

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, and should not be used to purchase course materials.

COURSE SYLLABUS

BIBL 165

ACTS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

A study of the growth and development of the first century Church as recorded by the accurate historian, Luke. Special attention will be given to the activity of the Holy Spirit in the ministries of Peter and Paul.

RATIONALE

Students in this degree program should know the general background of the time of the Apostles, including chronology, geography, social customs, historical backgrounds, and events within the first century New Testament Church. Also, students should be aware of both specific and general issues, problems, and areas of concern that have faced Christian scholars surrounding the book of Acts, as well as the early Church as a whole.

I. PREREQUISITE

For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the [Academic Course Catalog](#).

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASE

Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: <http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm>

III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING

- A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
- B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
- C. Microsoft Office
- D. Access to the following various versions of the Bible:
 - 1. New American Standard Update (NAU)
 - 2. New English
(The NET Bible is available through www.bible.org for free)
 - 3. A third translation of your choice

IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Explain the authorship, date, addressee, purpose, historicity, canonicity, and theme of Acts.
- B. Summarize the contents of Acts, on exams and in a Book Chart.
- C. Relate the history of Acts to the Pauline epistles.
- D. Explain the theological emphasis and contribution of Acts to the New Testament canon.
- E. Describe and distinguish the various ministries of the Holy Spirit within a believer (baptism, indwelling, filling).
- F. Trace the development of the major theme(s) of Acts throughout the book.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

- A. Textbook readings, web articles, and lecture presentations
- B. Course Requirements Checklist

After reading the Course Syllabus and [Student Expectations](#), the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.

- C. Discussion Board Forums (3)

Discussion boards are collaborative learning experiences. Therefore, the student is required to participate in each Discussion Board Forum by posting a 300-word thread in response to the instructor's prompt. The student is also required to submit 200-word replies to 2 other classmates' threads.

- D. Research Paper

The student is required to write a 6–8-page research paper addressing a topic from the list of approved topics provided in the course. The paper must incorporate at least 6 scholarly sources, which must be formatted in correct, current Turabian style and be accompanied by a properly formatted title page, table of contents, and bibliography. These elements are not included in the required page count.

This paper has 3 stages of submission: an Outline with Thesis Statement, Information Preparation, and the Research Paper Final Submission (including the revised bibliography and outline). Each stage of the Research Paper must be submitted through SafeAssign.

- E. Thematic Analysis Essays (3)

The student will write 3 essays in which he/she analyzes the thematic development in each of the 3 broad movements of the book of Acts (chapters 1–7, 8–12, and 13–28). More detailed guidance is given in the instructions for each of the 3 essays.

F. Quizzes (4)

The student will complete 4 open-book/open-notes quizzes. Each quiz will contain 25 multiple-choice, true/false, matching, and/or fill-in-the-blank questions. Additionally, each quiz will be timed with a 50-minute time limit and a penalty for each minute over the time limit.

VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

Course Requirements Checklist	10
Discussion Board Forums (3 at 50 pts ea)	150
Research Paper	
Outline with Thesis Statement	50
Information Preparation	50
Final Submission	200
Thematic Analysis Essays (2 at 100 pts ea, 1 at 150 pts)	350
Quizzes (4 at 50 pts ea)	200
Total	1010

B. Scale

A = 900–1010 B = 800–899 C = 700–799 D = 600–699 F = 0–599

C. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online's Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at LUOODAS@liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport.

COURSE SCHEDULE

BIBL 165

Textbook: Polhill, *Acts, The New American Commentary* (1992).

MODULE/ WEEK	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
1	Polhill: pp. 19–76 Book of Acts—NASB Bible Readings 1 presentation 1 interactive activity	Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions Contact Information	10 0 0
2	Polhill: pp. 77–147 Bible Readings 1 presentation	Research Paper: Outline with Thesis Statement Quiz 1	50 50
3	Polhill: pp. 147–210 Bible Readings 2 presentations	DB Forum 1 Thematic Analysis Essay 1	50 100
4	Polhill: pp. 210–276 Bible Readings 2 presentation	Research Paper: Information Preparation Quiz 2	50 50
5	Polhill: pp. 276–338 Bible Readings 3 presentations	DB Forum 2 Thematic Analysis Essay 2	50 100
6	Polhill: pp. 339–407 Bible Readings 2 presentations	Quiz 3	50
7	Polhill: pp. 407–477 Bible Readings 1 presentation	DB Forum 3 Research Paper: Final Submission	50 200
8	Polhill: pp. 477–548 2 presentations	Thematic Analysis Essay 3 Quiz 4	150 50
TOTAL			1010

DB = Discussion Board

NOTE: Each course module/week (except Module/Week 1) begins on Tuesday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Monday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final module/week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on **Friday**.