



OTEN5311 – Old Testament Exegesis: Ruth
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Biblical Studies Division
Israel Academic Intensive
Israel Trip – November 17-26, 2021

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NOBTS MISSION STATEMENT:

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Leavell College prepare servants to walk with Christ, proclaim His truth, and fulfill His mission.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course consists of a thorough study of the book of Ruth and/or passages through verse-by-verse and paragraph-by-paragraph analysis, comparison of various English versions, consideration of pertinent historical and cultural issues, and consultation with major literature and commentaries. The course emphasizes proper methods for discovering the meaning of a text and applying it in teaching and preaching.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the conclusion of the semester, the students should be able to:

1. Have knowledge of the background material for the book of Ruth
2. Know the major points of scholarly discussion on Ruth and how to use critical means to interpret the letter.
3. Understand the message of the book of Ruth as it applied in the 2nd millennium BC and as it applies in the present day.
4. Have grown in appreciation for the message of God as revealed by the writer while reaching a better understanding of how this letter fits into the overall perspective of the Bible.
5. Know how to apply interpretation skills learned in this book to other books in the Old Testament.
6. Know how to develop biblical sermons or Bible study lessons from the book of Ruth

TEXTBOOKS

Hubbard, Robert L. *The Book of Ruth*. The New International Commentary on the Old Testament. Eerdmans, 1988.

Block, Daniel I. *Ruth: A Discourse Analysis of the Hebrew Bible*. Zondervan Exegetical Commentary. Zondervan, 2015.

COURSE TEACHING METHODOLOGY:

This course will be taught via a combination of pedagogical methods, including but not limited to the following: lectures, student assignments, small group work, computer resources, textbook reviews, travel notes and journal. Both inductive and deductive approaches to learning will be utilized.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

1. Students are expected to participate and take notes in the travel lectures.
2. Students are expected to complete the reading of the two textbooks and write a book review of each book. The book reviews should be 3-5 single-spaced pages and include the following elements:
 - 1) Bibliographic Entry
 - 2) Statement of the Author's Purpose
 - 3) Summary of the Contents. The summaries should be general in nature, covering the broad topics and three or four specific texts or topics as examples of the author's approach.
 - 4) An Evaluation of the book's thesis and treatment of the text of Ruth
3. Each student will keep a **journal** with notes on the sites, the lectures, and personal impressions of the trip. This journal (or a copy) is to be submitted at the end of the trip.
4. The student will be required to prepare a 5-7 page paper reflecting on the trip, the reading, and the study of Ruth. The paper is not a research paper, but should demonstrate serious thinking about the sites and experiences on the trip and serious reflection on the message of the book of Ruth. PowerPoint presentations are acceptable as an alternate to the paper as long as there is an accompanying narrative to explain each slide. There must be a minimum 75 slides in the presentation.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

For assistance regarding technology, consult ITC (504-816-8180) or the following websites:

1. Selfserve@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the Selfserve.nobts.edu site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.)
2. BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Blackboard Learning Management System NOBTS.Blackboard.com.
3. ITCSupport@nobts.edu - Email for general technical questions/support requests.
4. www.NOBTS.edu/itc/ - General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.

WRITING STYLE GUIDE

A copy of the approved NOBTS Style Guide can be found in the course Blackboard shell, or can be located online at the Writing Center's page on the seminary website at:

<https://www.nobts.edu/resources/pdf/writing/StyleGuide.pdf>

HELP FOR WRITING PAPERS AT "THE WRITE STUFF"

NOBTS maintains a Writing Center designed to improve English writing at the graduate level. Students can receive writing guides, tips, and valuable information to help in becoming a better writer.

PLAGIARISM ON WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS

NOBTS has a no tolerance policy for plagiarism. Plagiarism in certain cases may result in expulsion from the seminary. See the NOBTS Student Handbook for definition, penalties, and policies associated with plagiarism.

COURSE EVALUATION AND DUE DATES:

Book Reviews	30%	November 17, 2021
Travel Journal	30%	December 10, 2021
Reflective paper	40%	December 10, 2021

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Atkinson, D. *The Message of Ruth: The Wings of Refuge*. The Bible Speaks Today. Inter-Varsity, 1983
- Auld, A.G. *Joshua, Judges, and Ruth*. Daily Study Bible. Westminster, 1984.
- Block, D.I. *Judges, Ruth*. New American Commentary, Broadman, 1999
- Bush, R.W. *Ruth / Esther*. Word Biblical Commentary. Nelson / Paternoster, 1996.
- Campbell, E.F. *Ruth*. Anchor Bible, Doubleday, 1975
- Cundall, A.E. and L. Morris. *Judges and Ruth*. Tyndale Old Testament Commentaries, Inter-Varsity, 1968.
- Fuerst, W.J. *The Books of Ruth, Esther, Ecclesiastes, the Song of Songs, Lamentations*. Cambridge Bible Commentary. Cambridge University Press, 1975
- Goslinga, C.J. *Joshua, Judges, Ruth*. Bible Student's Commentary. Zondervan, 1986
- Gray, J. *Joshua, Judges, and Ruth*. New Century Bible. Sheffield, 1967
- Harris, J.G., C. Brown, and M. Moore. *Joshua, Judges, Ruth*. Hendrickson /Paternoster, 2000.
- Hubbard, Robert L. *The Book of Ruth*. The New International Commentary on the Old Testament. Eerdmans, 1988.
- Huey, F.B. Jr. *Ruth*. Expositor's Bible Commentary. Zondervan, 1992
- Knight, G.A. F. *Ruth and Jonah*. Torch Bible Commentaries. SCM, 1950
- Murphy, R.E. *Wisdom Literature: Job, Proverbs, Ruth, Canticles, Ecclesiastes, and Esther*. Forms of the Old Testament Literature. Eerdmans, 1981.
- Nielsen, Kirsten. *Ruth*. Old Testament Library. Westminster John Knox / SCM, 1997
- Sakenfeld, Katharine Doob. *Ruth: Interpretation: A Bible Commentary for Teaching and Preaching*. Interpreters John Knox, 1999.
- Sasson, J.M. *Ruth: A New Translation with a Philological Commentary and a Formalist-Folklorist Interpretation*. 2d. Ed. Journal for the Study of the Old Testament, 1989
- Younger, K.L., Jr. *Judges / Ruth*. New International Version Application Commentary. Zondervan / Hodder & Stoughton, 2002.