



## **Course Introduction**

There is a lot of information and ideas out there about Jesus. Type in “Jesus” into any search engine and you will get not only a large *quantity* of hits, but you will get a large *variety* as well. Sorting through all of that to decipher who Jesus really was and what he stood for, believed in, and did can be daunting. More personally, answering the question: “What do I believe about Jesus?” can be even more complex and overwhelming.

In the Bible, that complexity is revealed in 4 different accounts from 4 different people in 4 different socio-cultural situations. These gospels offer us a kind of map to guide our thinking about Jesus. They are the way to wrap our minds around this interesting person who claimed to be the way to God.

Reading these gospels will help us enjoy and appreciate the wonderful personality, mission, identity, and heart of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

## **Course Description**

This course includes 5 modules; each designed to move you closer to a deeper understanding of Jesus as revealed in the Gospels. The first two will provide a background for understanding Jesus. They will consider the Gospels themselves (what kind of books are these?) and the Incarnation (what does it mean that God came to us in Jesus?). Then in the next three units we will look at what Jesus and Kingdom of God, the significance of Jesus’ death and resurrection, and what discipleship means and how it works in the gospels. Through all of this, you will also be provided with a space to consider your own beliefs about Jesus.

This is a 1 semester course consisting of 5 units. Upon successful completion students will receive 0.5 credit towards high school graduation.

## **Course Overview**

- The Four Gospels: Accessing Jesus’ Story
- The Incarnation- Jesus: The God-Man
- Jesus’ Ministry and the Kingdom of God
- The Cross and Resurrection
- Disciples of Jesus

## **Course Outcomes**

As a result of this course, the student should:

1. Know what the majority of what the Gospels say
2. Identify key people, themes, and happenings in the Gospels, especially the Kingdom of God
3. Understand what the Gospels reveal about Jesus' character and purpose
4. Become a more critical thinker as you engage with the Gospels
5. See the relevance of the Jesus in contemporary thought
6. Meaningfully converse with others about Jesus and the Gospels
7. See Jesus' salvation as part of God's full salvation story in the Bible
8. Begin to develop an idea of what it means to be a follower of Jesus then and today

### Required Course Materials

Please access the list of course materials from the OC Online book ordering system and order your materials as soon as possible. Oftentimes, course materials are on back order and you may experience a delay in receiving them, causing students to fall behind in their online coursework. When ordering used or rented materials, be careful that online access codes are also current.

### Methods of Evaluation

In this course you will be evaluated by your depth of response to essays, reflections, discussions, assessments, projects and virtual conversations with other classmates. There are no objective exams (multiple choice, true false, etc).

Since each assignment has different criteria and various point values, the teacher will score the essays and responses based on the following percentages:

<b>Content</b>	
<b>Criteria:</b>	<b>Total Points Possible</b>
Questions Answered thoroughly, thoughtfully, analytically, meaningfully, and creatively	95%
Response is well-constructed, grammatically correct, and uses proper English	5%
<b>Total Points</b>	<b>100%</b>