

Syllabus for
GBIB 515 Introduction to Biblical Literature
3 Credit Hours
Fall 2015

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

A historical-thematic survey of the Old and New Testaments. Examines the content of the biblical text, with emphasis on the cultural and historical background of the text, and its modern cultural application.

Prerequisites: None.

II. COURSE GOALS

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

- A. Gain valuable insights into the development of the Old and New Testaments, its message and meaning.
- B. Learn to apply doctrinal and ethical principles to contemporary life.
- C. Learn to engage in more advanced biblical interpretation and discussion.
- D. Study the spiritual disciplines and their value for spiritual formation.

III. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR THIS COURSE

As a result of successfully completing this course, the student will be able to do the following:

- A. Define and identify key names and terms which occur in the Bible.
- B. Identify the key persons and places in historical events.
- C. Discuss the various types of literature in the Bible and give example of each.
- D. Summarize and present the biblical teachings concerning themes discussed in the lectures.
- E. Identify the unique contribution of each Gospel.
- F. Describe the spiritual disciplines and appreciate their importance in spiritual formation.
- G. Articulate a foundational knowledge of the content of Scripture within its cultural and historical context with application to contemporary situations.

IV. TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER LEARNING RESOURCES

- A. Required Materials
 - 1. Textbooks

The Bible (Any modern English version)

Duvall, J. Scott and J. Daniel Hays. *Living God's Word*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2012. ISBN: 978-0-310-292104.

DeSilva, David. *New Testament Themes*. St. Louis: Chalice Press, 2001. ISBN: 0827225113.

Keller, Timothy. *The Reason for God: Belief in an Age of Skepticism*. New York: Riverhead Books, 2008. ISBN: 9781594483493

Richter, Sandra. *The Epic of Eden: A Christian Entry into the Old Testament*. Downers Grove, IL: Inter Varsity Press, 2008. ISBN: 9780830825776

Watson, Edward. *Course Supplement*, 2013.

B. Optional Materials

Textbooks

Wright, N.T. *Simply Christian: Why Christianity Makes Sense*. San Francisco: HarperOne, 2010. ISBN: 0061920622

V. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

A. University Policies and Procedures

1. Attendance at each class or laboratory is mandatory at Oral Roberts University. Excessive absences can reduce a student's grade or deny credit for the course.
2. Students taking a late exam because of an unauthorized absence are charged a late exam fee.
3. Students and faculty at Oral Roberts University must adhere to all laws addressing the ethical use of others' materials, whether it is in the form of print, electronic, video, multimedia, or computer software. Plagiarism and other forms of cheating involve both lying and stealing and are violations of ORU's Honor Code: "I will not cheat or plagiarize; I will do my own academic work and will not inappropriately collaborate with other students on assignments." Plagiarism is usually defined as copying someone else's ideas, words, or sentence structure and submitting them as one's own. Other forms of academic dishonesty include (but are not limited to) the following:
 - a. Submitting another's work as one's own or colluding with someone else and submitting that work as though it were his or hers;
 - b. Failing to meet group assignment or project requirements while claiming to have done so;
 - c. Failing to cite sources used in a paper;
 - d. Creating results for experiments, observations, interviews, or projects that were not done;
 - e. Receiving or giving unauthorized help on assignments.

By submitting an assignment in any form, the student gives permission for the assignment to be checked for plagiarism, either by submitting the work for electronic verification or by other means. Penalties for any of the above infractions may result in disciplinary action including failing the assignment or

failing the course or expulsion from the University, as determined by department and University guidelines.

4. Final exams cannot be given before their scheduled times. Students need to check the final exam schedule before planning return flights or other events at the end of the semester.
5. Students are to be in compliance with university, school, and departmental policies regarding Whole Person Assessment requirements. Students should consult the WPA handbooks for requirements regarding general education and the students' majors.
 - a. The penalty for not submitting electronically or for incorrectly submitting an ePortfolio artifact is a zero for that assignment.
 - b. By submitting an assignment, the student gives permission for the assignment to be assessed electronically.

B. Graduate School of Theology and Ministry Policies and Procedures

1. **Completion of Assignments**

Assignments are due on the dates established in the course calendar, which is published in the syllabus. **Any assignments turned in after the scheduled due date are penalized five percent (5%) of the original value per day including weekends, breaks, and holidays.** All work turned in two weeks after the assignment deadline is received but is granted a grade of zero for that assignment. **No work** is accepted after the final date of regular classes.

2. **Incompletes**

- a. An incomplete is given only after the student establishes with the academic committee by written petition that student's work is incomplete for good cause (i.e., lengthy illness, death in the family). **Incompletes are rarely granted.** Only those absences that are incurred within the time period of the extenuating circumstances prompting an incomplete are excused. The student is still accountable for any other absences and will be penalized for them according to the attendance policy.
- b. A Petition for Incomplete Grade with all supporting documentation must be submitted for approval one week prior to the end of normal classes. **The submitting of a petition does not automatically ensure the granting of an incomplete.** The petition must be approved by the academic committee of the Graduate School of Theology and Ministry. Students are expected to continue all course work until an incomplete is granted.

3. **Examinations**

- a. Early examinations **are not** allowed. Late examinations without grade penalty are administered only when extenuating circumstances are present (such as a death in the family the week before exams or a sudden and major illness the week of exams that is documented by a physician).
- b. A Petition for Late Examination must be submitted to the academic dean's office. A **\$15 fee**, plus proper documentation, must accompany the petition. The academic committee reviews each petition and grade penalties are assessed. (Late exam fee is not a grade penalty.)
- c. Students taking late exams should expect alternate versions of the original exams.
- d. **Not being present for the final examination automatically results in failure of the course.**

4. **Attendance**
 The administration and faculty of the Graduate School of Theology and Ministry believe that class attendance is crucial in order for students to receive impartation, spiritual formation, and a community experience. Therefore, the Official Attendance Policy for the GSTM is as follows:
 - a. Students will receive one letter grade reduction after missing more than two weeks of classes.
 - b. Students who miss more than one month of classes will fail the course.
 - c. **The absences allowed prior to a grade reduction are designed to allow for emergencies and illnesses and are not designed for indiscriminate use.**
 - d. Administrative excuses are granted only when a student is on official university business and has received approval in advance from the university administration.
 - e. Students are expected to be prompt for classes.
 - f. Students are expected to remain for the entire class session.
 - g. Leaving early without permission constitutes an absence.
5. The Disability Service Center, in compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act, assures that no qualified individual with a disability will be denied reasonable accommodations based upon the individual's needs. It is the responsibility of the student to contact the Disability Service Center and properly register for these services. For more information, call 918.495.7018 or go to www.studentresources.oru.edu.

C. Course Policies and Procedure

1. Evaluation Procedures
 - a. Grading

Book Response Richter Text	15%
Book Response DeSilva Text	15%
Book Response Keller Text	15%
Integration/Application Paper	15%
Midterm	20%
Final Exam	20%
 - b. Grading scale:
 - A=90-100%
 - B=80-89%
 - C=70-79%
 - D=60-69%
 - F=59% and below
2. Whole Person Assessment Requirements
 - a. All students entering the seminary are required to enroll in PRF 059—ePortfolio: Whole Person Assessment, which provides specific training to develop the skills needed to create an ePortfolio.
 - b. WPA requirements for this course:
None

3. Other Policies and/or Procedures
 - a. Each student will complete three book response/reaction papers of the Richter, DeSilva, and Keller books (4-5 pages each). These papers will cover summary (2-3 pages) and evaluation (1-2 pages) of each book. Due dates are in Calendar.
 - b. Each student will write a 4-5 page Integration/Application paper. The student will evaluate how biblical studies as taught in the course and in their outside readings can be useful in their future context of ministry/counseling (4-5 pages).
 - c. There are two exams: a midterm which covers the Old Testament text and a final which covers the New Testament text.
 - d. Each student is required to read thorough the biblical text assigned and covered in class and follow the readings in the Duvall and Hays text.

VI. COURSE CALENDAR

Week	Assignment	Duvall	Papers Due
1	Introduction: The Old Testament as the Word of God Our Bible and How It Came to Us Why Believe the Bible: The Authority, Inspiration, and Interpretation of God's Word		
2	Preliminary Matters and Background Interpreting the OT Pentateuch	Ch 1-3	
3	Pentateuch		
4	Pentateuch/Historical Books	Ch 4-5	
5	Historical Books	Ch 6	Richter Book Response Due
6	Prophets	Ch 8-9	
7	Prophets/Poetry/Wisdom Midterm Exam	Ch 7,10	
8	Interpreting the NT Introduction to Gospels Why four Gospels? Portraits of Jesus	Ch 11-15	
9	Gospels/Acts	Ch 16	DeSilva Book Response Due
10	Gospels/Acts		
11	Gospels/Acts	Ch 17	

12	Gospels/Acts		Keller Book Response Due
13	Paul and his Letters	Ch. 18-19	
14	Paul and his Letters		Integration/ Application Paper Due
15	General Epistles and Revelation	Ch 20	

**Inventory for Student Learning Outcomes
Graduate School of Theology and Ministry**

**Master of Arts in Christian Counseling
GBIB 515—Introduction to New Testament Literature Dr. Edward Watson, Instructor
Fall 2015**

This course contributes to student learning outcomes for the Master of Arts in Practical Theology degree as indicated below:

Significant Contribution—Addresses the outcome directly and includes targeted assessment.

Moderate Contribution—Addresses the outcome directly or indirectly and includes some assessment.

Minimal Contribution—Addresses the outcome indirectly and includes little or no assessment.

No Contribution—Does not address the outcome.

Degree Program Outcomes	Significant Contribution	Moderate Contribution	Minimal Contribution	No Contribution
Theology/Philosophy of Counseling				
Develop a cohesive theology of counseling with theological reflection on the counseling process, emphasizing Spirit-directed change.			X	
Assessment Techniques				
Exhibit skill in selecting, administering, scoring, interpreting, and reporting the results from various assessment instruments.				X
Clinical/Theoretical Diagnostic Appraisal				
Demonstrate the ability to interpret case specific information by translating it into accurate diagnostic appraisals.				X
Treatment Plans in Response to Diagnosis				
Display the ability to develop relevant treatment plans in response to specific diagnoses, and the skill to implement them in the context of a therapeutic relationship.				X
Research Skills and Methodologies				
Demonstrate basic research skills and methodologies through critiquing research findings and evaluating ESTs.				X
Professional Code of Ethics				
Demonstrate knowledge of professional codes of ethics and the ability to apply those codes to ethical dilemmas.				X
Foundational Knowledge of Scripture				
Demonstrate foundational knowledge of the content of Scripture within its cultural and historical context with application to selected contemporary situations.	X			