**WAYLAND BAPTIST UNIVERSITY**

**VIRTUAL CAMPUS**

**SCHOOL OF RELIGION AND PHILOSOPHY**

Wayland Baptist University Mission Statement

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

### RLED/RLGN 5112 VC01

***PRACTICE OF THE INWARD SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES***

***(Inductive Bible Study)***

# Spring 2014 (February 24 through May 11)

## Instructor: Dr. Richard William Shaw

## Instructor Information

* **Phone:** (806) 291.3409 office; (806) 543.8871 mobile; (806) 291.0111 home
* **Email:** shawr@wbu.edu
* **Office Hours:** 3 PM to 5 PM Monday; 9.30 AM until 12 Noon Tuesday; 1 until 5 PM Wednesday; 9.30 AM until 12 Noon Thursday; 1.30 until 4 PM Friday
* **Office Location:** Plainview, Texas

**Class Time and Location:** Asynchronous, Virtual Campus

**Catalog Description:** Introduction to one or more spiritual disciplines oriented toward the inner life of the Christian, practiced within a weekly spiritual formation small group of M.Div. students. ***To be taken in the third semester of enrollment in the Master of Divinity program.***

**Prerequisite:** RLED/RLGN 5354 Spiritual Disciplines and Christian Spirituality

RLED/RLGN 5111 Practice of the Inward Spiritual Disciplines

**Required Textbooks and Resources**

* **Required Texts**
* *Inductive Bible Study: A Comprehensive Guide to the Practice of Hermeneutics*, Robert A. Traina and David Bauer, Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker Academic, 2011.
* *The Holy Bible*

**Optional Text/Resource**

* *Inductive Bible Study Manual*, John Michaels, Send the Message, 2002.
* **Access to WBU Learning Resources:** Click on link at left entitled "Wayland Library"; Email Distance Librarian Sally Quiroz ([lrcref@wbu.edu](mailto:lrcref@wbu.edu)) about having books mailed to you.
* **Internet links:** See "Web Resources" tab.
* **Class message board:** See “Announcements” and "Discussion Board" tab.
* **Email:** All students will need to set up and use their Wayland student email account.

**Course Outcome Competencies:** Students will be able to

1. Identify, articulate, and personally incorporate key Christian practices and disciplines of the spiritual life.
2. Identify the primary elements of inductive Bible study and apply these factors to personal and congregational formation.
3. Demonstrate growth in Christian character essential for ministerial faithfulness and effectiveness.

###### Attendance Requirements

Students are expected to participate in all required instructional activities in their courses. Online courses are no different in this regard; however, participation must be defined in a different manner. Student “attendance” in an online course is defined as active participation in the course as described in the course syllabus. Instructors in online courses are responsible for providing students with clear instructions for how they are required to participate in the course. Additionally, instructors are responsible for incorporating specific instructional activities within their course and will, at a minimum, have weekly mechanisms for documenting student participation. These mechanisms may include, but are not limited to, participating in a weekly discussion board, submitting/completing assignments in Blackboard, or communicating with the instructor. Students aware of necessary absences must inform the professor with as much advance notice as possible in order to make appropriate arrangements.

Any student absent 25 percent or more of the online course, i.e., non-participatory during 3 or more weeks of an 11-week term, may receive an F for that course. Instructors may also file a Report of Unsatisfactory Progress for students with excessive non-participation. Any student who has not actively participated in an online class prior to the census date for any given term is considered a “no-show” and will be administratively withdrawn from the class without record. To be counted as actively participating, it is not sufficient to log in and view the course. The student must be submitting work as described in the course syllabus. Additional attendance and participation policies for each course, as defined by the instructor in the course syllabus, are considered a part of the university’s attendance policy.

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 education 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) 291-3765. Documentation of a disability must accompany any request for accommodations.

#### Course Requirements:

1. The course will be composed of reading assignments and application exercises (inductive Bible studies) each week as well as interacting with fellow colleagues via discussion forums, involving the area of Bible study during the semester.
2. **Reading Assignments/ Discussion Board Forums**: Students will read chapters as listed in the schedule of readings and complete weekly assignments/projects at the end of the chapters or as assigned by the instructor. Assigned textbook readings and exercises as indicated in the schedule should be completed on a weekly basis in order for you to participate meaningfully in discussion board activities. Active participation in an online forum is measured by posting at least **five substantial comments** per forum (including the Prayer Requests & Praise forum). Comments may be replies to posted questions or to the responses of other students. Participation in discussion board forums will count for 100 points of the final grade.
3. Throughout the course, students will read *Inductive Bible Study*, and will complete all exercises or projects corresponding to the assigned reading and then submit these materials to Dr. Shaw via email attachment at [shawr@wbu.edu](mailto:shawr@wbu.edu). Each week’s assignment (ten total) will be worth ten points; these application assignments will therefore count for 100 points of the final grade. Students are expected to follow instructions carefully in completion of these assignments.

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

Although this one-hour course is a credit/noncredit class, grading within the class will be based on the following scale: Students will have the opportunity to accumulate up to 100 points during the semester. This is how they can be earned:

Discussion Board Forums = 100 points

Application Assignments = 100 points

To receive credit for the class, the student must earn 70 points or higher.

##### 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.

**Course Outline and Calendar**

The student is responsible for reading the assignments before the class session. The instructor reserves the right to give quizzes over the reading assignments at his discretion.

**Week 1 (February 24 – March 2)**

* + Introduction to Course/syllabus review
  + Welcome to the Practice of Inward Spiritual Disciplines/Share Prayer Requests via Discussion Board Forum
  + Read Traina’s and Bauer’s book, pages 1 through 56
  + Submit your normative method of personal Bible study prior to this course via Discussion Board
  + Complete Application Assignment #1

**Week 2 (March 3 - 9)**

* + Read Traina and Bauer, pages 57 through 74
  + Participate in discussion board
  + Complete Application Assignment #2

**Week 3 (March 10 - 16)**

* + Read Traina and Bauer, pages 75 through 142
  + Participate in discussion board
  + Complete Application Assignment #3

**Week 4 (March 17 - 23)**

* + Read Traina and Bauer, pages 143 through 176
  + Participate in discussion board
  + Complete Application Assignment #4

**Week 5 (March 24 - 30)**

* + Read Traina and Bauer, pages 177 through 238
  + Participate in discussion board
  + Complete Application Assignment #5

**Week 6 (March 31 – April 6)**

* + Read Traina and Bauer, pages 239 through 278
  + Participate in discussion board
  + Complete Application Assignment #6

**Week 7 (April 6 - 13)**

* + Read Traina and Bauer, pages 279 through 325
  + Participate in discussion board
  + Complete Application Assignment #7

**Week 8 (April 14 - 20)**

* + Read Traina and Bauer, pages 326 through 335
  + Participate in discussion board
  + Complete Application Assignment #8

**Week 9 (April 21 - 27)**

* + Read Traina and Bauer, pages 336 through 343
  + Participate in discussion board
  + Complete Application Assignment #9

**Week 10 (April 28 – May 4)**

* + Read Traina and Bauer, pages 344 through 362
  + Participate in discussion board
  + Complete Application Assignment #10

**Week 11 (May 5 - 11)**

* + On a blog, post an evaluation of what you have learned and how you have benefitted from your study and your experiences with inductive Bible study during the term.
  + Continue discussion on past boards.

**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.**

**Course policies**:

***Respect*.** Because the university classroom is a place designed for the free exchange of ideas, we will frequently encounter the opinions of others which may seem novel and, occasionally, outlandish. We must show respect for one another in all circumstances. I will show respect for you by not belittling or ignoring you. You will show respect for me by giving attention to assignments. We will show respect for one another by exhibiting patience and courtesy in our exchanges.

***Student rights*.** Your rights as a student have been outlined in the current WBU catalogue. If you feel that your rights have been infringed upon in this class, please inform me. If you have a disability which will require particular attention on my part, you must inform me as soon as possible.