

Note:

COURSE CONTENT MAY BE CHANGED, TERM TO TERM, WITHOUT NOTICE. THE INFORMATION BELOW IS PROVIDED AS A GUIDE FOR COURSE SELECTION AND IS NOT BINDING IN ANY FORM.

MOODY DISTANCE LEARNING

Course Number, Name, and Credit Hours

BI-2214 Acts, 3 credit hours

Course Description

Examines Acts to understand the birth and growth of the church under the sovereign direction of the resurrected Christ. The emphasis in the course is on understanding the purpose of the book with special consideration given to the literary structure of the book, problem passages, church growth, and personal application.

Prerequisites: *None*

Course Goals

In this course you will:

- Become familiar with the content of the book of Acts
- Understand the author's intention and purpose for the book
- Work with the literary structure of the book
- Evaluate their own lives and ministry involvement according to the teaching of the book

Course Objectives

By the completion of this course you should be able to:

1. Identify the purpose of the book of Acts based on its introduction
2. Validate the purpose of the book based on its literary design
3. Develop the teaching of the book as progressively unfolded through its sections
4. Align one's personal perspective on the contemporary role of church and missions based on the teaching of the book

Course Textbooks

Required textbooks for all Moody Online classes can be found on the [Required Textbooks](#) section of the Moody website.

Assignments Overview

All assignments are due according to the schedule listed on the Course Schedule.

1. **READING:** The completion of the course reading is an important part of the course. You are expected to complete the reading prior to class for discussion purposes. You will be required to submit a reading report at the end of each week.

The Nyquist and Allen books are included because they are two of the best examples of taking seriously the teaching of Acts with regard to the shaping of ministry. Paul Nyquist is the current President of Moody Bible Institute, but also a church planting missionary whose book helps us to think about contemporary missions in light of Acts. Roland Allen was a missionary to China who reacted against the mission structures and practices a century ago based on what he found in Acts. Even if you do not agree with everything that is

emphasized, both books are wonderfully illustrative of how practical the teaching of Acts can be when you study it according to the author's intent with a view toward obedient implementation of what it teaches.

2. **CLASS PARTICIPATION:** Participation in the discussion board is expected. You should make an initial post in each forum by midweek (Friday, 11:59pm CST), respond as instructed to the initial posts of others, and reply to those who respond to your initial posts by the end of the week (Monday, 11:59pm CST).

3. **ASSIGNMENT 1: PURPOSE**

Present your initial understanding of the purpose of Acts.

The assignment should be 3-6 pages in length, double-spaced (750-1500 words).

4. **ASSIGNMENT 2: SIX SECTIONS**

Complete assignments for each of the six (6) sections of Acts.

SECTION 1. Present your understanding of the purpose of Acts 1:1-6:7.

The assignment should be 3-6 pages in length (750-1500 words).

SECTION 2. Present your understanding of the purpose of Acts 6:8-9:31.

The assignment should be 3-6 pages in length (750-1500 words).

SECTION 3. Present your understanding of the purpose of Acts 9:32-12:24.

The assignment should be 3-6 pages in length (750-1500 words).

SECTION 4. Present your understanding of the purpose of Acts 12:25-16:5.

The assignment should be 3-6 pages in length (750-1500 words).

SECTION 5. Present your understanding of the purpose of Acts 16:6-19:20.

The assignment should be 3-6 pages in length (750-1500 words).

SECTION 6. Present your understanding of the purpose of Acts 19:21-28:31.

The assignment should be 3-6 pages in length (750-1500 words).

5. **ASSIGNMENT 3: FINAL PAPER**

Present your final understanding of the purpose of Acts. This is a culmination of your work in the course.

Assessments

Your grade for this course will consist of:

| | |
|-------------------------------|------|
| Reading / Class Participation | 15% |
| Assignment 1: Purpose | 10% |
| Assignment 2: Six Sections | 60% |
| Assignment 3: Final Paper | 15% |
| | 100% |

Letter grades are determined by the following scale:

| Letter Grade | Percentage Equivalent | Letter Grade | Percentage Equivalent |
|--------------|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------------|
| A | 96% or higher | C | 73 - 76.9% |
| A- | 90 - 95.9% | C- | 70 - 72.9% |
| B+ | 87 - 89.9% | D+ | 67 - 69.9% |
| B | 83 - 86.9% | D | 63 - 66.9% |
| B- | 80 - 82.9% | D- | 60 - 62.9% |
| C+ | 77 - 79.9% | F | Below 60% |

Course Resources

Online students have access to the Moody Library. Though students may wish to check out books via inter-library loan, the online database has a number of articles and reviews available for download. You can access the online database by logging into your account at my.moody.edu.

In addition to the resources available at the Moody Library, you may wish to visit <http://www.biblicalstudies.org.uk> or www.bible.org. These sites contain content on various topics written by competent biblical scholars. It is also suggested that you download a free version of the NET Bible at bible.org.

Perhaps the best collection of online resources is provided by Logos Bible Software. www.logos.com.

Apple has developed iTunes University as a platform for colleges and universities to post audio and video content. There are a number of lectures available on iTunes U.

Various schools such as Dallas Theological Seminary, Seattle Pacific University, Duke, and Yale have posted content related to biblical and theological studies.

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Course Bibliography

- Allen, Roland. *The Spontaneous Expansion of the Church*. ISBN: 978-1579101985.
- . *The Ministry of the Spirit*. ISBN: 978-0718891732.
- Bock, Darrell L. *Acts (Baker Exegetical Commentary on the New Testament)*. ISBN: 978-0801026683
- Bruce, F. F. *The Acts of the Apostles*. ISBN: 978-0802825056.
- Fernando, Ajith. *Acts (The NIV Application Commentary)*. ISBN: 978-0310494102.
- Longenecker, Richard. *Acts (Expositor's Bible Commentary)*. ISBN: 978-0310201083.
- Marshall, I. H. *Acts (Tyndale New Testament Commentaries)*. ISBN: 978-0830842353.
- Paton, David. *Christian Missions and the Judgment of God*. ISBN: 978-0802840875.
- Pelikan, Jaroslav. *Acts (Brazos Theological Commentary on the Bible)*. ISBN: 978-1587430947.
- Ryrie, Charles C. *Acts (Everyman's Bible Commentary)*. ISBN: 978-0802420442.
- Stott, John R. W. *The Message of Acts*. ISBN: 978-0830812363.
- Wagner, C. Peter. *The Book of Acts: A Commentary*. ISBN: 978-0830745951.
- Witherington, Ben. *The Acts of the Apostles: A Socio-Rhetorical Commentary*. ISBN: 978-0802845016.
- Wright, N. T. *Acts for Everyone, Part 1*. ISBN: 978-0664227951.
- . *Acts for Everyone, Part 2*. ISBN: 978-0664227968.