

Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership proudly offers

Introduction to the New Testament

8 Week Online Course October 21st - December 15th, 2026 [REGISTER ONLINE](#)



Instructor:
Matthew Boersma

Course Description:

The Church of the Brethren has long held that it has “no creed save the New Testament.” Yet the New Testament itself is a collection of books and letters of a wide range of genres, none of which resemble a traditional creed.

In this course, we will look at the various books of the New Testament, explore the world which created these texts, and look at how the texts may have interacted both with each other and the Hebrew Scriptures. We will look at what the ancient authors of the texts might have been trying to say to their audiences as well as what they are still saying today.

Learning Objectives:

- Critically analyze the texts of the New Testament.
- Identify and describe elements of the surrounding culture informing the texts of the New Testament.
- Interpret New Testament passages using the biblical text, scholarly commentaries, and external information.
- Apply this meaning from the text to a modern ministry-related application

Course Reading Resources

- *Study Bible.* I suggest *The New Oxford Annotated Bible (NRSV)* (ISBN: 978-0-19-528955-8)
- Achtemeier, Paul J., Joel B. Green, and Marianne Meye Thompson. *Introducing the New Testament: Its Literature and Theology.* Grand Rapids, Mich.: W.B. Eerdmans Pub., 2001. (ISBN: 978-0-8028-3717-2)
- Other readings will be posted or linked on our Moodle site.

This course is available to:

- **TRIM/EFSM** students: BHTS, FCR, BTS
- **CEU credit:** Fulfills **2 Units**
- Anyone seeking personal or spiritual enrichment

Course Fee: \$300.00

Registration deadline:
September 16, 2026

Please wait to order books until after your registration has been confirmed by the Brethren Academy office.

(continued)

Brethren Academy for Ministerial Leadership

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bethanyseminary.edu

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Course Withdrawal Refund Policy:

- Full refund available before registration deadline
- 50% refund from registration deadline to course start.
- No refunds once the course has begun.

Exceptions require approval from the Brethren Academy Director.

Who should take this course:

This course is designed for:

- TRIM and EFSM students fulfilling BHTS, FCR, BTS credits.
- Pastors and lay leaders seeking CEUs.
- Individuals discerning a call to ministry.

Anyone longing to deepen their theological understanding and faith practice.

Course Format and Requirements:

This asynchronous online course allows for flexibility in scheduling while maintaining weekly participation and assignment expectations.

Time Commitment: 10–12 hours per week.

Technology Requirements: Basic computer skills and reliable internet. A device less than four years old is recommended.

For TRIM/EFSM Students:

- Fulfills **BHTS, FCR, BTS** requirements.
- Full participation, reading, and assignments are required.

For CEU Participants:

- Earns **2.0 CEUs**.
- Reading and participation required; papers and projects optional.

Distinctive Course Feature:

Explore the world which created these texts, and look at how the texts may have interacted both with each other and the Hebrew Scriptures. Look at what the ancient authors of the texts might have been trying to say to their audiences as well as today.

Instructor: Matthew Boersma

Matthew Boersma is an adjunct professor with Bethany Theological Seminary. He earned his PhD in Hebrew Bible and its Interpretation at Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati. Matt's work focuses on the early interpretation of the Hebrew Bible by both the rabbis and the Christians in the context of their Roman world. Prior to Hebrew Union College, Matt graduated from Bethany Theological Seminary with an MA in 2011. Matt lives in Greensburg, Indiana, with his spouse Nykki and three children: Miriam (19), Malachi (15) and Salome (11).

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Register online or fill out the following information and return, along with payment, to:
Brethren Academy * 615 National Road West * Richmond, IN * 47374

Name: _____

Address: _____

Best contact phone: _____

E-mail: _____

I will be taking this course for: _____ TRIM credit _____ EFSM credit _____ CEU credit _____ PE

Course Fee: \$300 payable to Brethren Academy (BAML)

Registration Deadline: September 16, 2026