

Hermeneutical Studies

CHR 113 Introduction to Bible Study

Deaf Theological Training Center
Partnership of Union University, International Mission Board, and Brentwood Baptist Deaf Church

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course will offer the student a basic study of biblical interpretation and application with the intent of applying insights gained to scripture crafting and storying for evangelism, discipleship, leadership training, and personal spiritual development.

GENERAL OBJECTIVES

The students who are serving among the Deaf in cross-cultural settings, using Chronological Bible Storying, demonstrate understanding of the foundational aspects of biblical interpretation, especially as applied to the interpretation of scripture through story crafting, and are prepared to share the same application of scriptural principles with their assigned people group.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

By the end of the course, students should be able to

- Understand the critical role that the Holy Spirit has for all interpretation of the Bible
- Understand and explain the guidelines (rules) of interpretation when studying and teaching the Bible
- Identify and describe the useful tools that would be helpful to include in a Bible interpreter's "toolbox"
- Determine and explain the difference between "proof-texting" and understanding scripture stories/portions in their contexts
- Understand and explain the differences between cultural instructions within a scripture story/portion and timeless truths found in the Bible
- Understand and explain the various sources of authority used by a follower of Christ in interpreting scripture stories/portions
- Recognize and present an assigned scripture portion with details regarding the parameters used in guiding sound interpretation and craft scripture portion into a storying format

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REQUIRED TEXT

The Bible (in written, video-recorded, or signed versions, as appropriate to the student)

Guthrie, George H. Read the Bible for Life: Your Guide to Understanding and Living God's Word. B & H Publishing, 2011.

ASSIGNMENTS

Daily interaction with the biblical text as assigned. Due to the survey nature of the course, no term papers or other special projects are required. Instead, emphasis will be placed on daily interaction with the scriptures via Chronological Storying techniques and iconic outlay. Students will be provided assignments to craft a story from a passage according to the guidelines (rules) of interpretation learned.

METHOD OF INSTRUCTION

Selected scripture stories/portions will be presented by the instructor, and repeated by the students, to ingrain a thorough understanding of each story and what parameters guide their interpretation. Students will achieve the ability to craft biblical stories/scripture portions and retell each passage accurately and place it within its appropriate context in the metanarrative, without benefit of external resources. In addition to teaching basic guidelines applied in biblical interpretation, the instructor will lead students in daily discussions about the implications of the passages learned, with a focus on the missionary nature of God and the missional responsibility of the Church. Students will be introduced to and emphasize how themes and stories are interpreted in context and applied within the setting where the stories/scripture portions are shared. American Sign Language will be the language of instruction, class interaction, and evaluation.

ATTENDANCE AND TARDINESS

Students will be expected to be in class during the regularly scheduled times and, on occasion, during some extended classroom training that may be needed. Missing ½ day of class will result in the reduction of 1 letter grade. Additional missed classes will result in corresponding reductions of letter grades.

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Class will begin at 9:00 am and the expectation is that students will be in their seats and ready to begin at that time. Arriving at class late on more than one occasion will cost ½ of a letter grade toward the final grading total. Three late arrivals will result in the reduction of 1 letter grade for the course.

ATTITUDE and INTERACTION

Within the context of the classroom setting the interaction and exchanges between students, and between students and instructors, should be done in a professional way. Course requirements that are determined to meet the criteria of Union University's standards, and their governing bodies, are not open for negotiation. All dialogue within these settings should have a high level of professionalism, respect, and grace.

CLASS SCHEDULE

Teacher will give this information on the first day of class.

ASSIGNMENTS and GRADING

Teacher will give this information on the first day of class.

