**Comp Template for Biblical Field II:**

**New Testament**

The four Area exams in NT contain two basic and two advanced exams. The format of these exams is open (take-home, essays, closed or open books) At least one exam should have a major oral component. The first two exams are usually taken together.

1. Socio-historical contexts of the New Testament

This exam is designed to demonstrate the student’s knowledge of early Christian history over a period from about 165 BCE (Maccabean revolt) to 150 CE within the larger context of the Greco-Roman world, including Palestinian and Hellenistic Judaism. On a first level (equivalent to the teaching content in an NT-Intro course) the student builds up this knowledge through compilation of a ‘workbook’ that minimally contains the following elements:

-Collection of key sources with summary and annotations (e.g. Josephus, Philo, Suetonius, Tacitus, and Pliny). This includes epigraphy.

-Collection of images (including coins) and select architecture with description and annotations (e.g. Prima Porta Statue, Gemma Augustea, and Forum of Augustus)

-Extensive annotated synchronic timeline from Alexander the Great until Hadrian (Greco-Roman, Jewish, Christian history); Maps

-Excerpts/reviews of articles and books pertinent to specific topics (e.g. Jewish War, Herod the Great, Galilee, Roman economy, philosophical movements, social stratification, Greco-Roman religions); extensive glossary of key terms and concepts

-Other (e.g. teaching units and visuals for NT 101 tutorials);

-Annotated bibliography.

1. Literature of the New Testament

This exam is designed to demonstrate the student’s knowledge of canonical and select extra-canonical and early Christian literature, of general literary forms and conventions of the ancient world, and of issues of interpretation and methodology. To build up this knowledge, the student will add the following components to the ‘workbook’:

-Outline of NT documents, including introductory and interpretational issues, as well as key theological themes.

-Outline of specified extracanonical and early Christian texts

-Outline of methods/models of interpretation

-Excerpts/reviews of articles and books pertinent to specific topics

-Extensive glossary of key terms and concepts

-Other (e.g. teaching units and visuals for NT 101 tutorials)

-Annotated bibliography

If the workbook is complete, the advisor and student set up an exam with a closed-book/written and an oral component that synthesizes both parts and demonstrates reasonable mastery of the two areas as represented in the workbook.

1. Comprehensive exegesis research paper

This is an exam that integrates historical-critical and textual work on an advanced methodological and theological level, and with a clear thematic focus. It requires an oral defense.

1. The last exam is open and usually explores a proto-dissertation topic.