

INTRODUCTION TO THE DEAD SEA SCROLLS

COURSE SYLLABUS

Spring Session, 2009

Tuesday-Thursday, 10:00am to 4:30pm, May 26-28

McLean Presbyterian Church

INSTRUCTOR: Peter Y. Lee

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- **COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This course will be a basic introduction to the archeology, history, and theology of the Dead Scroll community. Special attention will be placed on the literature of the Dead Sea Scrolls library, their contribution to current Biblical studies as well as their relevance for the church today.

- **COURSE OBJECTIVES:**
 - To gain a knowledge of the current day issues in the studies of the Dead Sea Scrolls
 - To understand the historical and cultural context of the Dead Sea Scrolls
 - To comprehend a basic reading knowledge of the literature that make up the Dead Sea Scroll library
 - To comprehend a basic understanding of the Jewish community that preserved and dwelt within Khirbet Qumran
 - To see the impact that the Dead Sea Scrolls have made in our understanding of the Biblical texts, specifically within the New Testament

- **REQUIRED READINGS.**
 - James VanderKam. *The Dead Sea Scrolls Today*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1994.
 - Joseph A. Fitzmyer. *Responses to 101 Questions on the Dead Sea Scrolls*. New York: Paulist Press, 1992.
 - Florentino Garcia Martinez. *The Dead Sea Scrolls Translated: The Qumran Texts in English*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1996.

- **REQUIREMENTS:**

- Attendance:
 - ✓ You are required to attend each class. Since this course will be run in an intensive format over a period of three days, it is vital that students be able to attend each class meeting. To miss one full day or its equivalence is not acceptable.
 - ✓ If you know you cannot make it to a class session, notify me in advance.
- Reading Report: A brief written report will be required on the required reading list above. We will discuss this more in detail on the first day of class.
- Term Paper Assignment: A term paper will also be assigned. More on this during the first day of class.
- Exam: In order to fit in all the materials for this course in the given time, there will be only one FINAL EXAM.
 - ✓ The exam will cover materials from the class lectures and required readings.
 - ✓ The exam will be take-home, thus will require a proctor.
 - ✓ The exam will be distributed on the last day of class.
 - ✓ The exam is to be completed and post-dated to the instructor no later than **Monday, June 13**. Any exam later than that date will be penalized. Guidelines will be provided in class.
- Total Grade:
 - ✓ Reading Report: 25% of total grade
 - ✓ Term Paper: 25% of total grade
 - ✓ Final Exam: 50% of total grade

- **OFFICE HOURS:**

- I will be available every morning from 8:00am on during the week of the class.
- Or by appointment (contact the instructor to setup a time and place).

- **INFORMATION ON PETER LEE:** If you have questions, cannot attend a class, or need any further assistance, please don't hesitate to contact me.

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