



# NT209 The Gospel of Matthew

Prof Craig Blomberg | 1.5CR

## About the Course

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The Gospel of Matthew was the most popular of all four New Testament Gospels in the early church, to a large degree because of its practical ethical teaching in a very unethical world. It can still serve the same purpose in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. This course works through Matthew, chapter-by-chapter, highlighting its most important teachings, exploring its structure, focusing on key interpretive controversies, and examining its distinctive contributions to the canon of Scripture, all with a view to how practical Christian obedience can make a difference in our world today.

<b>Credits</b> 1.5CR	<b>Fees*</b> S\$225(Credit) S\$120 (Audit)
<b>Class Format</b> Online	* Alumni are entitled to 10% discount on audit course(s)

## About the Lecturer

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**Prof Craig Blomberg** is distinguished professor of the New Testament at Denver Seminary, where he has been teaching since 1986. He has authored, co-authored, and edited numerous books and articles, including full-length commentaries on Matthew, 1 Corinthians, and James; and has been on translation committees for several Bible translations, especially for the New International Version. Topics of interest in his writings include the historical reliability of the Scriptures, wealth and poverty, hermeneutics, and the parables of Jesus.



## Course Objectives

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Upon completion of the course, it is hoped that the student will:

- Recognise the dominant and distinctive themes of the Gospel of Matthew
- Understand its overall structure
- Assess the strengths and weaknesses of various positions within select interpretive controversies
- Apply the Gospel to 21<sup>st</sup> century Christian living

# Course Outline & Resources

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## VIDEO LECTURES & ACTIVITIES

For each topic, the relevant video lectures can be accessed through the video links provided on the course Moodle site. At the end of each set of video lectures, the necessary lecture MCQ and review questions should be answered before proceeding to the next topic.

## REQUIRED READING

All required readings are from Jeannine K. Brown, *Matthew* [Teach the Text Commentary Series], Grand Rapids: Baker, 2015. Please see the Course Bibliography below for more details.

S/N	Lecture Topic	Activities	Required Reading
1	Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Matthew in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Centuries (Parts I-II)</li> <li>Introduction to Matthew (Parts I-II)</li> </ul>	Lecture 1 MCQ Questions  Review Exercise 1	Brown, <i>Matthew</i> , pp. 1-9  'Matthew in the Early Church' (available in PDF on the course Moodle site)
2	Matthew 1-5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Matthew 1-2 (Parts I-III)</li> <li>Matthew 3:1-5:16 (Parts I-V)</li> </ul>	Lecture 2 MCQ Questions	Brown, <i>Matthew</i> , pp. 10-57
3	Matthew 5-9 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Matthew 5:17-7:29 (Parts I-VI)</li> <li>Matthew 8-9 (Parts I-V)</li> </ul>	Lecture 3 MCQ Questions  Review Exercise 2	Brown, <i>Matthew</i> , pp. 58-105
4	Matthew 10-12 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Matthew 10-12 (Parts I-III)</li> <li>Matthew 12-13 (Parts I-III)</li> </ul>	Lecture 4 MCQ Questions	Brown, <i>Matthew</i> , pp. 106-147
5	Matthew 13-16 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Matthew 12-13 (Parts IV-VI)</li> <li>Matthew 13:52-16:20 (Parts I-III)</li> </ul>	Lecture 5 MCQ Questions	Brown, <i>Matthew</i> , pp. 148-189

6	Matthew 17-21 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Matthew 17-18 (Parts I-IV)</li> <li>• Matthew 19-21 (Parts I-IV)</li> </ul>	Lecture 6 MCQ Questions  Review Exercise 3	Brown, <i>Matthew</i> , pp. 190-249
7	Matthew 22-26 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Matthew 22-24 (Parts I-III)</li> <li>• <b>Matthew 24-26 (Lecture slides only)</b></li> </ul>	Lecture 7 MCQ Questions	Brown, <i>Matthew</i> , pp. 250-291
8	Matthew 26-28, Conclusion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Matthew 26-28 (Part I)</li> <li>• Matthew 28 (Part I)</li> </ul>	Lecture 8 MCQ Questions  Review Exercise 4	Brown, <i>Matthew</i> , pp. 292-322

## Course Requirements

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1. **Video lecture MCQ questions:** Complete all video lecture MCQ questions.
2. **Review Exercises:** Complete four review exercises, each 100-150 words, based on Lectures 1, 3, 6 and 8. Responses should be submitted online via Moodle.
3. **Personal reflection essay:** Comment, in a 500-word essay, on a theological or ethical topic within Matthew that you find challenging to believe in and/or obey. Itemise one challenging passage, theme or command, explain why it is particularly difficult, and sketch out a brief strategy for addressing the problem so that the student will find the topic easier to accept and apply in today's context. No citations and/or bibliography will be needed for this essay.
4. **Commentary essay:** This 2000-word essay is to be written in the form of a commentary on a specific passage of Matthew agreed upon between the student and the tutor. As a guide, the passage should be around 10-20 verses in length, and certainly no longer than half a chapter. The essay will contain an introduction of no more than 200 words that will explain the overall significance of the passage chosen. Approximately 1500 words should be written in commentary style proceeding sequentially through the passage, verse-by-verse or section-by-section, commenting on the most important details within the text in light of the student's reading of as broad a cross-section of other commentaries and scholarly resources possible. A conclusion of around 300 words will reflect on contemporary application to 21<sup>st</sup> century Christian living in Singapore (or wherever the student is currently living). Citations (footnotes) and a bibliography are expected for this essay.

Refer to the 'Supplementary Instructions and Examples for Writing Assignments for NT209' (available on Moodle) for more detailed instructions and samples for the 2000-word commentary essay and 500-word personal reflection essay.

## ASSIGNMENTS BREAKDOWN

S/N	Assignments	Grade Percentage
1	Video Lecture MCQ Questions	10%
2	Review Exercises	20%
3	Personal Reflection Essay	20%
4	Commentary Essay	50%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

## GUIDELINES FOR ESSAY-WRITING

1. The paper must reflect graduate-level research skills. There must be a minimum of five sources in your bibliography (not including the Bible).
2. The paper must reflect academic integrity in that due credit must be given to every source quoted or used. Footnotes should be used to document the sources. Every source cited should also appear in the bibliography. Please abide by the Turabian or Chicago Style for all your footnoting and bibliography.
3. The paper must reflect a good command of English and organisation of thought. Writing must be concise and clear. Please proof-read your paper before submitting it.
4. The paper must reflect the customary hallmarks of academic writing: treat those who hold different opinions from you with respect, and avoid colloquialisms and slang.

## COURSE ASSIGNMENT POLICIES

1. For **style and formatting** of assignments, please refer to the section on “General Formatting for all Assignments” available on the BGST Online Student Manual.
2. ALL assignments are to be submitted by uploading via Moodle. Alternatively, assignments can be sent via email to [assignments@bgst.edu.sg](mailto:assignments@bgst.edu.sg) without the need to cc. the lecturer (**unless requested by the lecturer**).
3. Students must submit all their assignments **6 months** after the course registration date

Students are advised that BGST **strongly discourages plagiarism**. For more information on this point (what plagiarism is, how BGST penalises it), please consult the BGST ‘Guidelines for Academic Papers’.

# Course Bibliography

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## REQUIRED READINGS

*Highly recommended readings are marked with \**  
*Books available on BGST Overdrive are marked with #*

### Core Text

\*\* Jeannine K. Brown, *Matthew* [Teach the Text Commentary Series]. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2015.

## RECOMMENDED READINGS

Commentaries in the first section below are the most detailed and comment directly on the Greek text. But they also have a wealth of information accessible to all readers. The second section of commentaries reflect on the English text but in full knowledge of the Greek. They are a little briefer but still reasonably thorough. The commentaries in the third section are the shortest and tend to have more by way of exposition and application. Their comments on the original meaning of the text are typically very helpful but they don't address nearly as many questions as the works in the other two categories do.

Davies, W. D. and Dale C. Allison, Jr. *A Critical and Exegetical Commentary on the Gospel according to St. Matthew*, 3 vols. (ICC, rev.). Edinburgh: T & T Clark, 1988-97.

\*Hagner, Donald A. *Matthew*, 2 vols. (WBC). Dallas: Word, 1993-95.

Luz, Ulrich. *Matthew*, 3 vols. (Hermeneia). Minneapolis: Fortress, 2001-7.

Nolland, John. *The Gospel of Matthew* (NIGTC). Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2005.

\*Osborne, Grant R. *Matthew* (ZECNT). Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2010.

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Blomberg, Craig L. *Matthew* (NAC). Nashville: Broadman, 1992.

\*Carson, D. A. "Matthew," in EBC, rev., vol. 9, 23-670. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2010.

Evans, Craig A. *Matthew* (NCBC). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2012.

#France, R. T. *The Gospel of Matthew* (NICNT). Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2007.

\*Keener, Craig S. *The Gospel of Matthew: A Socio-Rhetorical Commentary*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2009.

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\*\*Brown, Jeannine K. *Matthew* (TTC). Grand Rapids: Baker, 2015.

Keener, Craig S. *Matthew* (NTC). Downers Grove: IVP, 1997.

\*Wilkins, Michael J. *Matthew* (NIVAC). Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2004.

Witherington, Ben III. *Matthew* (SHBC). Macon: Smyth & Helwys, 2006.