



LEAVELL COLLEGE

NEW ORLEANS BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

BIUS1160: Hermeneutics
Fall 2019/20 (Term 201)
Pasco Baptist Association (PSC351)
Biblical Ministry Church Leadership Certificate

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The mission of Leavell College of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary is to equip leaders to fulfill the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.

Core Value

The seminary has five core values.

1. **Doctrinal Integrity:** Knowing that the Bible is the Word of God, we believe it, teach it, proclaim it, and submit to it. This course addresses Doctrinal Integrity specifically by preparing students to grow in understanding and interpreting of the Bible.
2. **Spiritual Vitality:** We are a worshiping community emphasizing both personal spirituality and gathering together as a Seminary family for the praise and adoration of God and instruction in His Word. Spiritual Vitality is addressed by reminding students that a dynamic relationship with God is vital for effective ministry.
3. **Mission Focus:** We are not here merely to get an education or to give one. We are here to change the world by fulfilling the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries. This course addresses Mission Focus by helping students understand the biblical foundations for fulfilling the Great Commission and the Great Commandments.
4. **Characteristic Excellence:** What we do, we do to the utmost of our abilities and resources as a testimony to the glory of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Characteristic Excellence is addressed by preparing students to excel in their ability to interpret Scripture, which is foundational to effective ministry.

- 5. Servant Leadership:** We follow the model of Jesus and exert leadership and influence through the nurture and encouragement of those around us. Servant Leadership is modeled by classroom deportment.

The core value focus for this academic year is *Spiritual Vitality*.

Course Description

The purpose of this course is to introduce the student to the interpretation of the Bible, seeking to provide a historical perspective and reliable principles with which to study, interpret, and apply Scripture.

Student Outcomes

In order to interpret and communicate the Bible accurately, the student, by the end of the course should:

1. Comprehend biblical hermeneutics.
2. Value the process of hermeneutics in the interpretation of the Scriptures.
3. Be able to apply the principles of biblical hermeneutics to the interpretation of Scripture.
4. The development of a hermeneutics notebook for future reference.

Course Texts

The following textbook is required:

Duvall, J. Scott, and J. Daniel Hays. *Grasping God's Word: A Hands-on Approach to Reading, Interpreting, and Applying the Bible*. 3rd ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2012.

Course Requirements and Grading (*Can be changed - apart from class participation*)

1. CLASS PARTICIPATION. Attendance in class is a necessary part of instruction in this course. Students are allowed a maximum of three hours of absences during the semester.
2. HISTORICAL CULTURAL STUDY. The student will complete a historical cultural study of an assigned passage. The paper should be 2 pages in length (typed and double spaced). The paper should consider the author, audience, and specific issues within the passage being studied.
3. EXEGETICAL STUDY. The student will be assigned a passage to study throughout the semester. Various daily assignments will require the student to apply certain interpretative principles to the selected passage. At the end of the semester the student will write a paper that will bring together applications of the principles studied and the actual investigation carried out during the semester. The paper is required to be 3-4 pages, typed and double spaced. More information regarding the paper will be discussed in class. Late papers will be penalized.
4. HERMENEUTICS NOTEBOOK. Set up a systematic notebook technic for writing Historical Cultural and Exegetical studies for future use. Includes systematic questions to ask of the text; supporting bibliography enters; dating of initial enter, subsequent changes, and why the change; a concluding statement on the outcome; and a keywords tab. (*Incorporate NT & OT outline notes*)

5. **FINAL EXAMS.** Students will take a final exam at the end of the semester. The material covered on the exam will be from class lectures, notes, and the readings from the textbook.

Evaluation The final grade will be determined in the following way:

- 10% Class Participation
- 30% Historical/Cultural Study
- 40% Exegetical study
- 20% Final exam

This course will be graded using the standard Leavell College grading.

Grading Scale

A 100-93 B 92-85 C 84-77 D 76-70 F 69 and below

Course Outline

<i>Week</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Textbook Reading Assignment</i>	<i>Completed ✓</i>
<u><i>Week 1</i></u>	Introduction to the Course Discussion of Hermeneutics Assignment of Text for Study Chapt. 1: Bible Translations Chapt. 2: The Interpretive	pp. 23 - 38 pp. 39- 58	
<u><i>Week 2</i></u>	Chapt. 3: How to Read the Book – Sentences Chapt. 4: How to Read the Book – Paragraphs Chapt. 5: How to Read the Book – Discourses	pp. 51- 68 pp. 69- 90 pp. 91- 112	
<u><i>Week 3</i></u>	Chapt. 6: The Historical-Cultural Context Chapt. 7: What Do We Bring to the Text? Chapt. 8: The Literary Context	pp. 115 - 136 pp. 137 - 148 pp. 149 - 162	
<u><i>Week 4</i></u>	Chapt. 9: Word Studies Chapt. 10: Who Controls the Meaning? Chapt. 11: Levels of Meaning	pp. 163 - 187 pp. 191 - 202 pp. 203 - 224	
<u><i>Week 5</i></u>	Chapt. 12: The Role of the Holy Spirit Chapt. 13: Application Historical Culture Study/ Exegetical Study Due Review	pp. 225 – 233 pp. 235 - 247	
<u><i>Week 6</i></u>	Major Paper Due/Final Exam		

Additional Course Information

Class attendance is required. Any student missing more than 3 hours of class meeting for a one semester hour credit course forfeits credit for that course unless special permission is secured from Leavell College.

Late Assignments: All assignments are expected to be turned in on, or before, their due date.

Selected Bibliography

- Black, David Alan, and David S. Dockery, eds. *Interpreting the New Testament*. Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 2001.
- Bray, Gerald. *Biblical Interpretation: Past and Present*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1996.
- Carson, D.A. *Exegetical Fallacies*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1996.
- Corley, Bruce, Steve W. Lemke, and Grant I. Lovejoy, eds. *Biblical Hermeneutics: A Comprehensive Introduction to Interpreting Scripture*. 2d ed. Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 1996.
- Dockery, David S. *Biblical Interpretation: Then and Now*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1995.
- Eiford, James M. *How to Interpret the Bible*. Atlanta: John Knox Press, 1984.
- Fee, Gordon D., and Douglas Stuart. *How to Read the Bible For All Its Worth*. 3d ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1993.
- Fountain, Thomas E. *Keys to Understanding and Teaching Your Bible*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1983.
- Hendricks, Howard G., and William D. Hendricks. *Living by the Book*. Chicago: Moody Press, 1991.
- Kaiser, Walter C., and Moises Silva. *An Introduction to Biblical Hermeneutics*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1994.
- Klein, William W., et. al. *Introduction to Biblical Interpretation*. Dallas: Word Publishing, 1993.

- McQuilkin, Robertson. *Understanding and Applying the Bible*. Chicago: Moody Press, 1983.
- Osborne, Grant R. *The Hermeneutical Spiral*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1991.
- Stuart, Douglas. *Old Testament Exegesis: A Handbook for Students and Pastors*. 3d ed. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2001.
- Terry, Milton. *Biblical Hermeneutics*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1985.
- Vanhoozer, Kevin J. *Is There a Meaning in this Text?: the Bible, the Reader, and the Morality of Knowledge*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1998.