

Course Syllabus

Biblical Structures – “The Building Materials of the Bible”

Theme Passage – “rightly dividing the word of truth.” II Timothy 2:15

Date – Fall of 2015

Class Day and Time: Wednesday, 10:40 AM-1:10 PM

Institution: Norris Bible Baptist Seminary of Ft. Worth, TX

Instructor: Michael D. Wiggins

TEXT: KJV of the Bible.

SUPPORT TEXT: *Bible Explorer's Guide* by John Phillips

***Recommended:** A good Bible dictionary as well as a good Bible Atlas (e.g., *The New Moody Atlas of the Bible* by Barry J. Beitzel)*

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course seeks to familiarize the student with the “building materials” that make up the the Bible. It will show how certain words, objects, places, events, people, roles, and truths, etc., especially serve as the foundation, floor plan and framework to the Bible. It will also show that although the Bible was written over a 1500 year period of time and covers some 7000 years of human history (including the prophetic element of it), and uses various writing styles to repeatedly and progressively present a set of truths, it does so without contradiction.

COURSE GOALS

To bring the student into a deeper understanding of how the Bible’s various kinds of content serve different purposes in their combined presentation of God’s truth to man.

To give the student a better eye for what the dominant and vital emphases of the Scriptures are, as well as the subordinate (secondary) elements to it, which both serve to balance its overall presentation of truth. *For example, some words, events, or persons are more essential than others in the understanding of Scripture (as in Adam, Noah, Abraham, Moses and David who are more important to the program of God than men like Reuben, Gideon, or Obadiah), as was the yearly Passover event versus the Feast of Lights.*

To ground the student in those things which must be true throughout the Bible in order for them to remain unmoved by any attack made against it. In other words, showing how all the teachings of the Bible are interconnected and none can be set aside without hurting the whole.

To show the interconnected role of the Old Testament to the New Testament.

To train the student to better perceive the truths about Christ in the Scriptures. *NOTE: Above everything else, the Bible is about Christ.*

To set the student up for all the other courses he or she will be taking at the NBBS by providing an overall context for them through the subjects covered in the Biblical Structure course.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

All students need to read the assigned chapters in the textbook *Bible Explorer's Guide* by John Phillips, by the day of the Final.

Maintain a well-organized notebook containing all the notes distributed in class.

Term Paper: write a research paper of at least 2500 words on the 24 Major Events of the Bible – summarizing what the event was about in a few sentences (some 100 words each).

Memorize the 24 major events of the Bible.

Mid-term and Final.

Score at least a “C” (grade level) for the course.

EVALUATION

Grades will be based upon the student's performance on the mid-term and final test, both of these will each count for 20% of the final grade (40%); term paper - 30%; reading of assigned chapters in supportive textbook - 10%; maintain notebook - 10%. Attendance, attitude and punctuality - 10%.

TESTING

Mid Term - October 7

Final - December 16

GRADING SCALE

All academic work is graded according to the following scale:

A = Outstanding (90 - 100)	4 grade points per semester hour
B = Above average (80 - 89)	3 grade points per semester hour
C = Average (70 - 79)	2 grade points per semester hour
D = Below average (60 - 69)	1 grade point per semester hour
F = Failing (Below 59)	0 grade points per semester hour

The grade point average is computed by dividing the total points by the total number of attempted semester hours.

The following symbols are also used on the transcript:

WP = Withdrew, passing

WF = Withdrew, failing

I = Incomplete

All incomplete grades must be made up within four weeks of the last day of the semester; otherwise, they will become an F on the transcript and 0 honor points will be calculated into the grade point average. It is the student's responsible to contact their instructor, to set up a time to take any missed finals, and notify the office of their intent.

The Administrator will work with the student so that he or she can come to the school and take all missed tests at one time. Be sure the instructors have the written test to him before the scheduled date.

POLICY ON TESTING AND ABSENTEEISM

If a student is absent on a scheduled test day and his absence is unexcused as determined by the Administrator, the student will be permitted to take the test with one letter grade deduction in his score. The Administrator will consider extenuating circumstances. The instructor will have the option to give an alternate test and/or assign a special paper in lieu of the original test given to the class.

If the student contacts the Administrator prior to class time, it will be counted as an excused absence and there will not be the penalty of a letter grade deduction. The Administrator will consider extenuating circumstances, but it is the student's responsibility to contact the him or the NBBS office as soon as possible. All tests must be taken within four weeks of the original test date.

POLICY ON MAKING UP FOR ABSENCE FROM LECTURE

For each class session, if the student is absent or misses a major portion of the lecture, he or she is to secure the notes he missed from another student if the instructor did not place them in the student's mailbox. The student is to study those notes in view of a five question quiz to be given at the instructor's discretion.

ATTENDANCE POLICIES

Attendance in all class sessions is mandatory. It is assumed that a student will be present in all class sessions unless providentially hindered. A student will be permitted three excused absences per class during the course of the semester. In relation to absences, a percentile will be deducted from the final grade as follows:

- 1 absence – 3%
- 2 absences – 4%
- 3 absences – 5%

Any student who misses more than three classes will fail the course, and no credit will be

given. Extenuating circumstances will be considered by the Administrator, but an unexcused absence will be viewed more severe than an excused absence.

In general, an unexcused absence is when the student does not contact the Administrator or school secretary prior to class time. However, the Administrator may consider the reason given for an absence inexcusable, if it was given prior to class time. It is his discretion.

Daily class attendance will be kept by the instructor and turned into the school secretary.

NOTE: Because of the **two and one-half hour class session**, when a student misses class one day, he has missed what is equal to two lectures in most school settings whose classes are typically no longer than one hour and fifteen minutes and done on different days.

TARDINESS

Punctuality is a Christian character trait that all need to nurture. As a result, students are expected to be on time for all classes, chapels, and appointments. Three tardies will be equivalent to one unexcused absence.

POLICY ON LATE PAPERS

Book reports, research papers, and other written assignments are due on the date assigned. No late papers will be accepted in any class without a reduction of 5% per week that it is late.

CHEATING AND PLAGIARISM

Cheating and plagiarism of any kind, i.e., tests, homework, and term papers, cannot and will not be tolerated! Any student found guilty will be given a warning. If it happens a second time, he or she will likely be dismissed from school.

SCHEDULE OF LECTURE TOPICS:

Comparison of the Bible to the Building of a House
Old Testament Relationship to the New Testament
Life Under the Old Testament Contrasted with Life Under the New Testament
Law and Grace Article
Outflowing of God's Program to Man
Several Big Picture Overviews of the Bible
12 Primary Writing Styles Used in the Bible
Giving Due Regard to Historical Narrative Scripture
12 Key Words of the Bible
12 Doctrinal Words of the Bible

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Various Forms of Measurement in the Bible

24 Major Events of the Bible

7 Days of Creation

The Foundational Role of Genesis 1-11 to the Bible

12 Major Principles from Genesis 1-11

66 Books of the Bible Sentence Summary

50 Key Verses

66 Key Verses to Each Book of the Bible

24 Primary Portions of Scripture

7 Primary Background Nations

7 Secondary Background Nations

7 Primary Times of Geography

3 Missionary Journeys of Paul

8 Covenants

8 Dispensations

8 Transitional Periods

10 Major Characters

10 Secondary Characters

14 Sequential Roles

10 Commandments

3 Primary Names of God

Compound Forms of the Name of God

5 Essentials to the Gospel

8 Ways Christ was Previewed

12 Aspects to the Tabernacle

8 Offerings of Israel

7 Feasts of Israel

6 Prophetic Timetables

NOTE: Additional supporting charts and articles will be provided.