

WESLEY THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY COURSE OF STUDY

CS 121 Bible 1: Introduction October 2-November 4, 2023

October: Asynchronous Black Board Learning
November Synchronous Online Learning (Zoom Class)
Friday, November 3, 9:00 am–12:00 pm and 1:00–3:00 pm
Saturday, November 4, 9:00 am–12:00 pm and 1:00–3:00 pm

Instructor: Rev. Dr. Yo Rhie
Phone: 240-474-3800
Email: aumcpyo@gmail.com

COUSE DESCRIPTION

This course offers a general introduction to the Bible focusing on the origin, authorship, historical context, canonization, and translation of the Bible. Attention is given to the cultural background and development of biblical thoughts as they aid exegesis of biblical texts.

COURSE GOALS

The purpose of this course is to enable the student to do the following:

- Learn the origin, purpose, literary genre, and theology of various types of sacred writings in the Bible.
- Articulate the inspiration and formation of the canon and its authority within the community of faith.
- Develop a method of exegesis and the means for applying such to preaching and teaching in the local church.

REQUIRED TEXTS

- Anderson, Bernhard W. The Unfolding Drama of the Bible. Fortress Press, 2006.
- Barclay, William. Introducing the Bible. Abingdon Press, 1997.

- Hayes, John H. and Holladay, Carl R. *Biblical Exegesis*. Westminster John Knox Press, 2007.

WRITING ASSIGNMENTS

Assignment Requirements

- All written assignments must demonstrate academic integrity which means both truthful representation of all academic work, and opposition to cheating, lying, and plagiarism of any kind. You must cite any sources used in essays in footnotes or a bibliography and are expected to produce your own original work.
- All papers must be submitted electronically to Blackboard in word document formats (*docx, *doc), twelve-point font, double-space, with a one-inch margin by due dates.

Grades

The course assignment consists of reading the three required textbooks. Each week you'll submit your two-page reading assignment for five weeks and the final preaching manuscript utilizing your study and specialized exegesis.

READING ASSIGNMENTS DUE

The first month, (10/03~29) is asynchronous Black Board Learning, which means you'll be required to watch the lecture videos and other selected online videos and participate in the discussion board and submit your essays to Blackboard.

October 8th, midnight

- Anderson, pp. 11-17
- Hayes and Holladay, pp. 1-116

What is "exegesis" and what are the ten categories of specialized exegesis? Write a brief interpretive strategy of one or two "criticisms" which you have used/might use in your preaching in the local church. (TWO PAGES)

October 15th, midnight

- Anderson, pp. 19-36
- Barclay, pp. 26-35

What are the challenges facing the church today in the keeping of the covenant commitment in a world of increasing polarization, digital, diverse and divided? (TWO PAGES)

October 22nd, midnight

- Anderson, pp. 39-51, 563-59
- Barclay, 36-45, 76-101

Discuss the view that religion belongs in one sphere, while political and economic issues belong in another. What do you think of the tendency of keeping social issues out of the pulpit? (TWO PAGES)

The test of any religion is how it deals with the problem of suffering and evil. How is this problem dealt with in the Book of Job OR THE Book of Psalms? (TWO PAGES)

October 29th, midnight

- Anderson, pp. 61-80
- Barclay, pp. 52-75

Jesus preached with eschatological urgency. Where do you find it in the four Gospels, Acts, Epistles, and Apocalypse? (TWO PAGES)

Zoom Class from November 3 (Fri) to 4 (Sat)

November 5th, midnight

A preaching manuscript implementing exegesis strategies (TEN PAGES)

Lectionary readings for November 5th, 2023

- Joshua 3:7-17 and Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37
- Micah 3:5-12 and Psalm 43
- 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13
- Matthew 23:1-12