**LITERATURE:**
*The Gospel of John: New Perspectives in Scholarship*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study board</th>
<th>ECTS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Theology</td>
<td>10</td>
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**Professor**
Kasper Bro Larsen  
**Semester**
Summer school 2013

**TEXTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Ancient Language Pages</th>
<th>Pages</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Primærtekster</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>The Gospel of John in Greek. For exact passages, see course plan</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>72</td>
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<tr>
<td>The rest of the Gospel of John in English (New Revised Standard Version [NRSV]). Suggested edition: <em>The HarperCollins Study Bible</em> (NRSV) 1993 or later. For preparation, students may read the Gospel in their own language; in class, students work with the Greek and English texts.</td>
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<td>20</td>
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<td>Other biblical texts. For exact passages, see course plan</td>
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**SECONDARY LITERATURE**

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<th>Title</th>
<th>Pages</th>
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**Total**

| 800 |
# The Gospel of John: New Perspectives in Scholarship

**Syllabus**  
*August 12–22, 2013, Kasper Bro Larsen*

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Professor</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Preparation</th>
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| **Session 1** | KBL.      | Welcome and introduction: The Gospel of John and new perspectives in scholarship | a. Read the Gospel of John in English or in your own language. In class, we use the English New Revised Standard Version and Nestle-Aland 27th/28th ed.  
b. Read a general introduction article to the Gospel of John, for example in *Anchor Bible Dictionary* or the introductory chapter of any standard post-2000 commentary (in Danish: Helge Kjær Nielsen’s commentary). Basic knowledge of Johannine introductory questions are presupposed in the course (author, date, context, basic content, purpose, etc.)  
c. Assignment: Write an outline of the content and structure of the Fourth Gospel (maximum 2 pages). The outline must be structured by at least two levels (e.g., 1., 1.1., 1.2., 1.2.1, etc.). Learn the basics of your outline by heart. Submit it on AULA by Aug 5. |
| **Session 2** | KBL.      | Narrator and point of view                                             | Culpepper, 1–49  
Explain to yourself the narratological terminology in the illustrations on pp. 6 and 20 in Culpepper.  
Consider the narrator’s voice in John 1:14–18; 3:1–21, 31–36; 19:35; 21:20–25 (all texts from the Gospel and Epistles of John are read in Greek if nothing else is stated)  
John 1:19–34; Jesus in narrative time: 13:31–32; 16:33; ch. 17                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| **Session 3** | KBL.      | Plot                                                                    | Culpepper, 77–98; Larsen, 34–44  
John 1:11–12; 3:16; 20:31                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

**Part One:**  
The Gospel of John and Narrative Criticism
### Session 4
**Tuesday, Aug 13, 12:45–15:30**
Prof. Gitte Buch-Hansen, New Testament Studies, Copenhagen University
- **Characterization: Jesus**
  - The Beloved Disciple
- **The 'I am' Sayings** (4:26; 6:20, 35, 48, 51; 8:12, 24, 28, 58; 10:7, 9, 11, 14; 11:25; 14:6; 15:5)

16:00
**Optional: BBQ and games in Mindeparken**

### Session 5
**Wednesday, Aug 14, 9:15–12:00**
Gitte Buch-Hansen
- **Implicit commentary (irony, misunderstanding, symbolism), implied reader**
- **Culpepper**, 149–237
- Texts from the Gospel of John to be announced

### Session 6
**Wednesday, Aug 14, 13:15–15:45**
KBL
- **Group assignment:** Write a 1-page paper on a chosen narrative aspect of John 2:1–3:21 (narrator, plot, implicit commentary, etc.). Submit the paper in AULA
- **John 2:1–3:21**
- See summary of Culpepper’s terminology in AULA

16:15
**Optional: Visit to ARoS Art Museum**

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### Part Two: The Gospel of John and Genre Criticism

### Session 7
**Thursday, Aug 15, 9:15–12:00**
Prof. Svend Erik Larsen, Comparative Literature, Aarhus University
- **What is genre? Theoretical reflections**
- Fowler, 37–53
- Four sonnets (see Svend Erik Larsen’s document in AULA)

### Session 8
**Thursday, Aug 15, 13:15–16:00**
KBL
- **Presentation and discussion of group assignments**
  - The Gospel of John as genre mosaic; intertextuality
- Attridge; Larsen, 1–23
- See sheet on *transtextuality* in Genette (AULA)

### Session 9
**Friday, Aug 16, 9:15–12:00**
KBL
- **The Prologue**
- Brant; Larsen 73–89. See sheet on *transtextuality* in Genette (AULA)
- John 1:1–18; 1 Enoch 42; Sir 24; Euripides, *Hippolytus* 1–57; *Bacchae* 1–166; Plautus, *Amphitruo* 1–152 (ancient non-biblical texts are read in English translation; for reference, texts in original languages are printed in the text collection)
| Session 10 | Friday, Aug 16 13:15–16:00 | KBL | *Anagnorisis* in ancient literature | Larsen, 25–33, 44–72  
For an overview of the Agamemnon dynasty appearing in the above tragedies of Aeschylus and Euripides, see [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Agamemnon](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Agamemnon) |
| Session 11 | Monday, Aug 19 9:15–12:00 | KBL | A betrothal scene? Jesus and the Samaritan woman (John 4) | Larsen, 89–141; Eslinger  
Gen 24; 29; Ex 2; John 4:4–42 |
| Session 12 | Monday, Aug 19 13:15–16:00 | KBL | The farewell discourse; group work  
Jesus’ final words on the cross: *Ultima verba* | Segovia; Kennedy  
Deut 31–34; John 13–17 (in English translation)  
Berger  
John 19:25–37 |
| Session 13 | Tuesday, Aug 20 9:15–12:00 | KBL | The climactic recognition scenes in John 20–21 | Larsen, 185–223  
John 20–21 |

**Part Three:**  
*The Reception History of the Gospel of John in the Second Century*

| Session 14 | Tuesday, Aug 20 13:15–16:00 | KBL | The theological landscape of the second century and the docetic question | Marjanen  
1 John 4:2; 5:6; 2 John 7; *Acts of John* 87–105; *Epistula Apostolorum* 1–30 (in the version translated from Ethiopic)  
| Session 15 | Wednesday, Aug 21, 9:15–12:00 | KBL | The Valentinian Heracleon and his commentary on the Gospel of John | On the Valentinian school as a *via media*: Ptolemy’s *Letter to Flora* (in Epiphanius, *Panarion* 33.3.1–33.7.10)  
Thomassen; all fragments from Heracleon’s commentary (as quoted in Origen, *Commentarii in Evangelium Ioannis*). Focus on frgs. 17–40 on John 4 (the Samaritan woman)  
See sheet on Valentinianism and Sethianism in AULA |
| Session 16: Wednesday, Aug 21, 13:00–16:00 | KBL | The prologue of the Fourth Gospel in Valentinian and Gnostic interpretation | 1. Valentinian use of the prologue.  
   a. Ptolemaeus’ interpretation of the prologue (Irenaeus, *Adversus haereses* 1.8)  
   b. Heracleon’s interpretation of the prologue (frgs. 1–3; see text 23–24 in the text collection)  
2. Sethian-gnostic use of the prologue.  
   b. *The Trimorphic Protennoia* (NHC XIII,1) |
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<tr>
<td>15:00</td>
<td>Optional: Disc golf</td>
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Irenaeus, *Adversus haereses* 1.22 (*regula veritatis*, ’rule of truth’); 1.9 (see 1.8–9 in the text collection); 3.11. |
| Session 18: Thursday, Aug 22, 13:00–16:00 | KBL | Conclusion |  |
"The Gospel of John: New Perspectives in Scholarship"

Kasper Bro Larsen, summer 2013


