COURSE SYLLABUS

RLGN 325
ELEMENTS OF BIBLE STUDY

COURSE DESCRIPTION
An introduction to the basic steps and tools involved in the inductive study of the Bible. The student will develop the skills to practice a methodical approach to the observation, interpretation, application, and correlation to Scripture.

RATIONALE
The ability to properly read, interpret, and apply the Bible is foundational to vocational Christian ministry. The inductive method of Bible study taught in this course provides the student with principles and methods for a lifetime of effective and fruitful study in the Word of God.

I. PREREQUISITES
BIBL 105 and 110, or BIBL 104

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASES


Disclaimer: The above resources provide information consistent with the latest research regarding the subject area. Liberty University does not necessarily endorse specific personal, religious, philosophical, or political positions found in these resources.
III. **ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING**
   A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
   B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
   C. Microsoft Word
      (Microsoft Office is available at a special discount to Liberty University students.)
   D. Access to multiple translations of the Bible

IV. **MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES**
   Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:
   A. Understand the relationship and movement between observation, interpretation, application, and correlation as a framework for applied hermeneutics.
   B. Use basic tools and resources for doing Bible study.
   C. Identify basic elements of structure within the biblical text.
   D. Contextually interpret and apply Scripture.
   E. Generate word studies, starting with an English translation, in reference to original language vocabulary.

V. **COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS**
   A. Textbook readings, study guides, and presentations
   B. Course Requirements Checklist
      After reading the Syllabus and Student Expectations, the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.
   C. Discussion Board Forums (3)
      Discussion boards are collaborative learning experiences. Therefore, the student is required to provide a thread in response to the provided prompt for each forum. The student will participate in 3 Discussion Board Forums throughout the course. In preparation for each forum, the student will read the assigned chapters from Grudem’s *Understanding the Big Picture of the Bible*. The thread must consist of at least 400 words, address all 3 of the prompted questions, and incorporate a minimum of 2 citations in current Turabian format. In addition to the thread, the student is required to reply to 2 other classmates’ threads. Each reply must consist of at least 200 words, address all 3 of the prompted questions, and incorporate a minimum of 1 citation in current Turabian format.
   D. Bible Study Assignments (2)
      The student will complete specified assignments at the end of assigned chapters in the Duvall & Hays’ *Grasping God’s Word*. The student will examine Bible passages, consult a commentary, and answer questions about the textbook material as directed.
E. Interpretive Journey Paper

The student will submit a 600-800 word paper using the provided template that demonstrates each of the 5 major steps of the Interpretive method of Bible study. In addition to the Bible, this paper will require the use of the Douglas et al.’s *Zondervan Illustrated Bible Dictionary*. The Interpretive Journey Paper must be written in current Turabian format and reflect a personal and independent study of a selected passage of Scripture by including all 5 steps in addition to a title page and bibliography. The title page and bibliography will not count toward your overall word requirement.

F. Midterm and Final Exams

Each exam will cover content covered in the course materials. Each quiz will consist of 40 multiple-choice, true/false, and 2 essay questions, is open-book/open-notes, and must be completed in 1 hour and 15 minutes.

VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

Course Requirements Checklist .......................... 10
Discussion Board Forums (3 at 100 pts ea) ........... 300
Bible Study Assignments (2 at 100 pts ea) .......... 200
Interpretive Journey Paper .............................. 100
Midterm Exam ............................................. 200
Final Exam ................................................... 200

Total ......................................................... 1010

B. Scale

A = 900–1010   B = 800–899   C = 700–799   D = 600–699   F = 0–599

C. Late Assignment Policy

If the student is unable to complete an assignment on time, then he or she must contact the instructor immediately by email. Assignments that are submitted after the due date without prior approval from the instructor will receive the following deductions:

1. Late assignments submitted within one week of the due date will receive a 10% deduction.
2. Assignments submitted more than one week late will receive a 20% deduction.
3. Assignments submitted two weeks late or after the final date of the class will not be accepted.
4. Late Discussion Board threads or replies will not be accepted.

Special circumstances (e.g. death in the family, personal health issues) will be reviewed by the instructor on a case-by-case basis.
D. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online’s Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at LUOODAS@liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport.