



Syllabus

BIB 309: Understanding the Bible **Genesis Bible Institute**

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This class explores the essential steps and methods of interpreting the Bible using current exegetical and hermeneutical practices. Students will learn how to read the Bible contextually with both historical and modern perspectives. Special attention is given to selecting Bible versions and why something is often lost in translation.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of this course, you will be able to:

- Quote from memory: Psalm 119:129-130;
- Define exegesis and hermeneutics;
- Explain the process of translating the Bible;
- Determine the best translation to use for given purposes;
- Demonstrate the ability to think contextually;
- Properly exegete biblical passages;
- Differentiate between exegeted and eisegeted passages;
- Find the flaws in given usages of Scripture;
- Compare and contrast the same passages from 3 Bible translations.

REQUIRED READING

Duvall, J. Scott and J. Daniel Hays. *Journey into God's Word*, 2nd Ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2014. Print.

You are required to use one or more of the following Bible translations: ESV, NASB, NIV, NKJV, RSV.

ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

- *Study Guide Answers* (worth 60 points / 60% of grade)
After you read the Study Guide and *How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth*, you will answer questions related to the content of each unit. The assignment is designed to help you interact with the text and understand its content. There are a total of 60 questions. Each question is worth 1 point.
- *Assignment 1: Biblical Translations and Texts* (worth 15 points / 15% of grade)
You will begin by examining and comparing the prefaces of three Bible translations. You will then compare 1 John 5:1-12 across the three versions.

- *Assignment 2: Exegete a Psalm* (worth 15 points / 15% of grade)
You will examine Psalm 42 in light of six elements. There is no word length requirement for this assignment.
- *Final Exam* (worth 10 points / 10% of grade)
The Final Exam consists of Fill-in-the-blank questions. You will also write out your two memory verses. The exam is intended to measure your knowledge of course concepts.

Summary of Assignments and Grading		
Study Guide Answers	60 points	60%
Assignment 1: Translations and Texts	15 points	15%
Assignment 2: Exegete a Psalm	15 points	15%
Final Exam	10 points	10%
Total	100 points	100%