Note:

Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.
COURSE SYLLABUS
NBST 652
HERMENEUTICS

COURSE DESCRIPTION
An advanced course in hermeneutics including a study of the history of interpretation, both biblical and extra-biblical, and an examination of the current status of various interpretive approaches to the Scriptures.

RATIONALE
Believers in all walks of life need the ability to interpret God’s Word correctly. Pastors, associate pastors, and teachers need these abilities to develop expository sermons and lessons. Those in other fields such as counseling, business, and education need these abilities in order to integrate biblical truths with the principles and hypotheses of people in their fields. All believers need hermeneutical skills in order to identify and defend against heretical teachings and to grow in their Christian lives.

Believers also need to recognize that there may be more than one plausible interpretation of a biblical passage, and be willing to show tolerance and acceptance when others interpret Scriptures differently than they do. It is important that we “hold our theories tentatively,” so that we are willing to change our opinions when new biblical data would warrant doing so.

I. PREREQUISITES
None

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASES
Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm

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.)

IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES
Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:
A. Identify the principles involved in validly interpreting a biblical text.
B. Apply those principles to a biblical passage in order to understand its meaning.
C. Analyze alternative interpretations of a given passage.
D. Evaluate the major hermeneutical problems confronting the study of various books of the Bible.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

A. Textbook readings and lecture presentations/notes
B. Course Requirements Checklist
   As the first activity in this course, please read the syllabus and Student Expectations. After reading the syllabus and Student Expectations, the student will then complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.
C. Discussion Board Forums (5)
   There will be 5 Discussion Board Forums throughout the course. The purpose of Discussion Board Forums is to generate interaction in regard to relevant, current course topics. The student is required to post 2 threads (1 per question) of at least 500 words by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Thursday of the assigned module/week. The student will then post replies of at least 150 words to 2 other students’ threads by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Sunday of the same module/week. For each thread, the student will support his/her assertions with at least 5 citations in Turabian format. Each reply should cite at least 2 sources. Acceptable sources include textbooks, scholarly articles, and online sources approved by the instructor. (Outcomes: A, B, C, D)
D. Exegetical Paper Passage and Bibliography
   The student will choose a passage from the options given by the instructor. The student will list his/her chosen passage for the Exegetical Paper. The student will also list at least 7 scholarly sources that will be used for the paper. Textbooks do not count toward the total, and all sources must reflect proper Turabian formatting. This assignment is due by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Sunday of Module/Week 3. (Outcomes: B, C, D)
E. Book Critique
   The student will be required to write a book critique of How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth. This critique will include a summary and analysis of the book and must be between 5–10 pages long. Proper Turabian formatting is required. This assignment is due by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Sunday of Module/Week 4. (Outcomes: A, D)
F. Exegetical Paper
   The student is required to submit an Exegetical Paper over his/her chosen passage. The paper must follow Turabian style guidelines and be at least 10–17 pages in length. This assignment is due by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Sunday of Module/Week 7. (Outcomes: B, C, D)
G. Exams (4)
There are 4 open-note/open-book exams, which contain 20 questions each. The student will have 60 minutes to complete each exam. Exams are due by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Sunday of Modules/Weeks 2, 4, and 6. Exam 4 is due by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday of Module/Week 8. (Outcomes: A, D)

VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Requirement</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course Requirements Checklist</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Board Forums (5 at 60 pts ea)</td>
<td>300</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exegetical Paper Passage and Bibliography</td>
<td>60</td>
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<tr>
<td>Book Critique</td>
<td>120</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exegetical Paper</td>
<td>200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 1 (Modules 1–2)</td>
<td>80</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 2 (Modules 3–4)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 3 (Modules 5–6)</td>
<td>80</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exam 4 (Modules 7–8)</td>
<td>80</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1010</strong></td>
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B. Scale

D- = 680–699  F = 679 and below

C. Late Assignment Policy

Each assignment should be completed by the end of the module in which it is assigned. All late work will be assessed a deduction of 5% per day of the assignment’s point value. Late work may not be penalized at the instructor’s discretion in the event of a military deployment, medical emergency, death in the family, or other extenuating circumstances.

D. Style Guidelines

All assignments for this course are to be formatted in accordance with the latest edition of the Turabian style manual (*A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*). Discussion assignments and essay examinations may use the parenthetical citation style. All other written assignments should use the footnote citation style. Writing aids are available via the Online Writing Center.

E. Extra Credit

No additional “for credit” assignments will be permitted beyond those given in the course requirements stated above.

F. Course Changes

Course requirements are subject to change by the administration of the University at any time with appropriate notice.

G. 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/disabilitiesupport.
COURSE SCHEDULE

NBST 652

Fee and Stuart, *How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth* (2003).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK/MODULE</th>
<th>READING &amp; STUDY</th>
<th>ASSIGNMENTS</th>
<th>POINTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1           | Fee and Stuart: chs. 1–4 (pp. 11–77)  
              Klein et al.: chs. 1–3 (pp. 3–101)  
              4 presentations | Course Requirements  
Class Introductions  
Discussion Board Forum 1 | 10  
0  
60 |
| 2           | Duvall and Hays: chs. 2–4 (pp. 39–90)  
              Fee and Stuart: chs. 4–7 (pp. 77–148)  
              Klein et al.: ch. 5 (pp. 135–168)  
              2 presentations | Discussion Board Forum 2  
Exam 1 | 60  
80 |
| 3           | Klein et al.: chs. 4, 7 (pp. 103–131, 213–272)  
              Fee and Stuart: chs. 8–11 (pp. 149–223)  
              2 presentations | Discussion Board Forum 3  
Exegetical Paper Passage and Bibliography | 60  
60 |
| 4           | Duvall and Hays: chs. 1, 5–9 (pp. 23–38, 91–187)  
              Fee and Stuart: chs. 12–13 (pp. 225–264)  
              Klein et al.: ch. 6 (pp. 169–209)  
              2 presentations | Book Critique  
Exam 2 | 120  
80 |
| 5           | Duvall and Hays: chs. 10–13, 15, Appendix 1–2  
              (pp. 191–247, 269–290, 443–457)  
              Klein et al.: chs. 10–12 (pp. 399–418, 451–504)  
              2 presentations | Discussion Board Forum 4 | 60 |
| 6           | Duvall and Hays: chs. 14, 16–17  
              (pp. 251–268, 291–330)  
              Klein et al.: ch.10 (pp. 418–448)  
              3 presentations | Discussion Board Forum 5  
Exam 3 | 60  
80 |
| 7           | Duvall and Hays: chs. 20, 22  
              (pp. 373–396, 421–442)  
              Klein et al.: chs. 8–9  
              (pp. 273–319, 351–359, 387–398) sections on Poetry and Wisdom in ch. 9  
              2 presentations | Exegetical Paper | 200 |
| 8           | Duvall and Hays: chs. 18, 19, 21  
              (pp. 333–372, 397–419)  
              Klein et al.: ch. 9 (pp. 323–351, 359–387)  
              4 presentations | Exam 4 | 80 |

**TOTAL** 1010

**NOTE:** Each course week begins on Monday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Sunday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday.