

BISR9304 READINGS IN BIBLICAL INTERPRETATION
Ph.D. Reading Colloquium
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
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Fall Semester 2013

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 Purpose, Core Value Focus, and Curriculum Competencies

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary has five core values: Doctrinal Integrity, Spiritual Vitality, Mission Focus, Characteristic Excellence, and Servant Leadership. This course addresses Doctrinal Integrity, the focus core value for this year, in that it enhances the student's ability to interpret the Bible accurately. Characteristic Excellence is addressed in that the student should exhibit excellence in the ability to interpret Scripture. Servant Leadership is modeled in classroom demeanor. This course primarily addresses the competency of Biblical Exposition by preparing the student to interpret and communicate the Bible accurately.

Course Description

This Ph.D. reading colloquium in Biblical Hermeneutics covers general works related to biblical interpretation as well as the specific area of Old Testament and New Testament hermeneutical studies. The student is expected to read thoroughly the assigned material and to participate actively in the discussions of the material. Written reviews and/or summaries of the works are expected.

Required Textbooks

General Works

1. Dockery, David S. *Biblical Interpretation Then and Now: Contemporary Hermeneutics in the Light of the Early Church*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1992.
2. Klink, Edward W., III, and Darian R. Lockett. *Understanding Biblical Theology*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2012.
3. Osborne, Grant. *The Hermeneutical Spiral: A Comprehensive Introduction to Biblical Interpretation*. Revised and Expanded Edition. InterVarsity Press, 2006.
4. Porter, Stanley E., and Beth M. Stovell, editors. *Biblical Interpretation: Five Views*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2012.

Old Testament Studies

5. Broyles, Craig C., editor. *Interpreting the Old Testament: A Guide for Exegesis*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2001.
6. VanGemeren, Willem A., editor. *A Guide to Old Testament Theology and Exegesis*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1997.
7. Vanhoozer, Kevin, J., editor. *Theological Interpretation of the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2008.

The following volumes from the Guides to Biblical Scholarship Old Testament Series

8. Habel, Norman. *Literary Criticism of the Old Testament*. Guides to Biblical Scholarship Old Testament series. Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1971.
9. Overholt, Thomas W. *Cultural Anthropology and the Old Testament*. Guides to Biblical Scholarship Old Testament series. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1996.
10. Tribble, Phyllis. *Rhetorical Criticism*. Guides to Biblical Scholarship Old Testament series. Minneapolis: Fortress, 1994.
11. Tucker, Gene M. *Form Criticism of the Old Testament*. Guides to Biblical Scholarship Old Testament series. Philadelphia: Fortress, 1971.

New Testament Studies

12. Ehrman, Bart, and Michael Holmes, editors. *The Text of the New Testament in Contemporary Research: Essays on the Status Quaestionis*. Second Edition. Boston: Brill, 2013.

13. Neill, Stephen and Tom Wright. *The Interpretation of the New Testament: 1861-1986*. 2d. ed. Oxford, 1988.
14. Rohrbaugh, Richard, editor. *The Social Sciences and New Testament Interpretation*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, 1996.

The following volumes from the Guides to Biblical Scholarship New Testament Series

15. Beardslee, William. *Literary Criticism of the New Testament*. Guides to Biblical Scholarship New Testament series. Philadelphia: Fortress, 1970.
16. Elliott, John H. *What Is Social Scientific Criticism?* Guides to Biblical Scholarship New Testament series. Minneapolis: Fortress, 1993.
17. Krentz, Edgar. *The Historical-Critical Method*. Guides to Biblical Scholarship New Testament series. Philadelphia: Fortress, 1975.
18. Mack, Burton L. *Rhetoric and the New Testament*. Guides to Biblical Scholarship New Testament series. Minneapolis: Fortress, 1990.
19. Powell, Mark Allan. *What Is Narrative Criticism?* Guides to Biblical Scholarship New Testament series. Minneapolis: Fortress, 1990.

Course Requirements

The student will:

1. Read and review the required texts as stipulated in the schedule below.
 - a. Each student will prepare two book reviews: one of the more lengthy books and one from the Guides to Biblical Scholarship series. The reviews will consist of the following: bibliographic data about the author, the thesis/purpose of the book, a summary of the development of the thesis, a critique of the book, and a synopsis of 2 reviews of the book from scholarly journals. The reviews of the more lengthy books should be 4-5 pages, single-spaced. The reviews of the books from the Guides to Biblical Scholarship series should be 2-3 pages, single-spaced.
 - b. Each student will read the books being reviewed by fellow students in order to discuss the books during the meeting.
2. Participate actively in the discussion of the readings.
3. Attend every meeting. Because of the nature of the course, no absences are allowed. If emergency situations dictate an absence, the student will schedule a make-up session with the professor. Work is still due the day scheduled even if the student is absent. Any student missing more than one meeting must repeat the colloquium.

Course Schedule

Meeting #1 - September 12; 6:00-8:00 PM

David Dockery, *Interpretation Then and Now*

Reviewer: _____

Reviewer: _____

Reviewer: _____

Craig Broyles, *Interpreting the Old Testament*

Reviewer: _____

Reviewer: _____

Reviewer: _____

Stephen Neill and Tom Wright, *The Interpretation of the New Testament: 1861-1986*.

Reviewer: _____

Reviewer: _____

Norman Habel, *Literary Criticism of the Old Testament* (GBS series)

Reviewer: _____

Reviewer: _____

Reviewer: _____

Reviewer: _____

William Beardslee, *Literary Criticism of the New Testament* (GBS series)

Reviewer: _____

Reviewer: _____

Reviewer: _____

Reviewer: _____

Meeting # 2 - October 10; 6:00-8:00 PM

Edward Klink and Darian Lockett, *Understanding Biblical Theology*

Reviewer _____

Reviewer _____

Reviewer: _____

Willem VanGemeren, *A Guide to Old Testament Theology and Exegesis*

Reviewer: _____

Reviewer _____

Reviewer _____

Richard Rohrbaugh, *The Social Sciences and New Testament Interpretation*

Reviewer _____

Reviewer _____

Thomas Overholt, *Cultural Anthropology and the Old Testament* (GBS series)

Reviewer _____

Reviewer _____

Reviewer _____

Reviewer: _____

John Elliott, *What is Social Science Criticism?* (GBS series)

Reviewer _____

Reviewer: _____

Reviewer _____

Reviewer _____

Meeting # 3 - November 7; 6:00-8:00 PM

Grant Osborne, *The Hermeneutical Spiral*

Reviewer _____

Reviewer _____

Reviewer: _____

Reviewer _____

Kevin VanHoozer, *Theological Interpretation of the Old Testament*

Reviewer _____

Reviewer: _____

Reviewer _____

Reviewer _____

Phyllis Tribble, *Rhetorical Criticism* (GBS series)

Reviewer _____

Reviewer _____

Reviewer _____

Burton Mack, *Rhetoric and the New Testament* (GBS series)

Reviewer _____

Reviewer _____

Reviewer _____

Edgar Krentz, *The Historical-Critical Method* (GBS series)

Reviewer: _____

Reviewer _____

Meeting # 4 - December 5; 6:00-8:00 PM

Stanley Porter and Beth Stovell, *Biblical Interpretation: Five Views*

Reviewer _____

Reviewer _____

Reviewer: _____

Reviewer _____

Bart Ehrman and Michael Holmes, *The Text of the New Testament in Contemporary Research*

Reviewer _____

Reviewer: _____

Reviewer _____

Reviewer _____

Gene Tucker, *Form Criticism of the Old Testament* (GBS series)

Reviewer _____

Reviewer _____

Reviewer: _____

Reviewer _____

Mark Allen Powell, *What is Narrative Criticism?* (GBS series)

Reviewer _____

Reviewer: _____

Reviewer _____

Reviewer _____

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- Anderson, Cheryl B. *Ancient Laws and Contemporary Controversies: The Need for Inclusive Biblical Interpretation*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2009.
- Baker, David W., and Bill T. Arnold, eds. *The Face of Old Testament Studies: A Survey of Contemporary Approaches*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 1999.
- Bar-Efrat, Shimon. *Narrative Art in the Bible*. Sheffield: Almond, 1992.
- Barr, James. *The Scope & Authority of the Bible*. Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1980.
- Bartholomew, Craig G., and David J. H. Beldman, eds. *Hearing the Old Testament: Listening for God's Address*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2012.
- Bartholomew, Craig G., et al eds. "Behind the Text": *History and Biblical Interpretation*. In Scripture and Hermeneutics Series. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2003.
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- Barton, John. *Reading the Old Testament: Method in Biblical Study*. Revised and Enlarged. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 1996.
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- Bridge, Steven L. *Getting the Old Testament: What It Meant to Them, What It Means for Us*. Peabody, MA: Hedrickson, 2009.
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