

**BSCM4315 OT INTERPRETATION: DANIEL/EZEKIEL**

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

Leavell College

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**NOBTS Mission Statement**

The mission of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary is to equip leaders to fulfill the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.

**Course Description**

The purpose of the OT interpretation course is to examine the pertinent background information of the biblical books and exegete selected passages in the book. The emphases are first on the proper understanding of the texts in their Old Testament settings and then on their relevance and application to the contemporary church. Special attention is also given to the development of themes within the books.

**Course Objectives**

This course will emphasize the ministerial competency of Biblical Exposition. It will also strengthen the Life Skills of reading, writing, and critical thinking.

By the end of the course, the student will:

1. Understand introductory matters concerning Daniel and Ezekiel.
2. Be able to interpret selected passages from Daniel and Ezekiel.
3. Be able to discern key theological themes in Daniel and Ezekiel.
4. Be able to discover contemporary applications for the truths and theological insights found in the books of Daniel and Ezekiel.

**Textbooks**

Required:

Miller, Stephen R. *Daniel*. The New American Commentary 18. Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 1994.

Cooper, LaMar Eugene. *Ezekiel*. The New American Commentary 17. Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 1994.

**Methodology**

The principal means of instruction will be lecture, group presentations, and

discussions. Handouts and visual aids will be utilized to supplement classroom presentations and discussions. Additionally, the students will evaluate the biblical texts and interpret them using valid hermeneutical principles. All assignments are intended to provide an integral part of the learning environment for the classroom.

### **Course Policy**

1. School policies concerning absences and tardiness will be strictly enforced. Any student missing more than one-fourth of the classroom hours (9 hours= 3 class sessions) will automatically receive a grade of "F" for the course. Every three occasions of arriving late for class or leaving early from class will be counted as one absence. Roll will be taken at the beginning of each period. It is the responsibility of the student to contact the professor if he/she is tardy and the roll has already been taken.
2. Any assignment not turned in during the assigned class period will be assessed a 5 point deduction per day.
3. The use of laptop computers in the classroom is a privilege. If any student is caught using their computer for anything outside the parameters of the class (e.g. facebook, email, etc), then, the entire class will lose the privilege to use computers. The same applies for the use of cell phones (e.g. texting). Finally, please be respectful to other classmates during in-class discussions.

### **Professor's Philosophy**

This professor believes education is a self-broadening process whereby the student's moral character, critical thinking skills, and base of knowledge are expanded resulting in greater fulfillment of the person's potential thereby increasing their usefulness within God's kingdom work.

### **Course Requirements**

1. Two examinations will be given during the semester. The mid-term examination will cover both material discussed in class and material taken from the readings and may consist of objective sections (matching, true/false, fill-in-the-blank, and multiple choice questions) and subjective sections (identification and essay questions). Any student who misses the mid-term exam is expected to schedule a make-up exam within one week of the missed exam. All make-up exams are assessed a 5 point penalty and are essay in form. Any exam not made-up within two weeks of the original exam date will be given the grade of zero. The final examination will be activity based and will require the student to apply and demonstrate the exegetical methods used throughout the semester. Both of these exams will count for 25% of the semester average (total 50%).
2. Each student will construct a class notebook which will be due on the day of the final exam. The notebook will be made up of the following 3 independent sections: Class Notes, Group Work, and Reading Notes. Each notebook is to be placed in a three ring binder and must contain all three sections. The student is free to arrange the notebook however they wish. For example, the student could include each of the three above sections within each independent exegetical. The class notes should consist of more

than a copy of the notes provided by the professor. The student should also include his/her notes taken during each class period. The notebook will compose 10% of the semester average.

3. Each student is expected to read *all* of the assigned material. Therefore, reading notes should be recorded for all the assigned readings. On the days designated on the course schedule, reading notes over each assigned section will be turned in at the beginning of class. These notes may be outline in form, summarizations, or limited direct quotes taken from the book. Reading notes will not be accepted late. The notes will be graded and will be returned to the student (so they can be placed in the notebook). The reading notes will compose 20% of the semester average.
4. The student is required to participate in groups to discuss selected passages. The professor will split the class into groups. Each group will lead the discussion on several passages during the semester. The student is responsible to read the commentaries and take notes before the discussion begins concerning these passages. In addition, the student will complete a worksheet on the passage to be turned in at the beginning of the class meeting. Then, each member of the group will be prepared to lead in a discussion of the selected passage. You are to do the exegetical work and come ready to discuss. Each student is required to be actively involved with his/her group's discussion. Participation should be thoughtful, polite, and thought provoking. Each student, regardless of group, will read the commentaries and take notes for the notebook before class discussion concerning the passages. Any student may participate in the discussion, but group members will be expected to be able to lead in the discussion on the group days. The groups will also take place in a debate format on an issue related to the Conquest. Therefore, each student will receive a class participation grade which will compose 20% of the semester average.

### **Extra Credit**

The student may read and prepare a critical book review on an *optional* text for up to an additional 8 points which will be added to either of the two major exams. The review should consist of a 1.5–2 page single-spaced summary of the contents of the book followed by a 1 1/2–2 page single-spaced reaction to the contents of the work evaluating both strengths and weaknesses. The review should be typed in Times New Roman 12 pt font and should follow the latest edition of Turabian.

The final grade for the course will be determined as follows:

- 25% Mid-term Exam
- 25% Final Exam
- 10% Notebook
- 20% Reading Notes
- 20% Participation (Group Discussions, Attendance)

The course will follow the grading scale established by the Leavell College.

A: 100–93

B: 92–85

C: 84-77  
D: 76-70  
F: Below 70

### Course Assignments and Schedule\*

March 25      Read Daniel Chapters 1-6  
March 29      Online group assignments TBD  
April 8        Read Daniel Chapters 7-12  
April 15      Online group assignments and midterm exam  
April 22      Read Ezekiel Chapters 1-24  
April 29      Online group assignments TBD  
May 6         Read Ezekiel Chapters 25-48, turn in notebooks, and final exam

### Selected Bibliography for Daniel

Archer, Gleason L., Jr. "The Aramaic of the Genesis Apocryphon Compared with the Aramaic of Daniel." In *New Perspectives on the Old Testament* pp. 160-69. Edited by J. Barton Payne. Waco: Word Books, Publisher, 1970.

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\*Baldwin, Joyce G. *Daniel: An Introduction and Commentary*. The Tyndale Old Testament Commentaries. Downers Grove: Inter-Varsity Press, 1978.

Calvin, John. *Commentaries on the Book of the Prophet Daniel*. Calvin's Commentaries. Translated by Thomas Myers. Volume 2. Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1948.

Campbell, Donald K. *Daniel: Decoder of Dreams*. Wheaton: Victor Books, 1977.

Culver, Robert D. *Daniel and the Latter Days*. Rev. ed. Chicago: Moody Press, 1977.

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Dougherty, R. P. *Nabonidus and Belshazzar*. Ne Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 1929.

Goldingay, John E. *Daniel*. Word Biblical Commentary. Volume 30. Dallas: Word Books, Publisher, 1989.

Hartman, Louis F. and Di Lella, Alexander. *The Book of Daniel*. The Anchor Bible. Garden City: Doubleday & Company, Inc., 1978.

Luck, G. Coleman. *Daniel*. Everyman's Bible Commentary. Chicago: Moody Press, 1958.

Montgomery, James A. *A Critical and Exegetical Commentary on the Book of Daniel*. The International Critical Commentary. Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark, 1964.

*The Old Oxford Annotated Apocrypha: The Apocrypha of the Old Testament: Revised Standard Version*. Expanded edition containing the Third and Fourth Books of the Maccabees and Psalm 151. Edited by Bruce M. Metzger. New York: Oxford University Press, 1965, 67.

Pentecost, J. Dwight. "Daniel." In *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures by Dallas Seminary Faculty: Old Testament 1323-75*. Edited by John F. Walvoord and Roy B. Zuck. Wheaton: Victor Books, 1985.

\*Price, Walter K. *In the Final Days*. Chicago: Moody Press, 1977.

\*Walvoord, John F. *Daniel: The Key to Prophetic Revelation*. Chicago: Moody Press, 1971.

Wilson, Robert Dick. *Studies in the Book of Daniel*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1979.

Wiseman, D. J., Mitchell, T. C., Joyce, R. Martin, W. F., Kitchen K. A. *Notes on Some Problems in the Book of Daniel*. London: Tyndale Press, 1965.

\*Wood, Leon. *A Commentary on Daniel*. Grand Rapids: Regency Reference Library, 1973.

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Yamauchi, Edwin. "The Greek Words in Daniel in the Light of Greek Influence in the Near East." In *New Perspectives on the Old Testament* pp. 170-200. Edited by J. Barton Payne. Waco: Word Books, Publisher, 1970.

Young, Edward J. *The Prophecy of Daniel*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1949.

### Selected Bibliography for Ezekiel

Alexander, Ralph H. "Ezekiel." *The Expositor's Bible Commentary* VI: 735-996. Edited by Frank E. Gaebelein. Grand Rapids: Regency Reference Library, 1986.

Cooke, G. A. *A Critical and Exegetical Commentary on the Book of Ezekiel*. Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark, 1936.

Craigie, Peter C. *Ezekiel*. The Daily Study Bible. Old Testament. Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1983.

Dyer, Charles H. "Ezekiel." *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures by Dallas Seminary Faculty: Old Testament*. I:1225-1332. Edited by John F. Walvoord and Roy B. Zuck. 2 vols. Wheaton: Victor Books, 1985.

Eichrodt, Walther. *Ezekiel: A Commentary*. Philadelphia: The Westminster Press, 1970.

Ellison, H. L. *Ezekiel: The Man and His Message*. Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1956.

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Fisch, S. *Ezekiel*. London: Soncino Press, 1950.

\*Greenberg, Moshe. *Ezekiel 1-20*. The Anchor Bible. Garden City: Doubleday & Company, Inc., 1983.

Hengstenberg, E. W. *The Prophecies of the Prophet Ezekiel Elucidated*. Translated by A. C. Murphy and J. G. Murphy. Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark, 1869. Reprint. Minneapolis: James Publications, 1976.

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Tatford, Frederick A. *Dead Bones Live: An Exposition of the Prophecy of Ezekiel*. Eastbourne East Sussex: Prophetic Witness Publishing House, 1977.

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Wevers, John W. *Ezekiel*. The New Century Bible Commentary. Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1969.

\*Zimmerli, Walther. *A Commentary on the Book of the Prophet Ezekiel: Chapters 1-24*. Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1979.

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