

Writing Assignment Instructions

There will be two writings assignments due this semester (for dates see class syllabus). In each writing assignment you are expected to analyze and to reflect on a PSR (=Primary Source Text). Please note that for each assignment you only select one PSR upon which to base your analysis (see below). As you analyze this text frame your assessment based on the follow question: “What does the text say about Jesus?” Think in terms of mortal ministry, death, resurrection, post resurrection, Christology, ontology, divinity, etc. Given the space provided (four to five pages) you can’t write on all of these topics so select what ones that you personally feel are most significant and explain why you think they are significant in the text. As you craft your response try to articulate as concisely and clearly as possible what you think the author is saying about Jesus. Please be aware that sometimes the author might say things very subtly so be sure to read the text very carefully, line by line. You do not need to consult secondary literature to complete this assignment. Be sure, however, to cite the relevant sections of the PSR in your assessment. References may be cited in footnote form or may simply be put in parentheses at the end of the sentence; references should follow the abbreviations given in the *SBL Handbook of Style*. Do not simply use citations when you directly quote something from the PSR but also use them when you are more generally talking about ideas or concepts in the text.

Length: Each response will be 4 – 5 pages in length (excluding cover page).

Format: 12 pt font (Times New Roman), double-spaced, 1 inch margins, papers must be typed. Papers must include a cover page that includes a title, the student’s name, class number and section number, and date. Failure to include any of this material will result in an automatic 5% deduction on the submission. All papers must be stapled; failure to submit a stapled paper will result in a 5% deduction. All pages (except cover page) must include page numbers. Failure to include page numbers will result in a 5% deduction.

* Please note that papers are due at the beginning of class on the assigned date. Papers not submitted in class but submitted after class the same day will receive a 10% deduction. For every additional day the paper is not submitted an additional 10% deduction will be imposed. Papers submitted electronically will receive a 10% deduction.

For Writing Assignment #1 you may select one of the following PSR options:*

- A. Ignatius of Antioch, *To the Ephesians* and *To the Trallians**
- B. Justin, *1 Apology*

***If you choose topic “A” you write your analysis on both letters and not just one.**

For Writing Assignment #2 you may select one of the following PSR options:

- A. Hippolytus, *Against Noetus*
- B. Athanasius, *On the Incarnation*