**Disclaimer:** This syllabus is intended to give the student a general idea of the content, format, and textbooks used for this course. The professor will submit a full syllabus at the beginning of the class which will contain a course schedule and the instructor's information.

**SEMINARY MISSION STATEMENT**
The mission of the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary is to equip leaders to fulfill the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.

**COURSE PURPOSE**
The purpose of this course is to give students the opportunity to examine and understand *The Epistle to the Ephesians*. Through this opportunity, students will learn the message and practice implications of the text.

**CORE VALUE FOCUS**
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary has five core values: Doctrinal Integrity, Spiritual Vitality, Mission Focus, Characteristic Excellence, and Servant Leadership. These values shape the context and manner in which all curricula are taught, with "doctrinal integrity" and "characteristic excellence" especially highlighted in this course. The core values of this course will add to the spiritual vitality of the student through interaction with the Scripture.

**CURRICULUM COMPETENCIES ADDRESSED**
NOBTS also has seven basic competencies that guide our Masters degree programs: Biblical Exposition, Christian Theological Heritage, Disciple Making, Servant Leadership, Spiritual and Character Formation, and Worship Leadership. This course seeks to increase the student's competency in "biblical exposition" through a careful exegesis of the Book of Ephesians.

**Course Description**
This course consists of a thorough study of Ephesians through a verse-by-verse and paragraph-by-paragraph analysis. A comparison of various English versions, consideration of pertinent historical and cultural issues, and consultation with major literature and commentaries will be developed. The course emphasizes proper methods for discovering the meaning of a text and applying it in teaching and preaching. Students may repeat this course if the individual biblical books or passages being studied are not duplicated. Prerequisites: BSHM5310 Introduction to Biblical Hermeneutics and NTEN5300 Exploring the New Testament.

**Student Objectives**
By the end of the course students will:

1. Have knowledge of the background material for the letter to the Ephesians.
2. Know the major points of scholarly discussion on Ephesians and how to use critical means to interpret the letter.
3. Understand the message of the letter to the Ephesians as it applied in the first century and as it applies in the present day.
4. Have grown in appreciation for the message of God as revealed by Paul while reaching a better understanding of how this letter fits into the overall perspective of the Bible.
5. Know how to apply interpretation skills learned in this Epistle to other epistles in the New Testament.
6. Know how to Develop biblical sermons or Bible study lessons from the letter to the Ephesians.

**Class Methodology**
In this class students will give attention to interpreting selected passages of the English text of Ephesians. Emphasis will be placed on the exegesis and theology of the text. The students will engage in individual and group study on the Internet. They will read the biblical text, exegetical notes provided, and the commentaries
on Ephesians noted below in the list of textbooks. Students will also write weekly assignments and participate in collaborative learning groups, which will prepare assignments as a group and will be graded on their content, collaboration, and participation. The remainder of the class will read the assignment reports and respond to them on the discussion board as assigned. Both individual and group assignments will help students develop skills in exegesis and in communicating the text of Ephesians.

Texts
A. The primary text for the course will be two modern English versions of the Bible. EUGENE PETERSON, THE MESSAGE, is suggested, plus one of your choosing.
B. Other required textbooks for the course are:

Getting Started
1. Purchase all required texts.

Required textbooks are available through the Lifeway Store on campus in New Orleans. Students may purchase any of the optional or recommended texts noted in the course at their discretion.

2. Download PowerPoint Reader

If needed, visit the www.microsoft.com/downloads site and download a PowerPoint Reader to view the class documents in this format.

Student Responsibilities
1. Examine thoroughly the informational material provided in the course.
   a. Carefully watch all videos to gain the introductory and instructional information provided.
   b. Read the Syllabus. Students will be graded on the requirements in the syllabus and PowerPoint presentation each week. Please begin with the Syllabus, then read the PowerPoint each week.
   c. A PowerPoint for each week’s lessons will be posted on Blackboard in the Unit Folders in Course Documents. The PowerPoint will give you the latest instructions for doing the work for that particular week. Be sure to check the PowerPoint for any tips for the week.

2. Students (except the ones working in learning groups for that week) will complete individual written assignments each week according to the PowerPoint instructions. The assignments will include discussion based on the assigned reading for that week. Please check the PowerPoints for each Learning Unit to find specific instructions on the weekly reading and writing assignments.

3. Each student will participate in a learning group throughout the semester. These groups will collaborate on and prepare written assignment reports as a group. The reports will be graded on their content, collaboration, and participation.
   a. The groups will utilize tools such as Skype or WebEx for at least 2 synchronous meetings during each collaboration.
   b. The group reports will include:
      i. A written report on the group’s collaborative work using hermeneutical tools and exegetical principles to determine the meaning of the passage.
      ii. An examination of the textbooks and at least two other sources used to dialogue with, support, and supplement the students’ own work. Do not begin your work with the commentaries. Wrestle with the text and arrive at your own understanding of the meaning of it. Then go to the Bible translations, commentaries, and exegetical notes to support your work.
      iii. A sentence sermon outline or Bible study plan based on the exegesis of the text.
4. Other students in the class will be required to read the group assignment reports of other groups and respond to them on the discussion board as noted in the PowerPoint each week.
5. Each student will write a final examination as assigned in the assignment sheet.

**ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE**  
*Assignments will be due on the date listed by Midnight*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Commentary and Note Reading</th>
<th>Individual Assignments Due Wednesday at Midnight</th>
<th>Group Assignments Due Friday at Midnight</th>
<th>Discussion Board Due Monday at Midnight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unit 1</td>
<td>Intro material</td>
<td>Individual Assignment: Research and write a critical introduction to the Ephesian Letter. See the PowerPoint for Unit 1 for instructions <strong>Due Sat Night at Midnight this week</strong></td>
<td>No Group Assignments This Week</td>
<td>Evaluate two other students' introductions. See the PowerPoint for Unit 1 for instructions.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Unit 2 | 1:1-10 | Individual assignment See the PowerPoint for Unit 2 for instructions | No Group Assignments This Week | Evaluate two other students' introductions. See the PowerPoint for Unit 1 for instructions. |

| -- | First WebEx Meeting 9:30 Eastern |

| Unit 3 | 1:11-23 | Individual assignment See the PowerPoint for Unit 3 for instructions | **Group Alpha Report Due Fri** | Respond to the Group Report on the Discussion Board |

| Unit 4 | 2:1-10 | Individual assignment See the PowerPoint for Unit 4 for instructions | **Group Beta Report Due Fri** | Respond to the Group Report on the Discussion Board |

| Unit 5 | 2:11-22 | Individual assignment See the PowerPoint for Unit 5 for instructions | **Group Gamma Report Due Fri** | Respond to the Group Report on the Discussion Board |

| -- | Second WebEx Meeting 9:30 Eastern Time |

| Unit 6 | 3:1-13 | Individual assignment See the PowerPoint for Unit 6 for instructions | **Group Alpha Report Due Fri** | Respond to the Group Report on the Discussion Board |

| Unit 7 | 3:14-21 | Individual assignment See the PowerPoint for Unit 7 for instructions | **Group Beta Report Due Fri** | Respond to the Group Report on the Discussion Board |

| Unit 8 | 4:1-16 | Individual assignment See the PowerPoint for Unit 8 for instructions | **Group Gamma Report Due Fri** | Respond to the Group Report on the Discussion Board |

| -- | No class -- BREAK |

| Unit 9 | 4:17-32 | Individual assignment See the PowerPoint for Unit 9 for instructions | **Group Alpha Report Due Fri** | Respond to the Group Report on the Discussion Board |

| -- | Third WebEx Meeting 9:30 Eastern Time |

<p>| Unit 10 | 5:1-14 | Individual assignment See the PowerPoint for Unit 10 for instructions | <strong>Group Beta Report Due Fri</strong> | Respond to the Group Report on the Discussion Board |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Commentary and Note Reading</th>
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<th>Group Assignments Due Friday at Midnight</th>
<th>Discussion Board Due Monday at Midnight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unit 11</td>
<td>5:15-21</td>
<td>Individual assignment See the PowerPoint for Unit 11 for instructions</td>
<td>Group Gamma Report Due Fri</td>
<td>Respond to the Group Report on the Discussion Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit 12</td>
<td>5:22-33</td>
<td>Individual assignment See the PowerPoint for Unit 12 for instructions</td>
<td>Group Alpha Report Due Fri</td>
<td>Respond to the Group Report on the Discussion Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit 13</td>
<td>6:1-9</td>
<td>Individual assignment See the PowerPoint for Unit 13 for instructions</td>
<td>Group Beta Report Due Fri</td>
<td>Respond to the Group Report on the Discussion Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unit 14</td>
<td>6:10-23</td>
<td>Individual assignment See the PowerPoint for Unit 14 for instructions</td>
<td>Group Gamma Report Due Fri</td>
<td>Respond to the Group Report on the Discussion Board</td>
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<td>Fourth WebEx Meeting 9:30 Eastern</td>
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<td></td>
<td>No assignments. Review, Catchup, and prepare for exam.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Week</td>
<td></td>
<td>Final Exam -- Due Dec 13 by midnight. Reading Log Due Dec 13 by midnight</td>
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</table>

**Class Grading**
The final grade will be determined as follows:
10% Class participation (graded seriously).
20% Group Assignments based on content, collaboration, and participation in the group.
30% Individual Assignments
20% Reading Log
20% Final Exam

**Selected Bibliography**

*Commentaries*


Bruce, F.F. *The Epistles to the Colossians to Philemon and to the Ephesians.* New International Commentary. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1984


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**Preaching**


