**WAYLAND BAPTIST UNIVERSITY**

**VIRTUAL CAMPUS**

**SCHOOL OF RELIGION AND PHILOSOPHY**

**Wayland Baptist University 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.

**RLGN/PHIL 4314 VC01**

**BIBLICAL INTERPRETATION**

# SPRING 2014

**February 24-May 17, 2014**

**Instructor: Randolph R. Rogers**

**Instructor information:**

* **University Phone**: 806-291-1000 (*email is a much more reliable contact method*)
* **Email**: [randy.rogers@wbu.edu](mailto:randy.rogers@wbu.edu)
* **Office hours**:
  + **Monday and Thursday**. 9 AM-2 PM, via Blackboard IM or Email;
  + **Fridays, Weeknights, and Weekends**. By Appointment Only.
  + All Emails will be answered within 24 hours—usually much faster within office hours.
* **Office Location**: Flores Building, Wayland Baptist University. 1900 W. 7th. Plainview, TX 79072

**Catalog Description:** RLGN 4314. Biblical Interpretation (PHIL 4314) - the science of biblical exegesis and interpretation. Prerequisites: RLGN 1301 and 1302.

**Prerequisite.** RLGN 1301, RLGN 1302

**Co-requisites: RLGN 0001 Theological Research and Writing Lab**. This is a lab that is designed to help students write an acceptable research paper. The lab utilizes the Writing Manual produced by the School of Religion and Philosophy. An abbreviated form of the manual can be found at the following web site: <http://www.wbu.edu/academics/schools/religion_and_philosophy/student_help/default.htm>

***Students in this course who have not already passed the Theological Writing Lab must register and receive credit for the lab during the Fall Semester***. Students who have already received credit for the lab are not required to take the lab in this course, though it is advised.

**Required Texts**

1. Gordon D Fee and Douglas Stuart. *How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth*. Zondervan. 2003. ISBN-13: 9780310246046.
2. Bruce Corley, Steve Lemke, Grant Lovejoy. *Biblical Hermeneutics*. 2d Edition. B&H Publishers. 2002. ISBN-13: 9780805424928
3. E. Randolph Richards and Brandon J. O’Brien. *Misreading Scripture with Western Eyes.* Downer’s Grove: IVP, 2012. ISBN-13: 9780830837823

**Course Outcome Competencies: Students will:**

* Demonstrate knowledge of the general rules of biblical interpretation leading to a proclamation of the biblical text that is both responsible and defensible.
* Demonstrate knowledge of the history of interpretation and the effect on biblical interpretation.
* Demonstrate knowledge of genres of the biblical text, tools used in interpretation, and scholarly criticism necessary for responsible exegesis of the biblical text.

###### Attendance Requirements

* As an online class, your attendance will be determined by weekly login to the class website and consistent participation in assignments.
* The Division's "no cut" policy allows no unexcused absences.
* No student missing morethan 25% of the class meetings (including both excused and unexcused absences) can pass the course. Thus, if you miss 3 weeks of weekly assignments and quizzes, you will fail this class.

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 coordinator of students with a disability and should be contacted concerning accommodation requests at (806) 291-3765. Documentation of a disability must accompany any request for accommodations.

**TENTATIVE** **CLASS SCHEDULE**

* **Each class week begin on a Monday and ends on the next Sunday, except Week 1, which begins on a Monday 2/24 and ends in two week on Sunday, 3/09**
* **Abbreviations.** 
  + **DB=Discussion Board; Q=Quiz**
  + **Ch.=Chapter; pp=pages**
  + **BH=*Biblical Hermeneutics***
  + **HRB=*How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth***

**Date**

WEEK 1

2/24-3/9

WEEK 2

3/3-9

3/10-3/16

WEEK 3

3/17-3/23

WEEK 4

3/24-3/30

WEEK 5

3/31-4/6

WEEK 6

4/7-4/13

WEEK 7

4/14-4/20

WEEK 8

4/21-4/27

WEEK 9

4/28-5/4

WEEK 10

5/5-5/11

WEEK 11

5/12-5/17

**Material Covered**

History of Hermeneutics

Hermeneutical Principles

Hermeneutical Methods

OT Law

SPRING BREAK

OT Narratives

**EXAM 1**

OT Prophets

OT Writings

NT Epistles

NT Gospels

**EXAM 2**

NT Acts and Revelation

Cultural Perspectives and Interpretation: Part 1

Cultural Perspectives: Part 2

Cultural Perspectives: Part 3

**FINAL EXAM**

**Assignment Due**

DB#1; Q #1

BH, Ch. 1-4; HRB, pp 7-16; Ch. 1-2

HRB, Ch. 9; BH, Ch. 17

DB#2; Q#2

HRB, Ch. 5; BH, Ch. 18

DB#3; Q#3

**Take Review and Exam**

HRB, Ch. 10; BH, Ch. 20

DB#; Q#4

HRB, Ch. 11-12; BH, Ch. 19

DB#5; Q#5

HRB, Ch. 3-4; BH, Ch. 22

DB#6; Q#6

HRB, Ch. 7-8; BH, Ch. 21

DB#7; Q#7

**Take Review and Exam**

HRB, Ch. 6, 13; BH, Ch. 22-23

DB#8; Q#8

Misreading Scripture, 9-90

DB#9; Q#9; PAPER DUE

Misreading Scripture, 91-152

DB#10; Q#10;

Misreading Scripture, 153-218

DB#11; Q #11

**Take Review and Exam**

#### Course Requirements. (Details will be provided with grading rubrics posted on the class website.)

1. **Weekly Work**:
   1. Check and respond to announcements, messages, and discussion board regularly throughout the week;
   2. Read any assigned textbook material in syllabus and make appropriate notes;
   3. Respond by posting comments on discussion board;
   4. Make blog comments on appropriate weeks.
   5. Complete all other assignments (tests, book review, etc) as assigned in syllabus.
   6. All due dates and times will be listed according to Central Standard Time (CST).
2. **Discussion Board**
   1. **Respond to Professor’s post(s)**
   2. **Respond once with your impression of the reading.**
   3. **Respond to two (2) other student posts**
3. **Weekly Quizzes**, based on lecture notes and class reading
4. **Research Paper**
   1. Research Paper is due at the end of Week 9.
   2. See GRADING RUBRIC for Research Paper for more expectations on form.
   3. CONTENT: Choose from one of the Biblical passages below.
      * Verses will be provided the first week of class.
   4. MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS.
      * If you do not meet the minimum requirements for the paper, the professor will not grade your paper and you will receive a -0- for the project.
        + At least 12 pages long, including footnotes and bibliography
        + At least 5 of the required sources must be used in your paper and properly footnoted with bibliography. The required sources are detailed in the Syllabus &Instruction tab in the class menu on Blackboard.
        + Your paper must pass the Theological and Research Writing Lab and have the approval of Ms. Debbie Wiley (if required per the instructions above).
        + You must follow the proper form found in Turabian including
          1. Introductory page
          2. Table of Contents
          3. Content and page format
          4. Footnotes
          5. Bibliography
      * If you get a -0- on this paper, you will not make above a 70 in this class.
   5. There is a level of Bibliography that is expected, based on the Theological Research and Writing Lab recommendations. The professor will gladly provide suggestions when you have selected a passage.
5. **Exams**: There are three (3) exams scheduled for this class. They are sectional tests and will cover the material just for that section of the class.

**Course Evaluation (Method of Determining Grade)**

##### 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 deficiency is made up by midterm of the next regular semester; otherwise, it becomes "F". This grade is given only if circumstances beyond the student's control prevented completion of work during the semester enrolled and attendance requirements have been met. A grade of "CR" indicates that credit in semester hours was granted but no grade or grade points were recorded.

* **Computation of final grade**

Assignment Points

Discussion Board/ Quizzes 20

Blogs 10

Research Paper 31

Exams 39

**TOTAL 100**

**Academic Honesty (Plagiarism)**

University students are expected to conduct themselves according to the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to penalty includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possession of examinations or examination materials, forgery, or plagiarism. (Plagiarism is the presentation of the work of another as one’s own work.) It is the student’s responsibility to be familiar with penalties associates with plagiarism stated in the catalog on page 88.

**Classroom Disruption**

Students who disrupt a class will be directed to leave immediately and report to the external campus executive director/dean or dean of students, who will discuss with the student the cause of the disruption. The student will return to the class only with permission of the executive director/campus dean or dean of students and faculty member involved. [This policy will also be enforced within the online community for issues that apply to student conduct in the online setting.]

**Statement on Civility**

**(Approved by the Administration Cabinet on July 1, 2013)**

In keeping with Wayland’s mission as a Christian higher education institution, Wayland Baptist University strives to demonstrate civility and Christ-like character in a positive manner where courtesy and respect are afforded to all persons at all times. Members of the University’s student and non-student community can expect Christ’s example to be modeled consistently by trustees, administrators, faculty, staff, and students in order to foster an environment for education and work, contribute to leadership development, and glorify God. While on any campus, attending any event, participating in any course, or engaging in any communication, Wayland trustees, administration, faculty, staff, students, and guests can all have the expectation of civility from one another. (Genesis 1:27; Deuteronomy 5:1-21; Micah 6:8; Matthew 22:36-40; Mark 9:34-35; Luke 10:29-37; John 13:34-35; Romans 12:9-21, 13: 7-10, 15:7; Galatians 3:26-28; Ephesians 2:8-9, 4:1-3, 22-29; Philippians 4:8; Colossians 3:12-17; 1 Timothy 4:12; James 2:1-4; 1 Peter 2:21)