

SYLLABUS FOR REL 212 NEW TESTAMENT II  
SUMMER 2017 SEMESTER (MAY 18-AUGUST 24)

LOCATION Lowell Building Young Women's Room, 421 Princeton Blvd., Lowell MA

TIME Weekly on Thursdays 7:00 – 8:20 pm

INSTRUCTOR Tona Hangen, email: [tonahangen6@gmail.com](mailto:tonahangen6@gmail.com) / cell+text (508) 479-2043



COURSE CREDIT To receive credit for the course, you must fulfill the following requirements:

1. Attend at least 75% of classes (this equates to no more than 3 absences; makeups are possible)
2. Complete the assigned reading and turn in completed reading log by the last day of class
3. Complete one of the three options for Elevate Learning Experiences (ELEs) described below. You will get the most out of your ELE if you start early, work on it regularly, seek feedback, and share your experiences as you progress. I am happy to meet / talk with you about this, at any point in the term.

- a. Option 1 – Complete **three Thought Papers**. They are due by the last day of the semester (August 24). Please use the following prompts to complete your thought papers – they can be submitted in any order and at any time during the summer.

**Talk** – Prepare a 5-8 minute talk (approx 3 - 4 pages) on what Latter-day Saints can learn from early Saints. In what ways, using the phrasing of Article of Faith 6, do “we believe in the same organization [or doctrines, or practices] that existed in the primitive church”? You do not have to give this talk in class, but I’m sure you will have a chance to use it in the future, so hang onto it!

**Essay** – Choose one of the epistles, or one of the stories in Acts, or a specific person named in the New Testament from Acts to Revelation, or one of the doctrines explored in the second half of the New Testament, and write an essay exploring text, historical context, doctrine, and/or relevance to your life. You must cite at least two references besides the scriptures. Appropriate references include general conference addresses or Church magazine articles, LDS Gospel Topics essays, scripture study aids, and reputable books/articles written by scholars. Minimum 3 pages.

**Reflection** – Write an essay titled “Why I am a Christian.” Answer these questions: What does it mean to be a Christian? Why do I believe and follow Jesus Christ? What is the relationship between faith, works, and grace in my own spiritual life? Minimum 2 pages.

- b. Option 2 – Keep a **Course Study Journal** (paper or electronic) where you regularly record what you have learned, how you have applied it, and how it has increased your faith in Jesus Christ. Obviously for privacy reasons I won’t read this journal, but you should find a way to show me that you are keeping it regularly throughout the term.

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- c. Plan and complete a **Personal Learning Project** that focuses on doctrines and principles from the course, evidence of your learning and application, and a brief summary of how your faith in Jesus Christ and the restored gospel has increased. The project should be substantive and personally meaningful – one idea is to teach part of one of our weekly lessons, for example.

PLEASE BRING TO CLASS EACH WEEK Scriptures and something to write with. Optional: notebook

WEEKLY LESSON AND READING LOG

	Date	Lesson(s)	Reading	Done?
1	May 18	29-30 Birth of a Church	Acts 1-7	
2	May 25	31-32 "Teach and Baptize Every Nation"	Acts 8-15	
3	June 1	33-34 The Ministry of Paul	Acts 16-28	
4	June 8	35-36 "The Power of God Unto Salvation"	Romans 1-7	
5	June 15	36-37 "Nothing Shall Separate Us From the Love of God"	Romans 8-16	
6	June 22	38-40 Saints, Spiritual Gifts, and Charity	1 Corinthians	
7	June 29	41-42 "Ye Are Our Epistle Written in Our Hearts"	2 Corinthians	
8	July 6	43 Justified by Faith	Galatians	
9	July 13	44-45 "No More Strangers and Foreigners" / Armor of God / the Peace of God	Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians	
10	July 20	46-47 "Children of Light" / Pastoral Epistles	Thessalonians, 1 and 2 Timothy, Titus, Philemon	
11	July 27	48-49 "Come Boldly to the Throne of Grace"	Hebrews	
12	Aug 3	50-51 How to Live the Gospel / A Chosen Generation	James / 1 and 2 Peter	
13	Aug 10	52 The Winds of Apostasy	1, 2, 3 John / Jude	
14	Aug 17	53-54 On the Isle of Patmos	Revelation 1-11	
15	Aug 24	55-56 The Last Days, in First Century Perspective	Revelation 12-22	
*	Aug 24	<i>Reading Log Due / Final Deadline for All Assignments for Course Credit</i>		
*	Aug 31	No class- semester break... Fall semester begins on Sept 7		

MANUAL AND STUDENT READINGS

REL 211-212 Student Manual <https://www.lds.org/manual/new-testament-student-manual?lang=eng>