

Syllabus

REL-483: Biblical Studies Colloquium

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Course Description

A reading and writing intensive course in the study of Biblically-oriented topics that serves as a capstone experience for Biblical Studies students. Topics may reflect contemporary issues or research in the wider discipline.

Credit Hours: 3

Prerequisite Courses: This is the capstone course for the Bachelor's degree in Biblical Studies and should be taken near the end of the program.

Prerequisite Skills and Knowledge: In-depth knowledge of the Inductive Bible Study method and elements of research in Biblical Studies.

Course Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, you should be able to:

1. Demonstrate mastery of the various tools of inductive Bible study.
2. Synthesize a major theme of a book of scripture.
3. Create a series of Bible study lessons based on a major theme of a book of scripture.
4. Interpret a short passage of scripture with extensive use of academic secondary literature.
5. Explain several connections between a particular book of scripture and elements of the Wesleyan-Arminian theological tradition.
6. Reflect on the relationship of the study of scripture and spiritual formation.

Course Textbook

Mulholland, M. R. Jr. (2001). *Shaped by the word: The power of Scripture in spiritual formation* (Rev. ed.). Nashville, TN: The Upper Room.

Course Technology

None.

Grading Scale

Grade	Quality Points Per Credit	Percentage	Score

A	4.0	95%–100%	950–1000
A-	3.7	92%–94.9%	920–949
B+	3.3	89%–91.9%	890–919
B	3.0	85%–8.9%	850–889
B-	2.7	82%–84.9%	820–849
C+	2.3	79%–81.9%	790–819
C	2.0	75%–78.9%	750–789
C-	1.7	72%–74.9%	720–749
D+	1.3	69%–71.9%	690–719
D	1.0	65%–68.9%	650–689
F	0.0	0%–64.9%	0–649

Grading Policies

Your grading policy for your course is dependent on your school and program. Your grading policies can be found in the IWU Catalog.

Letter Grade Equivalencies

Grade	Description of Work
A	Clearly stands out as excellent performance. Has unusually sharp insights into material and initiates thoughtful questions. Sees many sides of an issue. Articulates well and writes logically and clearly. Integrates ideas previously learned from this and other disciplines. Anticipates next steps in progression of ideas. Example "A" work should be of such nature that it could be put on reserve for all cohort members to review and emulate. The "A" cohort member is, in fact, an example for others to follow.

B	Demonstrates a solid comprehension of the subject matter and always accomplishes all course requirements. Serves as an active participant and listener. Communicates orally and in writing at an acceptable level for the degree program. Work shows intuition and creativity. Example "B" work indicates good quality of performance and is given in recognition for solid work; a "B" should be considered a good grade and awarded to those who submit assignments of quality less than the exemplary work described above.
C	Quality and quantity of work in and out of class is average. Has marginal comprehension, communication skills, or initiative. Requirements of the assignments are addressed at least minimally.
D	Quality and quantity of work is below average. Has minimal comprehension, communication skills, or initiative. Requirements of the assignments are addressed at below acceptable levels.
F	Quality and quantity of work is unacceptable and does not qualify the student to progress to a more advanced level of work.

Course Assignments

Workshop One Outline

Title	Due Dates	Time	Points
1.1 Discussion: Choosing a Book & Passage	Post your initial response by the end of the fourth day of the workshop and required responses by the end of the workshop.	1 hour	30
1.2 Discussion: Scripture & Spiritual Formation	Post your initial response by the end of the fourth day of the workshop and required responses by the end of the workshop.	3 hours	30
1.3 Assignment: Book Survey	Due by the end of the workshop	6 hours	100
1.4 Quiz: Bible Knowledge Exam	Due by the end of the workshop	2 hours	25
Totals		12 hours*	185

Workshop Two Outline

Title	Due Dates	Time	Points

Title	Due Dates	Time	Points
2.1 Discussion: Scripture and Spiritual Formation	Post your initial response by the end of the fourth day of the workshop and required responses by the end of the workshop.	3 hours	30
2.2 Discussion: A Wesleyan Perspective on Scripture	Post your initial response by the end of the fourth day of the workshop and required responses by the end of the workshop.	3 hours	30
2.3 Assignment: Detailed Observation	Due by the end of the workshop	6 hours	100
Totals		12 hours*	160

Workshop Three Outline

Title	Due Dates	Time	Points
3.1 Discussion: Scripture and Spiritual Formation	Post your initial response by the end of the fourth day of the workshop and required responses by the end of the workshop.	3 hours	30
3.2 Assignment: Research Report	Due by the end of the workshop.	4 hours	50
3.3 Assignment: Scripture in Wesleyan Perspective	Due by the end of the workshop.	5 hours	50
Totals		12 hours*	130

Workshop Four Outline

Title	Due Dates	Time	Points
4.1 Discussion: Coaching	Post your initial response by the end of the fourth day of the workshop and required responses by the end of the workshop.	3 hours	20
4.2 Assignment: Passage Interpretation	Due by the end of the workshop	8 hours	130
Totals		11 hours*	150

Workshop Five Outline

Title	Due Dates	Time	Points
5.1 Discussion: Coaching	Due by the end of the workshop	1 hour	20
5.2 Assignment: Scripture and Spiritual Formation	Due by the end of the workshop	4 hours	50
Totals		11 hours*	145

Title	Due Dates	Time	Points
5.3 Assignment: Evaluation and Application	Due by the end of the workshop	6 hours	75
Totals		11 hours*	145

Workshop Six Outline

Title	Due Dates	Time	Points
6.1 Discussion: Coaching	Post your initial response by the end of the fourth day of the workshop and required responses by the end of the workshop.	1 hour	20
6.2 Assignment: Bible Study Lesson Series	Due by the end of the workshop.	4 hours	75
6.3 Assignment: Book Level Interpretation	Due by the end of the workshop.	8 hours	130
End of Course Survey	Due by the end of the workshop.	30 minutes	10 Extra Credit
Totals		13 hours*	225

*These timings are based on estimations of average times to complete each assignment. Actual assignment completion times will vary.

Course Development Resources

Bauer, D. R. and R. A. Traina (2011). *Inductive Bible study: A comprehensive guide to the practice of hermeneutics*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic.

Callen, B., & Thompson, R. P. (2004). *Reading the Bible in Wesleyan ways: Some constructive proposals*. Kansas City, MO: Beacon Hill Press.

Foster, R. J. (2010). *Life with God: Reading the Bible for spiritual transformation*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.

Green, J. B. (2007). *Seized by truth: Reading the Bible as Scripture*. Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press.

Leclerc, D., & Maddix, M. A. (2011). *Spiritual formation: A Wesleyan paradigm*. Kansas City, MO: Beacon Hill Press.

Martin G. (1998). *Reading Scripture as the Word of God: Practical approaches and attitudes* (4th ed.). Ann Arbor, MI: Servant Publications.

- Osborne, G. R. (2004). *The hermeneutical spiral: A comprehensive introduction to Biblical interpretation* (Rev. ed.). Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.
- Pazmino, R. W. (2009). *Doing theological research: An introductory guide for survival in theological education*. Eugene, OR: Resource Publications.
- Richards, L. O., & Bredfeldt, G. J. (1998). *Creative Bible teaching*. Chicago, IL: Moody Publishers.
- Robbins, V. K. (1996). *The tapestry of early Christian discourse: Rhetoric, society, and ideology*. New York, NY: Routledge.
- Trier, D. J. (2008). *Introducing theological interpretation of Scripture: Recovering a Christian practice*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic.
- Vyhmeister, N. J., & Robertson, T. D. (2014). *Quality research papers: For students of religion and theology*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.
- Wilhoit, J., & Howard, E. B. (2012). *Discovering Lectio Divinia: Bringing Scripture into ordinary life*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.
- Wilhoit, J. C., & Ryken, L. (2012). *Effective Bible teaching*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic.

Expectations, Policies, and Important Student Information

School/Division	Link
DeVoe School of Business Division of Liberal Arts School of Services and Leadership	View School/Division Expectations, Policies, and Student Information
School of Educational Leadership	View School/Division Expectations, Policies, and Student Information
Wesley Seminary @ IWU	View School/Division Expectations, Policies, and Student Information

School/Division	Link
Nursing - Undergraduate	<u>View School/Division Expectations, Policies, and Student Information</u>
Nursing - Graduate	<u>View School/Division Expectations, Policies, and Student Information</u>