

Assessment Criteria: HPRS7002

There are two assessments: one textual analysis of a set passage and one essay.

Assessment 1 [40%]

Prepare a 3000-word exegetical analysis of ONE of the following passages from the Gospel of John:

2:1-12

7:37-44

12:12-19

14:1-7

20:11-28

The purpose of this assignment is for you to be able to demonstrate that you can contextualise the biblical passage within its wider literary, historical and theological context. For example, if you choose John 2:1-12, you will be expected to show how this passage outlines but also anticipates key themes that will feature later in the Gospel. You will discover that the self-referential quality of John's Gospel is one of its most distinctive features. **For guidelines on how to write a textual analysis of this kind, see the accompanying document 'Textual Analysis: Guidelines'.**

Criteria

- The ability to demonstrate the relevance of this passage to the wider context in John's Gospel;
- The ability to link this passage to other biblical passages or themes, especially in the Synoptic Gospels (by biblical reference and not biblical quotation);
- Your ability to comment on the distinctive style or remarkable literary and theological features of the passage;
- You must keep within the limit of 3000 words.

Assessment 2 [60%]

Write a 4500-word essay on ONE of the following topics:

1. Analyse the presentation of John the Baptist in the Gospel of John and its relationship with the portrayal of the Baptist in the Synoptic Gospels.
2. Does John have any interest in Jesus as a historical figure?
3. How and why does John's Gospel depict the death of Jesus as his hour of glorification? Support your answer with critical evaluation of passages drawn from various parts of the Johannine narrative, including John 18-19.
4. Evaluate the distinctive features and function of the Spirit according to the Gospel of John.

Example Preparation for the assignment on Essay 3:

- To prepare for this assignment you must have read John 18-19 carefully. You are also advised to read through John's Gospel in its entirety, paying particular attention to John's use of relevant terminology ('glory', 'glorification', 'exalt', 'lift up', 'hour' [of Jesus]).
- Please note that the overall topic for the essay – the presentation of Jesus' death as his hour of glorification – will feature in numerous units within the module (particularly those that focus on themes like salvation, Jesus' identity and significance, John's use of the Jewish Scriptures). You are encouraged to familiarise yourselves with the key features of John's theology (as noted in my unit outlines and in the reading material) before embarking on a close study of John 18-19.
- As well as a number of specific studies on the topic under consideration (listed in the reading list), you are encouraged to consult key commentaries on the Gospel of John once you have identified the passages upon which you wish to focus.
- In your essay you will be expected to provide names, key publications and, where appropriate, precise biblical references. You should note that your bibliography is **additional** to the 4500 words.

Criteria

- A good understanding of scholarly work on the presentation of Jesus' death in the Fourth Gospel.
- A thorough knowledge of the debate about the use of the language of 'glorification/glory' and 'hour' in the Gospel of John.

- The ability to structure a coherent argument based on the most salient theological motifs and literary features in the Gospel of John (especially in the Passion narrative), keeping within the word limit of 4500 words.