

THE CONTENT OF THIS DESCRIPTION IS NOT A LEARNING CONTRACT AND THE INSTRUCTOR IS NOT BOUND TO IT. IT IS OFFERED IN GOOD FAITH AND INTENDED AS A HELPFUL GUIDE TO THE STUDENT.

TITLE: English Bible Exegesis II / New Testament

TERM: Spring 2021-2022

PROFESSOR: Dan Frayer-Griggs

CREDIT HOURS: 3

REGISTRATION: LIMITED TO: 20
AUDITORS: 2

UNLIMITED _____
NO AUDITORS _____

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course introduces the process of New Testament exegesis and gives students the opportunity to practice exegesis of various New Testament passages in the English Bible. Students will learn to identify and evaluate the literary, social, historical, and canonical contexts of passages and to articulate a faithful interpretation of the meanings of those passages as Christian Scripture. Students will also learn to identify reliable and appropriate scholarly resources for New Testament interpretation.

CLASS OBJECTIVES:

At the conclusion of this course students should be able to:

- Discuss the nature and character of English translations of the Bible, including the process through which translators do their work and basic features of major translations (NRSV, NIV, JPS).
- Articulate a basic hermeneutical theory and show understanding of how interpreters from various perspectives approach the task of interpretation.
- Articulate a basic understanding of biblical authority from various perspectives.
- Use an organized exegetical procedure to explore a New Testament passage. The procedure should include:
 - Evaluating differences between translations.
 - Analyzing passages for their rhetorical and literary character (as might be displayed in an outline of a passage).
 - Discussing meaning of language of passages as determined by that language in biblical context(s).
 - Reading passages in various contexts (literary, social, historical, canonical).
 - Identifying and articulating theological significance of passages within scripture and for contemporary Christian communities.
- Demonstrate ability to identify and use appropriate resources for New Testament exegesis.

PREREQUISITES: NT110 or NT120

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS/READING:

- A complete study Bible with Apocrypha/deuterocanonical books.
- Michael J. Gorman, *Elements of Biblical Exegesis: A Basic Guide for Students and Ministers*, 3rd ed. Baker Academic, 2020, ISBN: 978-1540960313, \$27.99.
- Esau McCaulley, *Reading while Black: African American Biblical Interpretation as an Exercise in Hope*, InterVarsity Press, 2020, ISBN: 978-083085486, \$20.00.

ASSIGNMENTS & GRADING:

A “self-exegesis” reflection paper (2-3 pages; 10% of the grade)

A critical essay on a secondary reading (4-5 pages; 15% of the grade)

Exercises leading up to the writing of the final paper (15% of the grade)

A major exegetical paper (12-15 pages; 60% of the grade)

ATTENDANCE: Required.