

4ON504: ADVANCED BIBLICAL EXEGESIS

Course Syllabus

Reformed Theological Seminary, Atlanta
Spring 2008, February 05 – May 06
Tuesday Afternoons, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Instructor: John J. Yeo, Ph.D.
Phone #: 404-775-4346
E-mail: jyeo@rts.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Attention is given to maintaining skill in the original languages and applying them to broader questions such as unity and diversity within Scripture, the relationship of Old and New Testament studies, the interaction of biblical and theological studies, and the place of Scripture in pastoral ministry. Two semesters each of Greek and Hebrew are prerequisite.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

The main goals of the course are:

1. To encourage the student to maintain the biblical languages (i.e., Classical Hebrew and Koine Greek).
2. To aid in the development and maintenance of the student's exegetical skills.
3. To consider broader hermeneutical issues. Particular attention will be given to the Christocentric, redemptive-historical unity of the Bible (especially biblical theology), the New Testament use of the Old Testament, narrative criticism (i.e., New Literary Criticism), and semantic analysis.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

The student should already own and be familiar with the first four texts:

1. **A Hebrew Bible:** preferably *Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia*.
2. **A Greek New Testament:** either United Bible Societies *Greek New Testament* (3rd or 4th edition) or Nestle-Aland text (26th or 27th edition).
3. **A standard Hebrew lexicon** (any one of the following): W. Holladay, *A Concise Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament* (Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1988); Francis Brown, S.R. Driver, & C.A. Briggs, *The New Hebrew and English Lexicon* (Reprinted; Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 1979) [*BDB*]; or L. Koehler. & W. Baumgartner, *The Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament: Volumes 1 & 2* (Leiden: Brill, 2001). [*HALOT*]
4. **A standard Greek lexicon** (any one of the following): W. Bauer, W.F. Arndt, W. Gingrich, & F.W. Danker, *A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature* (2nd ed.; Chicago and London: University of Chicago Press, 1979); or H.G. Liddell, R. Scott, H.S. Jones, *A Greek-English Lexicon* (9th ed.; Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1968).
5. Graeme Goldsworthy, *Preaching the Whole Bible as Christian Scripture: The Application of Biblical Theology to Expository Preaching* (Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2000).

6. Walter C. Kaiser, Jr. & Moisés Silva, *An Introduction to Biblical Hermeneutics: The Search for Meaning* (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1994).
7. S.M. Baugh, *A First John Reader: Intermediate Greek Reading Notes and Grammar* (Phillipsburg, NJ: P&R, 1999).
8. Robert S. Chisholm, Jr., *A Workbook for Intermediate Hebrew: Grammar, Exegesis, and Commentary on Jonah and Ruth* (Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel, 2006).

COURSE PROCEDURES

Normally the first hour of each week will be a lecture on a particular exegetical topic; the second hour will be given to translation and exegesis of an Old Testament passage; and the third hour will be devoted to translation and exegesis of a New Testament passage.

COURSE GRADES/ASSIGNMENTS:

1. Mid-Term Examination.

A mid-term exam covering reading, lectures, translations, and Hebrew and Greek vocabulary words will be given on March 18th. The exam will be worth **100 points** (25% of the final grade).

2. Exegetical Paper.

The student will submit an exegetical paper on the subject of biblical theology, i.e., redemptive history. The particular passage is up to the student, but is subject to the professor's approval. The paper should be 10-15 typewritten, double-spaced pages, and must involve exegesis in both the Hebrew Old Testament and the Greek New Testament. The paper should also incorporate an outline of its content in sermon or Bible study form. The paper, including the sermon/Bible study outline, will be worth **100 points** (25% of the final grade). The paper is due April 1st and is to be turned in at the beginning of class.

3. Final Examination.

There will be a final exam during examination week. It will be worth **100 points** (25% of the final grade) covering readings, lectures, vocabulary words and sight translations.

4. Book Reviews.

The student will submit two book reviews during the length of the course (see Course Schedule for specific due dates). Each review should be at least 2-3 typed, doubled-spaced pages in length. Each review should also be written in three parts. The first part should reflect the student's understanding of the book based upon a brief summary of its contents. The second part must incorporate the student's critique and/or positive evaluation of each text. In the third part, the student should mention whether or not he/she would recommend the book and why. These reviews will be worth **100 points each** (10% for each review totaling 20% of the final grade).

5. Seminar Presentation.

Each person will present to the class an oral summary of his exegetical paper. The presentation should include the following: indication of the OT and NT passages studied, the exegetical issues involved, and the student's conclusions. The presentation is worth **100 points** (5% of the final grade).

COURSE SCHEDULE

- February 05-** *Syllabus Review and Course Requirements*
Lecture: Biblical Hermeneutics - Major Schools of Christian Interpretation of the Bible
- February 12-** Lecture: The History of Biblical Theology
Old Testament text: Jonah 1:1-3
Chisholm: pp. 21-30
New Testament text: 1 John 1:1-10
Baugh: pp. 1-14 (Chapters 1-2)
- February 19-** Lecture: What is Biblical Theology? (Covenant Theology)
Old Testament text: Jonah 1:4-6
Chisholm: pp. 31-39
New Testament text: 1 John 2:1-14
Baugh: pp. 15-30 (Chapters 3-4)
- February 26-** Lecture: What is Biblical Theology? II (Typology)
Old Testament text: Jonah 1:7-16
Chisholm: pp. 40-54
New Testament text: 1 John 2:15-25
Baugh: pp. 31-38 (Chapter 5)
- March 04-** Lecture: An Introduction to Biblical Narrative
Old Testament text: Jonah 2:1-11
Chisholm: pp. 54-67
New Testament text: 1 John 2:26 – 3:3
Baugh: pp. 39-44 (Chapter 6)
- March 11-** Lecture: An Introduction to Biblical Narrative II
Old Testament text: Jonah 3:1-4
Chisholm: pp. 69-72
New Testament text: 1 John 3:4-10
Baugh: pp. 45-52 (Chapter 7)
Book Review Due: Goldsworthy, *Preaching the Whole Bible as Christian Scripture*
Mid-term exam review
- March 18-** **Mid-term** (2 hours)
- March 25-** **No Class**
- April 01-** **Presentations**
Old Testament text: Jonah 3:5-10

Chisholm: pp. 73-80
 New Testament text: 1 John 3:11-18
 Baugh: pp. 53-58 (Chapter 8)

April 08-**Presentations**

Old Testament text: Jonah 4:1-5
 Chisholm: pp. 80-87
 New Testament text: 1 John 3: 19 – 4:6
 Baugh: pp. 59-64 (Chapter 9)

April 15-

Lecture: Word Studies and Semantic Analysis
 Old Testament text: Jonah 4:6-11
 Chisholm: pp. 87-94
 New Testament text: 1 John 4:7-21
 Baugh: pp. 65-69 (Chapter 10)

April 22-

Lecture: The New Testament Use of the Old Testament
 Old Testament text: Genesis 22: 1-12
 New Testament text: 1 John 5:1-12
 Baugh: pp. 70-75 (Chapter 11)

April 29-

Lecture: What is the Gospel? (The Content of Preaching)
 Old Testament text: Genesis 22: 13-24
 New Testament text: 1 John 5:13-21
 Baugh: pp. 76-81 (Chapter 12)
Book Review Due: Kaiser & Silva, *An Introduction to Biblical Hermeneutics*
 Final exam review

May 06-

Final Exam (2 hours)

ATTENDANCE

Although attendance will not be figured into the final grade for this course, experience shows that those who attend class regularly do better than those that do not. Therefore, please notify the instructor if you intend on missing a class or will be turning in an assignment later than the scheduled due date. Otherwise, an entire letter grade will be deducted each week if an assignment is not turned in on time. In addition, examinations will not be “made up” without previous notification.

GRADING

A. Scale. The standard RTS grading scale will be used.

- A (97-100)
- A- (94-96)
- B+ (91-93)
- B (88-90)
- B- (86-87)
- C+ (83-85)
- C (80-82)
- C- (78-79)
- D+ (75-77)
- D (72-74)
- D- (70-71)
- F (below 70)

B. Basis for computation

| | |
|---------------------|----------------|
| Midterm Examination | 25% |
| Final Examination | 25% |
| Book Reviews | 20% (10% each) |
| Paper | 25% |
| + Presentation | 5% |
| <hr/> | |
| Total | 100% |