NETE 95713 Critical Introduction to the New Testament
Three Semester Hours

Instructor: Shelly Matthews

Prerequisites: Admittance to the Th.M. or Ph.D. program in Biblical Interpretation (BIIN)

Description of Content: An introduction to interdisciplinary theories and methods that have been, and continue to be of use in the field of New Testament studies, along with some consideration of biblical scholarship that is in conversation with these theories and methods. Readings and discussion will be organized around three themes: a) purity and sacrifice; b) philosophical ethics; and c) intersections of gender, sexuality, race, ethnicity, and status in the construction of identity.

Class Procedures: This introduction to theory and method at the advanced program level is necessarily a seminar style class. All participants will be expected to contribute to class discussion, after having engaged in careful reading of assigned texts. Discussion will be aided by the writing of position papers in advance.

Requirements:
1. Attendance and informed participation in the class sessions
2. Weekly written assignments and in-class presentations

Required Texts: Note well: this list is partial and subject to change; Students should be in email contact with Professor Matthews over the summer to confirm the reading list.

Grading Procedures:

Class Participation: 40% of final grade
Twelve Critical Response Papers over the course of the semester: 40% of final grade
Final integrative response paper: 20% of final grade