

**Note:**

**Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.**

## ***COURSE SYLLABUS***

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### **RLGN 325**

#### **ELEMENTS OF BIBLE STUDY**

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course provides the student with the knowledge and abilities necessary for the lifelong habit of studying the Word of God. In this course the student will be introduced to the various methods and tools necessary for a comprehensive study of Scripture. Emphasis is placed on developing a structured approach to examining, understanding, and applying the Scriptures.

#### **RATIONALE**

The ability to properly read, interpret, and apply the Bible is foundational to vocational Christian ministry. The inductive method of Bible study taught in this course provides the student with principles and methods for a lifetime of effective and fruitful study in the Word of God.

#### **I. PREREQUISITE**

For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the Academic Course Catalog.

#### **II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASE**

Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: <http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm>

#### **III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING**

- A. Computer with basic audio/video output equipment
- B. Internet access (broadband recommended)
- C. Blackboard [recommended browsers](#)
- D. Microsoft Office

#### **IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Understand the relationship and movement between observation, interpretation, application, and correlation as a framework for applied hermeneutics.
- B. Use basic tools and resources for conducting Bible study.
- C. Identify basic elements of structure within the biblical text.
- D. Contextually interpret and apply Scripture.

- E. Generate word studies, starting with an English translation, in reference to original language vocabulary.

**V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS**

- A. Textbook readings, assignment templates, and lecture presentations
- B. Course Requirements Checklist

After reading the Course Syllabus and [Student Expectations](#), the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.

- C. Discussion Board Forums (3)

Discussion boards are collaborative learning experiences. Therefore, the student is required to create a thread in response to the provided prompt for each forum. The student will participate in 3 Discussion Board Forums throughout the course. In preparation for each forum, the student will read the assigned chapters from Grudem et al's. *Understanding the Big Picture of the Bible*. The thread must consist of at least 400 words, address all 3 of the prompted questions, and incorporate a minimum of 1 citation in current Turabian format from the assigned textbook. In addition to the thread, the student is required to reply to at least 2 classmates' threads. Each reply must consist of at least 200 words, address all 3 of the prompted questions, and incorporate a minimum of 1 citation in current Turabian format from the assigned textbook.

- D. Bible Study Assignments (2)

The student will complete specified assignments at the end of assigned chapters in Duvall & Hays' *Grasping God's Word*. The student will examine Bible passages, consult a commentary, and answer questions about the textbook material as directed.

- E. Interpretive Journey Paper

The student will submit a 1,500–2,000-word paper using the provided template that demonstrates each of the 5 major steps of the interpretive method of Bible study. In addition to the Bible, this paper will require the use of the Douglas & Tenney's *Zondervan Illustrated Bible Dictionary*. The Interpretive Journey Paper must be written in current Turabian format and reflect a personal and independent study of a selected passage of Scripture by including all 5 steps as well as a title page and bibliography.

- F. Midterm and Final Exams

Each exam will cover content from the course materials. Each exam will be open-book/open-notes, contain 40 multiple-choice and 2 essay questions (which must be 400–600 words each with a word count included at the end), and have a 1-hour and 15-minute time limit.

**VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES**

A. Points

Course Requirements Checklist	10
Discussion Board Forums (3 at 100 pts ea)	300
Bible Study Assignments (2 at 100 pts ea)	200
Interpretive Journey Paper	100
Midterm Exam	200
Final Exam	200
<b>Total</b>	<b>1010</b>

B. Scale

A = 900–1010 B = 800–899 C = 700–799 D = 600–699 F = 0–599

C. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online’s Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at [LUOODAS@liberty.edu](mailto:LUOODAS@liberty.edu) to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at [www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport](http://www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport).

## ***COURSE SCHEDULE***

### **RLGN 325**

Textbooks: Douglas & Tenney, *Zondervan Illustrated Bible Dictionary* (2011).  
 Duvall & Hays, *Grasping God's Word* (2012).  
 Grudem et al., *Understanding the Big Picture of the Bible* (2012).

<b>MODULE/ WEEK</b>	<b>READING &amp; STUDY</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENTS</b>	<b>POINTS</b>
<b>1</b>	Douglas & Tenney sections: Bible; Word; Bible Versions English; Interpretation Duvall & Hays: chs. 1–2 Grudem et al.: Overview–ch. 5 3 presentations	Course Requirements Checklist Class Introductions DB Forum 1	10 0 100
<b>2</b>	Duvall & Hays: chs. 3–5 Grudem et al.: chs. 6–12 1 presentation	DB Forum 2	100
<b>3</b>	Douglas & Tenney sections: Chronology (OT); Chronology (NT) Duvall & Hays: chs. 6–8 1 presentation	Bible Study Assignment 1	100
<b>4</b>	Duvall & Hays: ch. 9 1 presentation	Midterm Exam	200
<b>5</b>	Duvall & Hays: chs. 10–12 1 presentation	Bible Study Assignment 2	100
<b>6</b>	Duvall & Hays: ch. 13 1 presentation	DB Forum 3	100
<b>7</b>	Duvall & Hays: chs. 14–17, 19 1 presentation	Interpretive Journey Paper	100
<b>8</b>	Duvall & Hays: chs. 18, 20–22 1 presentation	Final Exam	200
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>1010</b>

DB = Discussion Board  
 OT = Old Testament  
 NT = New Testament

**NOTE:** Each course module/week (except Module/Week 1) begins on Tuesday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Monday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final module/week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on **Friday**.