

**Nordic New Testament Conference**  
***New Testament Scholarship in the Nordic Countries: Trends and Tasks***  
Website: [www.nt.au.dk/nntc](http://www.nt.au.dk/nntc)

**CALL FOR PAPERS**

The forthcoming **Nordic New Testament Conference** will take place on **29 May – 2 June 2015** at **Aarhus University, Denmark**. The conference supports Nordic New Testament scholarship by facilitating continual Nordic interaction within the scholarly field.

This is an **invitation to propose a paper** to any one of the following six seminars hosted by the conference. Nordic scholars holding or pursuing a doctoral degree can propose a paper. International guests may participate and propose a paper by permission from the conference committee.

1. *The Radical New Perspective on Paul* (chair: Runar M. Thorsteinsson, Reykjavik)  
Since E. P. Sanders' monumental study of Paul and Palestinian Judaism and his uncovering of the notion of "covenantal nomism" much has changed in Pauline studies. The "new perspective" on Paul was introduced to exegesis and utterly changed the way in which the relationship between Paul and Judaism was evaluated by scholars. However, while much of the new perspective is still current in Pauline scholarship, some aspects of it have become somewhat "old." An increasing number of scholars now wish to go beyond the new perspective and speak in that context of the "radical new perspective" on Paul. The present seminar group welcomes papers dealing with aspects relating to the radical new perspective, aspects such as the place of Judaism, the Law, and gentiles in Paul's thought. Papers may not only review the advantages of the radical new perspective but may also be given as a response to it.

Please send proposal as attached file to the chair ([runar.thorsteinsson@gmail.com](mailto:runar.thorsteinsson@gmail.com); cc: [kbl@teo.au.dk](mailto:kbl@teo.au.dk)).

2. *Jesus and the Gospels* (chair: Mogens Müller, Copenhagen)  
Papers offered in this seminar can take up different problems related to Jesus and the gospels: the possibility of reconstructing the historical Jesus, the relation between the historical Jesus and the Christ of the gospels, the gospels as narrative theology, and the gospels as biblical rewritings (i.e., 'Rewritten Bible/Scripture' as a genre or interpretational strategy behind the gospels). This will facilitate a discussion of the question of the meaning of "referentiality" and the problems raised by the canonization of a fourfold gospel. Thus papers can either focus on the principal problems or on concrete texts.

Please send proposal as attached file to the chair ([mm@teol.ku.dk](mailto:mm@teol.ku.dk); cc: [kbl@teo.au.dk](mailto:kbl@teo.au.dk)).

3. *New Testament Traditions in the Context of Early Judaism* (chair: Cecilia Wassen, Uppsala)

This seminar will focus on topics related to the New Testament and Early Judaism in a broad sense. Papers may focus on early Jewish and Christian writings and/or the social contexts of early Judaism and Christianity.

Please send proposal as attached file to the chair ([cecilia.wassen@teol.uu.se](mailto:cecilia.wassen@teol.uu.se); cc: [kbl@teo.au.dk](mailto:kbl@teo.au.dk)).

4. *Emotions in the New Testament* (chair: Thomas Kazen, Stockholm)

In recent years, emotions have attracted the attention of scholars from various fields for several reasons. The role of our affects for human behaviour, rationality and language has proven to be more crucial than previously believed. Cognitive science, with input from disciplines as diverse as evolutionary biology, neuroscience, psychology, philosophy, and linguistics, has opened up a window of possibilities also for biblical scholars involved in traditional literary and historical interpretation of ancient texts.

Emotions, such as empathy, anger, joy, fear, disgust, and shame are continuously both invoked and evoked throughout the New Testament. They are involved in issues of ritual behavior and moral instruction; they account for tendencies of integration and tension; they are significant for issues of conflict and moral repair; and they are prominent in formal argument and rhetorical discourse. Particular emotions can be discovered both within the narrative structure and as assumed conditions for, or anticipated results of, the recipients' appropriation of the text.

For this section we invite papers that explore the role of one or several emotions in texts and contexts relevant to the field of New Testament studies. Priority will be given to papers that also interact with cross-disciplinary research on emotions in other fields of study.

Please send proposal as attached file to the chair ([thomas.kazen@ths.se](mailto:thomas.kazen@ths.se); cc: [kbl@teo.au.dk](mailto:kbl@teo.au.dk)).

5. *The Reception of Biblical Traditions* (chair: Ole Jakob Filtvedt, MF Oslo)

Highlighting the impact of biblical material in the literary, social and cultural settings of posterity has become a growth industry in the field of biblical studies in recent years. This seminar is open for contributions of different aspects of the reception history of biblical texts and traditions. Papers on the following topics are particularly welcome: intertextual relations between biblical traditions, reception of the Bible in patristic, medieval, reformation, modern and contemporary contexts, and reception in relation to literature and arts or in relation to social and political issues. We also invite contributions addressing theoretical issues relating to the study of intertextuality and biblical reception.

Please send proposal as attached file to the chair ([ole.jakob.filtvedt@gmail.com](mailto:ole.jakob.filtvedt@gmail.com); cc: [kbl@teo.au.dk](mailto:kbl@teo.au.dk)).

6. *Ideological Criticism and Hermeneutics in New Testament Studies* (chair: Marianne Bjelland Kartzow, Oslo)

During the last decades or so, a whole set of new theories and methodologies concerning ideological criticism have been introduced to the study of New Testament and related texts in order to conceptualize or interpret these texts. Exegetical attention to the texts in their historical or literary context has been supplied by an interest in the use and reception of the texts as well as how contemporary "real readers" deal with them as "texts of terror," memory, or tools for identity construction. This seminar group welcomes papers engaging resources from the broad landscape of ideological criticism and hermeneutics. Interdisciplinary perspectives dealing with issues such as gender, class, race/ethnicity, intersectionality, power, politics, postcolonial critique, and cultural studies will be central to the group's discussions.

Please send proposal as attached file to the chair ([m.b.kartzow@teologi.uio.no](mailto:m.b.kartzow@teologi.uio.no); cc: [kbl@teo.au.dk](mailto:kbl@teo.au.dk)).

We encourage proposals from people on different academic levels, from professors to doctoral students. Please submit your **proposal with an abstract** of no more than 300 words by **Jan 9, 2015**. The official language of the conference (and of all the papers) is English. The review process is finalized by Feb 2, 2015. Accepted papers are circulated for prior reading by the participants three weeks in advance of the conference (deadline: May 8, 2015). A collection of conference papers is projected for publication in the [SANT](#) series at Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, Göttingen. For style sheet, see *The SBL Handbook of Style* (Peabody, Mass.: Hendrickson, 1999), 46–54. Please use Unicode fonts.

In addition to the seminar sessions, there will be six main lectures, each related to one of the seminar topics. Beside an international guest, there is one main speaker from each Nordic country. The main speakers are the following:

*1. The Radical New Perspective on Paul*

Paula Fredriksen (Jerusalem), Title to be announced

*2. Jesus and the Gospels*

Runar M. Thorsteinsson (Reykjavik), “Jesus as Philosopher”

*3. New Testament Traditions in the Context of Early Judaism*

Petri Luomanen (Helsinki), Title to be announced

*4. Emotions in the New Testament*

Ole Davidsen (Aarhus), Title to be announced

*5. The Reception of Biblical Traditions*

James Kelhoffer (Uppsala), “The Reception of Biblical Traditions in Second Clement”

*6. Ideological Criticism and Hermeneutics in New Testament Studies*

Turid Karlsen Seim (Oslo/Rome), Title to be announced

The conference will also host a special session for **doctoral student presentations**. Those doctoral students who do not wish to read a paper in any of the above mentioned seminars are invited to give a brief presentation (15 min + 15 min for discussion) on their work to gain feedback from scholars and other students. Please indicate your interest in a student presentation by sending the title of your work and a short description of it (max. 300 words) to Dan Nässelqvist ([dan.nasselqvist@teol.lu.se](mailto:dan.nasselqvist@teol.lu.se); cc: [kbl@teo.au.dk](mailto:kbl@teo.au.dk)) by Jan 9, 2015.

It is also possible to take part in the conference without presenting. Further information about registration, costs, and travelling appear on the conference [website](#) as soon as they are available.

The conference will be held in the city of Aarhus and is hosted by the research group in New Testament Studies at the Department of Theology, Aarhus University.

The conference committee,

Kasper Bro Larsen (Denmark, chair,  
local organizer)  
Mogens Müller (Denmark)  
Kari Syreeni (Finland)  
Runar M. Thorsteinsson (Iceland)

Ole Jakob Filtvedt (Norway)  
Cecilia Wassen (Sweden)  
Jacob Mortensen (PhD Student, Denmark)  
Dan Nässelqvist (PhD Student, Sweden)  
René Falkenberg (local organizer)