



WAYLAND BAPTIST UNIVERSITY  
HAWAII CAMPUS  
SCHOOL OF CHRISTIAN STUDIES

**Wayland Mission Statement:** Wayland Baptist University exists to educate students in an academically challenging, learning-focused, and distinctively Christian environment for professional success, and service to God and humankind.

**Course Title and Number:** THST/PHIL 5300 HI01 Biblical Interpretation

**Term:** Spring 2: 2024 Collaborate Course

**Name of Instructor:** Dr. Brent Schlittenhart

**Office Phone Number and WBU Email Address:** Office: 808-488-8570; Home: 808-234-6960; [schlittenhartb@wbu.edu](mailto:schlittenhartb@wbu.edu); or [schlittenhartb@yahoo.com](mailto:schlittenhartb@yahoo.com); Please use the wbu.edu email for primary correspondence.

**Office Hours, Building, and Location:** The professor is available at 4 PM before class and 30 minutes after class. The professor is also available by appointment at other times. Office Location is 599 Farrington Highway, Kapolei, HI 96707.

**Class Meeting Time and Location:** Monday (5:30 PM-8:30 PM) at Kapolei. The location in American Samoa is TBD. Collaborate will be set up 30 minutes prior to class.

**Catalog Description:** Research in the principles and methods of biblical exegesis and interpretation with an emphasis on the problem of communicating the biblical message in the modern world.

**Prerequisites/Co-requisites:** None

**Required Textbook(s) and/or Resource Material:**

Title	Editor/Author	Publisher	Ed	Year	ISBN
<i>How to Read the Bible For All Its Worth</i>	Gordon Fee, Douglas Stuart	Zondervan	4th	2014	9780310517825
<i>Plowshares &amp; Pruning Hooks: Rethinking the language of Biblical Prophecy and Apocalyptic</i>	D. Brent Sandy	IVP Academic		2002	9780830826537
<i>Bible</i>	Any translation recognized by mainstream Christianity				

**The textbooks are Automatic eBooks already in the classroom click on the menu link for information. Should you wish to purchase a print copy remember to opt out by the due date.**

**Other Books and Periodicals:** the professor may provide additional articles and websites for you to read throughout the course of the term.

**Course Outcome Competencies:** Students will:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of the general rules of biblical interpretation leading to a proclamation of the biblical text that is both responsible and defensible
2. Demonstrate knowledge of the history of interpretation and the effect on biblical interpretation
3. Demonstrate knowledge of the genres of the biblical text, tools used in interpretation, and scholarly criticism necessary for responsible exegesis of the biblical text
4. Organize research and interpretation of biblical passages into an exegetical paper
5. Present the results of interpretation in a practical form of Bible study, sermon, devotional, or dramatic presentation.
6. Understand and apply the principles and methods of biblical interpretation
7. Analyze, evaluate, and explain the language of Biblical prophecy and apocalyptic

### **Attendance Requirements External Campuses**

Students enrolled at one of the university's external campuses should make every effort to attend all class meetings. All absences must be explained to the instructor, who will then determine whether the omitted work may be made up. When a student reaches that number of absences considered by the instructor to be excessive, the instructor will so advise the student and file an unsatisfactory progress report with the external campus executive director/dean. Any student who misses 25 percent or more of the regularly scheduled class meetings may receive a grade of F in the course. Additional attendance policies for each course, as defined by the instructor in the course syllabus, are considered a part of the university's attendance policy.

(WBU Hawaii/American Samoa Addendum) Students who miss the first class meeting without providing a written explanation to the instructor will be automatically dropped from the roster as a "no-show." Students who know in advance that they will be absent from the first class meeting and who wish to remain in the class must inform the instructor in order to discuss possible arrangements for making up absences.

The student is responsible for turning in all required assignments. If a student misses a class when an exam is given, arrangements must be made by the student with the professor to take the exam. Tardies and/or early departures will also count towards an individual's attendance record.

**Academic Honesty (Plagiarism):** [Link to Statement on Academic Integrity](#)

**Disability Statement:** In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), it is the policy of Wayland Baptist University that no otherwise qualified person with a disability be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any educational program or activity in the university. The Coordinator of Counseling Services serves as the coordinator of students with a disability and should be contacted concerning accommodation requests at (806) 291- 1057. Documentation of a disability must accompany any request for accommodations."

## Course Requirements and Grading Criteria:

1. Each student will read the assigned readings and participate in the classroom experience.
2. Each student will take a midterm and a final exam. Material will come from the assigned readings and class notes. The exams will be administered through Blackboard.
3. Each student will write an exegetical paper from either an Old Testament or New Testament passage that he or she chooses. The exegetical paper needs to make clear the historical meaning of the passage for its original audience in addition to applying the historical meaning of the text for the lives of contemporary Christian believers. The paper needs to follow the Turabian format by using the WBU Religion Writing Lab Style Guide in form and documentation and use footnotes in the paper. The paper needs to include a title page, table of contents, and a bibliography in addition to the 8 to 10 pages of text and requires a minimum of ten sources. Margins for the paper need to conform to the writing lab style guide, use 10 or 12 New Times Roman font, and double space. In addition to submitting the paper to the professor the body of the paper needs to be submitted through safe assignment in Blackboard.
4. Each student will read the lecture notes on Blackboard and submit postings to the Discussion Board forums on the assigned weeks. The student posting needs to be a minimum of 200 words. Students need to read all other student postings and make a student response to at least one other student posting. The student response needs to be a minimum of 175 words. There will be one grade for each discussion board forum which includes both the student posting and student response.
5. Each student will make a 10 to 15-minute presentation to the class from the text of his/her exegetical paper in the practical form of a sermon, Bible study, devotional, or dramatic presentation. The student will provide a typed overview of the presentation outlining the highlights of the presentation and expressing the goal of the presentation to the professor at the time of the presentation.
6. Each student will write a 3 to 5-page critical book review of *Plowshares & Pruning Hooks*. The book review needs to have a title page, an analysis and evaluation of the book's contents highlighting the strengths and weaknesses of the book. Quotations from the book in the review can be referenced parenthetically with just the page number. The student can use book reviews from journal articles to assist in the analysis and evaluation of the book as long as they are properly documented and footnoted and then included in a bibliography page.
7. Each student will present and teach from one chapter out of *Plowshares & Pruning Hooks*. Students will receive their assigned chapter and teaching schedule early in the semester.

## Resources:

The student should request many resources through the WBU main campus library and have them mailed directly to his/her home. The Bible does not count as one of your minimum resources but follow the style guide for footnoting a reference, when referencing a study note from the *NIV Study Bible* use the form for one general editor. **START YOUR RESEARCH EARLY!**

## Course Evaluation:

### University Grading System

A	90-100	I	INCOMPLETE**
B	80-89	Cr	FOR CREDIT
C	70-79	NCr	NO CREDIT
D	60-69	WP	WITHDRAWAL PASSING
F	BELOW 60	WF	WITHDRAWAL FAILING
		W	WITHDRAWAL

\*\* A grade of incomplete is changed if the work required is completed prior to the last day of the next 8-week

permanent record and must be replaced by the qualitative grade (A-F) by the date specified in the official University calendar of the next regular term. An incomplete turned to a qualitative grade will be indicated by the notation I/grade on the student transcript.

### **Procedure for computations of final grade**

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|----------------------|-----|
| 1. Midterm exam:     | 20% |
| 2. Final exam:       | 20% |
| 3. Exegetical Paper: | 20% |
| 4. Blackboard        |     |

**Blackboard Discussion 4: Student Posting Due 4/27, Student Response Due 4/29**  
**Graduate Teaching Presentation if necessary**

**Class 6**

**04/29/2024**