

Appendix 14 –

Syllabi: Graduate Course BH 501 & Undergraduate
Course NT 401

LUTHER RICE UNIVERSITY AND SEMINARY

BH 501 – Introduction to Biblical Hermeneutics

Brad Arnett, Ph.D., Associate Professor of New Testament

Office Location: Williams Hall, second floor

On-Campus: Monday-Thursday, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

(770) 484-1204, ext. 265 (office)

BArnett@lru.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is an introduction to the basic principles and specific guidelines of biblical interpretation. Some attention is given to the historical schools of interpretation, but the focus of the course is on historical-grammatical interpretation and legitimate application of the Scriptures. General principles, such as reliance on the Holy Spirit, paying attention to context, knowing the ancient culture, and recognizing the different types of literary genre, are covered. Specific rules regarding the interpretation of types, symbols, poetry, proverbs, parables, and prophecy are also given.

COURSE RATIONALE

This Course is *Required* for the fulfillment of the following Program Objective that graduates will be able to:

- Accurately interpret the Bible in light of its historical-grammatical context.

This Course *Supports* the fulfillment of the following Program Objectives that graduates will be able to:

- Communicate biblical and theological truths through preaching, teaching, writing, or in such other ways as may be appropriate.

Course Objectives	Assessment Instruments
<i>This course contributes to the accomplishment of the above mentioned Program Objectives by enabling the student to:</i>	<i>The means for evaluating success in achieving these objectives are:</i>
1. Interpret objectively the Scriptures.	▪ Exegetical Assignments
2. Explain the historical-grammatical method of interpretation of the Scriptures.	▪ Exams and Quizzes
3. Discuss the significance of the historical, cultural, and literary contexts.	▪ Exams and Quizzes
4. Explain the significance of the different genres in the interpretation process.	▪ Exams and Quizzes
5. Differentiate between the biblical and contemporary audiences.	▪ Exams and Quizzes
6. Identify the theological principles in the text and apply them to today's setting.	▪ Exegetical Assignments
7. Demonstrate critical thinking in the area of analysis and synthesis of research data.	▪ Exegetical Assignments

COURSE TEXTBOOKS

An English translation of *The Holy Bible*.

Duvall, J. Scott and J. Daniel Hays. *Grasping God's Word*. 3d edition. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2012.

Duvall, J. Scott and J. Daniel Hays. *Grasping God's Word: Workbook*. 3d edition. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2012.

Goodrick, Edward W., and John R. Kohlenberger III, eds. *The Strongest NIV Exhaustive Concordance*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1999.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Attendance. See accompanying Attendance Policy (also located in the Syllabus section of Blackboard).
2. Quizzes. Regular quizzes will be given over the reading assignments.
3. Exegetical Paper. Early in the semester the student will be assigned a passage to study throughout the semester. Various weekly assignments will require the student to apply certain interpretative principles to their passage. The final product will be an exegetical paper that will bring together applications of the principles studied and the actual investigations carried out during the semester.
 - a. The paper is required to be a minimum of fifteen, typed, double-spaced pages and to follow Turabian format.
 - b. The student is expected to incorporate at least ten bibliography resources in the paper, including commentaries, journal articles, and other scholarly works. The bibliography should not include study Bibles or third party internet sources.
 - c. The paper should be created in Microsoft Word format (.doc or .docx) or Portable Document Format (.pdf) and uploaded in the appropriate assignment folders in Blackboard. Please **do not email** assignments to the professor.
 - d. The grade of the paper will account for three areas: content, grammar/style, and form. See Grading Rubric located in the Syllabus section of Blackboard for more information.
4. Midterm Examination. The midterm exam will cover chapters 1-9 in the textbook and associated lectures and assignments.
5. Final Examination. The final exam will cover chapters 10-22 in the textbook and associated lectures and assignments.

GRADE DISTRIBUTION

Quizzes	20%
Exegetical Paper (all sections)	50%
Midterm Examination	15%
Final Examination	15%

GRADING SCALE OF THE MASTER'S PROGRAMS

95-100	A
88-94	B
78-87	C
70-77	D
Below 70	F

LATE ASSIGNMENTS

Assignments turned in late will receive a five percentage point deduction for each day late. Exceptions to this rule will be made only in extreme cases. Assignments submitted after the semester is completed will receive no credit.

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Adler, Mortimer J., and Charles van Doren. *How to Read a Book*. New York: Simon and Schuster, 1972.
- Brown, Jeannine. *Scripture as Communication: Introducing Biblical Hermeneutics*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2007.
- Dockery, David S. *Biblical Interpretation: Then and Now*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1992.
- Doriani, Daniel M. *Putting the Truth to Work: The Theory and Practice of Biblical Application*. Phillipsburg, NJ: P & R, 2001.
- Fee, Gordon D., and Douglas Stuart. *How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth*. Third Edition. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2003.
- Goldingay, John. *Models for Interpretation of Scripture*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1995.
- Goldsworthy, Graeme. *Gospel-Centered Hermeneutics: Foundations and Principles of Evangelical Biblical Interpretation*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP, 2006.
- Greidanus, Sidney. *Preaching Christ from the Old Testament: A Contemporary Hermeneutical Method*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1999.
- Hendricks, Howard G., and William D. Hendricks. *Living by the Book*. Chicago: Moody, 1991.
- Johnson, Elliot E. *Expository Hermeneutics: An Introduction*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1990.
- Kaiser, Walter C., and Moisés Silva. *An Introduction to Biblical Hermeneutics*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1994.
- Klein, William W., Craig Blomberg, and Robert L. Hubbard. *Introduction to Biblical Interpretation*. Revised Edition. Dallas: Word, 2004.
- Köstenberger, Andreas J., and Richard D. Patterson. *Invitation to Biblical Interpretation: Exploring the Hermeneutical Triad of history, Literature, and Theology*. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2011.
- Kuhatschek, Jack. *Applying the Bible*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1996.
- Lundin, Roger, Clarence Walhout, and Anthony C. Thiselton. *The Promise of Hermeneutics*. Grand Rapids and Cambridge: Eerdmans and Paternoster, 1999.
- Mickelsen, A. Berkeley, and Alvera M. Mickelsen. *Understanding Scripture*. Revised Edition. Peabody, Massachusetts: Hendrickson, 1992.

- Morgan, Robert, and John Barton. *Biblical Interpretation*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1988.
- Osborne, Grant R. *The Hermeneutical Spiral*. Downers Grove, Illinois: InterVarsity, 1991.
- Porter, Stanley E., and Jason C. Robinson. *Hermeneutics: An Introduction to Interpretive Theory*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2011.
- Ramm, Bernard. *Protestant Biblical Interpretation*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1970.
- Strauss, Mark L. *How to Read the Bible in Changing Times: Understanding and Applying God's Word Today*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2011.
- Tate, W. Randolph. *Biblical Interpretation*. Peabody, Massachusetts: Hendrickson, 1991.
- Terry, Milton. *Biblical Hermeneutics*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1985.
- Thiselton, Anthony C. *Hermeneutics: An Introduction*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2009.
- Traina, Robert A. *Methodical Bible Study*. Wilmore, Kentucky: Robert Traina, 1952.
- Virkler, Henry A., and Karelynn Ayayo. *Hermeneutics: Principles and Processes of Biblical Interpretation*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2007.
- Wald, Oletta. *The Joy of Discovery in Bible Study*. Minneapolis: Augsburg, 1975.

COURSE SCHEDULE (Assignments are due on Tuesdays at Noon)

DUE	LESSON	TOPICS	READINGS
9/11	1	Introduction, Bible Translations, Interpretive Journey	Chs. 1-2
9/18	2	How to Read the Book (Sentences)	Ch. 3
9/25	3	How to Read the Book (Paragraphs)	Ch. 4
10/2	4	How to Read the Book (Discourses) Assignment 4-6 Due	Ch. 5
10/9	5	The Cultural/Historical Context	Ch. 6
10/16	6	What Do We Bring to the Text? The Literary Context Assignment 6-6 Due	Chs. 7-8
10/23	7	Word Studies Midterm Examination	Ch. 9
10/30	8	Inspiration, Canon, Writing the Exegetical Paper, and Building a Personal Library Assignment 8-3 Due	Appendices 1-3
11/6	9	Who Controls the Meaning? Levels of Meaning Assignment 9-6 Due	Chs. 10-11
11/13	10	The Role of the Holy Spirit Application	Chs. 12-13
11/20	11	New Testament: Letters and Gospels	Chs. 14-15
11/27	12	New Testament: Acts and Revelation	Chs. 16-17
12/4	13	Old Testament: Narrative and Law Complete Exegetical Paper Due	Chs. 18-19
12/11	14	Old Testament: Poetry, Prophets, and Wisdom	Chs. 20-22
12/15	15	Final Examination (Due Date is on a Saturday)	

This is not an exhaustive schedule. Other assignments may be posted in Blackboard.

LUTHER RICE UNIVERSITY

NT 401 – Life of Christ
Mark Owens, Ph.D., Instructor of New Testament
Office Location: Williams Hall, second floor
On-Campus: Tuesday-Thursday, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm
(770) 484-1204, ext. 253 (office)
mowens@lru.edu
Fall 2012

COURSE DESCRIPTION

NT 401 is an examination of the life and teachings of Jesus Christ as presented in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.

COURSE RATIONALE

This Course is *Required* for the fulfillment of the following Program Objective that graduates will be able to:

- Demonstrate a working knowledge of the Bible, Christian theology, and Church History.

This Course *Supports* the fulfillment of the following Program Objectives that graduates will be able to:

- Develop appropriate exegetical and expository messages and lessons from Scripture.
- Demonstrate effectiveness in oral and written communication.
- Apply knowledge of the Bible and Christian heritage to a lifelong pattern of spiritual growth and personal development.

Course Objectives	Assessment Instruments
<i>This course contributes to the accomplishment of the above mentioned Program Objectives by enabling the student to:</i>	<i>The means for evaluating success in achieving these objectives are:</i>
1. Describe the life, ministry, and message of Jesus of Nazareth.	▪ Learning Exercises, Final Exam
2. Identify background issues associated with the life of Christ.	▪ Learning Exercises, Final Exam
3. Discuss the literary relationships among the four Gospels.	▪ Learning Exercises, Final Exam
4. Express the unique emphases of each of the Gospels.	▪ Learning Exercises, Final Exam
5. Use the Gospel accounts to construct a general outline of Christ's life.	▪ Learning Exercises, Final Exam
6. Interpret selected passages in the Gospels.	▪ Learning Exercises, Final Exam
7. Discern the value of recent views on Jesus of Nazareth.	▪ Book Review

COURSE TEXTBOOKS

- An English translation of *The Holy Bible*.
- Cox, Stephen, and Kendell Easley, eds. *Holman Christian Standard Harmony of the Gospels*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 2005.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- 1. Learning exercises.** The student will complete weekly exercises on material primarily from the Book of Acts. However, some questions will also come from other texts in the Bible, the textbook reading, class lectures, and from other secondary sources. To ensure that this syllabus and other important documents for this class are read, students will also be asked questions from these course documents. The student may use the textbook and notes for the exercises. Students are also encouraged to use other resources to answer these questions. New assignments will be added to Blackboard each Monday. **PLEASE DO NOT EMAIL THE ASSIGNMENT TO THE PROFESSOR.**
- 2. Final Exam.** The student will take a final examination in week fifteen of the course. The exam's content will be based on the lecture material covered in weeks 1-14. A study guide will be given towards the end of the course.
- 3. Book Review.** Each student will be required to complete a three-four page book review. The student will *utilize LRU's library services* to produce a Book Review of the following book: Mark D. Roberts, *Can We Trust the Gospels?: Investigating the Reliability of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John* (Wheaton: Crossway, 2007). Book review guidelines will be provided by the professor and should be strictly followed. You may find these guidelines under the Course Documents link. The Book Review will count 30% of the semester grade. **PLEASE DO NOT EMAIL THE ASSIGNMENT TO THE PROFESSOR. Finally, you must complete the book review to pass this course.**
- 4. Participation.** The student will receive a participation grade on the basis of the following factors: completing assignments **on time**, the number of incomplete assignments, attendance, and overall effort. The attendance policy for Luther Rice University (*Catalog*, p. 42) is that a student must attend at least 80% of all class meetings. **To confirm that you are active in this class, you must log in to the course every week.** Your participation will be validated by completion of weekly quizzes and exams. Failure to sign in could result in excessive absences and a failing grade. If you are an international student, excessive absences could affect your I-20 status. If you are receiving financial aid, such absences could result in you being required to repay any financial aid received as well as any additional charges incurred at LRU. Participation will count 10% of the semester grade.

GRADE DISTRIBUTION

Learning Exercises	30%
Final Exam	30%
Book Review	30%
Participation	10%

GRADING SCALE OF THE UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM

A.....	91-100
B.....	81-90
C.....	71-80
D.....	60-70
F.....	Below 60

LATE ASSIGNMENTS

Assignments turned in late will receive a five percentage point deduction for each day late. Exceptions to this rule will be made only in extreme cases. Assignments submitted after the semester is completed will receive no credit.

COURSE SCHEDULE

WEEK	DATE	TOPIC	READING
WEEK 1	SEPTEMBER 4	Introduction to the Gospels/ Interpreting the Gospels	<i>HCSHG</i> , 1–42
WEEK 2	SEPTEMBER 11	Jesus' Birth and John the Baptist	<i>HCSHG</i> , 43–53
WEEK 3	SEPTEMBER 18	Jesus' Galilean Ministry	<i>HCSHG</i> , 54–67, 231–244
WEEK 4	SEPTEMBER 25	Jesus' Galilean Ministry (cont.)	<i>HCSHG</i> , 67–74, 245–266
WEEK 5	OCTOBER 2	Jesus' Galilean Ministry (cont.)	<i>HCSHG</i> , 74–96
WEEK 6	OCTOBER 9	Jesus and the Twelve Disciples	<i>HCSHG</i> , 97–120
WEEK 7	OCTOBER 16	Jesus' Judean Ministry	<i>HCSHG</i> , 120–136, 267–281
WEEK 8	OCTOBER 23	Jesus' Ministry in Perea BOOK REVIEW DUE 10/25	<i>HCSHG</i> , 137–154
WEEK 9	OCTOBER 30	Jesus' Last Public Ministry in Jerusalem	<i>HCSHG</i> , 155–170, 282–295
WEEK 10	NOVEMBER 6	Jesus on the way to the Cross	<i>HCSHG</i> , 171–192
WEEK 11	NOVEMBER 13	Jesus' Arrest, Trial, Crucifixion, and Burial	<i>HCSHG</i> , 193–215
WEEK 12	NOVEMBER 20	Jesus' Resurrection & Ascension	<i>HCSHG</i> , 216–226
WEEK 13	NOVEMBER 27	The Modern Search for the Historical Jesus	<i>HCSHG</i> , 296–318
WEEK 14	DECEMBER 4	The Synoptic Problem	<i>HCSHG</i> , 319–347
WEEK 15	DECEMBER 11	The Gnostic Jesus FINAL EXAM DUE 12/13	

HCSHG = Cox, Stephen, and Kendell Easley, eds. *Holman Christian Standard Harmony of the Gospels*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 2005.

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Alexander, T.D. *Discovering Jesus*. Wheaton: Crossway, 2010.
- Allison, Dale. *The Sermon on the Mount*. New York: Crossroads Publishing Co., 1999.
- Arthur, Joe. *In the Steps of the Master*. Murfreesboro: Sword of the Lord Publishers, 2010.
- Bailey, Kenneth E. *Jesus Through Middle Eastern Eyes*. Downer's Grove: Intervarsity Press, 2008.
- Bivin, David, Blizzard, Roy. *Understanding the Difficult Words of Jesus*. Shippensburg: Destiny Image, 1983.
- Blomberg, Craig. *Jesus and the Gospels*. Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 1997.
- Bock, Darrell. *Jesus According to Scripture*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 2002
- _____. *Dethroning Jesus*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 2007.
- Brodie, Thomas L. *The Crucial Bridge*. Collegeville: Liturgical Press, 2000.
- Brown, Raymond E. *The Birth of the Messiah*. New York: Doubleday & Co., 1979.
- Burridge, Richard. *Four Gospels, One Jesus?* Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans, 1994.
- _____. *Jesus Now and Then*. Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 2004.
- Cox, Steven L., Kendall H. Easley. *Harmony of the Gospels*. Holman Bible Publishers, 2007.
- Dickson, John. *Life of Jesus*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 2010.
- Flusser, David L. *Jesus*. Jerusalem: Hebrew University, Magnes Press, 2001.
- France, R.T. *The Evidence for Jesus*. Downers Grove: Intervarsity Press, 1986.
- Goodspeed, Edgar. *A Life of Jesus*. San Francisco: Harper & Row, 1950.
- Groothuis, Douglas. *Revealing the New Age Jesus*. Downer's Grove: Intervarsity Press, 1990.
- Guthrie, Donald. *A Shorter Life of Christ*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1970.
- _____. *Jesus the Messiah*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1972.
- Harrison, Everett. *A Short Life of Christ*. Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1968.
- Hobbs, Herschel. *The Illustrated Life of Jesus*. Nashville: Holman Bible Publishers, 2000.
- Hoehner, Harold. *Chronological Aspects of the Life of Christ*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1977.
- Jensen, Irving. *The Life of Christ*. Chicago: Moody Bible Institute, 1973.
- Jukes, Andrew. *Four Views of Christ*. Grand Rapids: Kregel Publications, 1982.
- Lee, Bernard. *The Galilean Jewishness of Jesus*. Mahwah: Paulist Press, 1988.

- Lightner, Robert. *The Savior and the Scriptures*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1966.
- Lipson, Irene. *Twelve Words Jesus Knew*. Grand Rapids: Monarch Books, Olive Press, 1988.
- Mounce, Robert H. *Jesus in His Own Words*. Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishing Group, 2010.
- Page, Charles R. II. *Jesus and the Land*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1995.
- Pentecost, Dwight. *The Words and Works of Jesus Christ*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1981.
- Punton, Anne. *The World Jesus Knew*. Grand Rapids: Monarch Books, Olive Press, 1996.
- Rhodes, Ron. *The Counterfeit Christ of the New Age Movement*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1990.
- Scott, Julius J. *Jewish Backgrounds of the New Testament*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1995.
- Spangler, Ann. Tverberg, Lois. *Sitting at the Feet of Rabbi Jesus*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 2009.
- _____. *The Trial and Death of Jesus Christ*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1950.
- Stein, Robert. *Jesus the Messiah*. Downers Grove: Intervarsity Press, 1996.
- Stroebel, Lee. *The Case for Christ*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1998.
- Swartley, Willard M. *Israel's Scripture Traditions and the Synoptic Gospels*. Peabody: Hendricksen Publishers, 1984.
- Twelftree, Graham H. *Jesus the Exorcist*. Peabody: Hendrickson Publishers, 1993.
- Vermes, Geza. *Jesus the Jew*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1973.
- _____. *The Religion of Jesus the Jew*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1993.
- Wright, N.T. *Simply Jesus: A New Vision of Who He Was, What He Did, and Why He Matters*. San Francisco: HarperOne, 2011.
- _____. *The Resurrection of the Son of God*. Minneapolis: Fortress, 2003.
- _____. *Jesus and the Victory of God*. Minneapolis: Fortress, 1996.
- Wright, Tom. *The Original Jesus*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1996.