted methodology. [Outcomes 2, 3, 4]
- 3. Formal written essay on either a key theological theme or critical issue related to the Johannine literature. [Outcomes 1, 2, 4, 5]

Representative References

- Ashton, John. *Understanding the Fourth Gospel*. 2nd ed. Oxford: OUP, 2007.
- Beirne, Margaret M. Women and Men in the Fourth Gospel: A Genuine Discipleship of Equals JSNT series. London: Sheffield Academic Press, 2003.
- Brown, Raymond E. *An Introduction to the Gospel of John.* Ed. F.J. Moloney. New York: Doubleday, 2003.
- Culpepper, R. Alan. The Gospel and Letters of John. Nashville: Abingdon, 1998.
- Keener, Craig S. *The Gospel of John: a Commentary*. Peabody Mass: Hendrickson Publishers, 2003.
- Kysar, Robert. The Maverick Gospel. 3rd ed. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2007.
- Lieu, Judith. I, II, III John: a commentary. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2008.
- Michaels, J.R. The Gospel of John. Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans, 2010.
- Moloney, Francis J. *The Gospel of John*. Rev. ed. Sacra Pagina series. Collegeville: Liturgical Press, 2005.
- Painter, John. 1, 2 and 3 John. Sacra Pagina series. Collegeville: Liturgical Press, 2002.
- Schnackenburg, Rudolph. The Gospel according to St John. 3 vols. New York: Crossroad, 1968-82.
- Talbert, C.H., Reading John: A Literary and Theological commentary on the Fourth Gospel and the Johannine Epistles. Rev. ed. Macon, Ga: Smyth & Helwys, 2005.
- Von Wahlde, Urban C. A Commentary on the Gospel and Letters of John. Grand Rapids: Wm B. Eerdmans, 2010