BSCM2380-01: Christian Scriptures
Fall 2015 (161) Monday 8:00 p.m. – 10 p.m.

Dr. David Raul Lema Jr
Associate Professor of Theology and Missions
dlema@nobts.edu
Teaching Assistant: Carlos Rodriguez

FBC Urban Impact Center
Office: (305) 888-9777
crsrodriguez337@gmail.com

The mission of Leavell College of 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.

Core Value
Each academic year, a core value is emphasized. This academic year, the core value is Mission Focus – “We are not here merely to get an education or to give one. We are here to change the world by fulfilling the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.”

Course Description
The purpose of this course is to introduce the student to issues concerning the Bible. The lectures and class discussions include topics such as the text of the Scriptures, the development of the canon, and the history of the Bible.

Student Learning Outcomes
By the end of the semester, the student will:
1. Develop a personal doctrine of the Bible.
2. Understand the history of the written text and the canon.
3. Gain an awareness of the basis for the different translations.
4. Internalize a new appreciation for the Bible and its proper use.

Course Texts
The following textbook is required:

The student must choose one of the following textbooks:

Course Requirements and Grading

1. The student will attend and participate in the class sessions. The class will adhere to the attendance policy stated in the catalogue. Any student missing more than nine hours will receive an automatic grade of F for the course, unless excused by the Dean of Leavell College. Three tardies will count as one absence.

2. The student is required to read the assigned material before coming to class. The student will complete the reading log attached to the syllabus and submit it by Dec 7th.

3. The student will read one of the optional texts and write a critical book review. The review is to be 6-8 pages in length, typed and presented according to Turabian. This review should be prepared using the latest word processor program. A minimum of 50% of the review must be devoted to a critique of the book. Due Nov 16th.

4. The student will complete two sectional exams and a final exam.

5. The student will participate in a group to prepare a class presentation on an assigned modern translation. These presentations will be at the end of the semester. Students will give a 10-15 minute overview of an assigned translation and then take questions.

Please Note: The student is responsible for scheduling make-up exams. No make-up exams will be given unless a valid excuse is provided. The student must contact the professor before the exam unless circumstances prohibit it. The professor reserves the right to include any material from the textbook or lecture on the make-up exam. All make-up exams must be scheduled within two weeks from the scheduled date.

The final grade for the course will be determined as follows:

- 10% Class Participation
- 15% Book Review
- 15% First Sectional Exam
- 15% Second Sectional Exam
- 15% Final Exam
- 15% Group Project
- 15% Reading Log

Extra Credit

For a possibility of three points on the final grade, the student may read and review the other text on the optional reading list. The review is to be 5-6 pages in length, typed and presented according to Turabian. A minimum of 50% of the review must be devoted to a critique of the book. Extra credit work must be turned in by Dec 7th. No late extra credit work will be accepted.
Course Outline

**Doctrine of the Bible**
Aug 24 Introduction to Course
   Jesus Christ and the Bible - Wegner 13-37, 69-72

Aug 31 Divine-Human Authorship of the Bible

**The Text of the Bible**
Sep 7 LABOR DAY – no classes

Sep 14 The Truthfulness and Dependability of the Bible
   The Truthfulness and Dependability of the Bible (cont.)

Sep 21 How Ancient Books Were Made - Wegner 75-100
   The Manuscripts

Sep 28 **Sectional Exam #1**

**The Development of the Canon**
Oct 5 The Old Testament as Christian Scripture - Wegner 101-30

**The History of the Scriptures**
Oct 12 The New Testament as Christian Scripture;
   Questions of Canonicity
   Old Testament Textual Criticism - Wegner 165-206

Oct 19 FALL BREAK

Oct 26 Early Versions
   **Sectional Exam #2**

Nov 2 Gospel According to the SEC
   Gospel According to the SEC

**The Bible Today**
Nov 9 What Makes a Translation Good? - Wegner 399-403
   History of the Bible - Wegner 263-70, 273-305

Nov 16 Video on Bible Versions - God’s Word vs. Man’s Words
   The Textus-Receptus **Book Review Due**

   The English Bible in the Early 20th Century

Dec 7 Modern Translations - Wegner 324-36, 341-697
   **Group Presentations**

Dec 14 **Final Exam**
   Reading Log Due
Additional Course Information

1. Attendance Policy: As per the Leavell College Catalog, school policies regarding absences and tardies will be strictly enforced. Any student missing more than nine hours will automatically receive a grade of “F” for the course. Every three occasions of arriving late for class or leaving early from class will be counted as one hour of absence. Roll will be taken at the beginning of each class period and after each break. The student is responsible for contacting the teacher if he/she is tardy and the roll has already been taken. The student is responsible for all material, including that which was covered during an absence. Any missed assignments must be made up within one week of the original due date or the student will receive a grade of zero for the assignment. **All late assignments will be penalized five points for the first day and one point per day thereafter.**

2. Blackboard sites: All communications outside of class will come as emails via Blackboard, and any written assignments will be submitted via Assignments in Blackboard. Students are responsible to ensure that the contact information in Blackboard is current.

3. Computer/Phone usage policy: A no-technology policy is in effect for this course. At no time during class should students be using a computer or a tablet. Phones/smart phones should be turned off or placed in silent mode (not vibrate mode) during class. Students needing to make or receive texts or calls should arrange to do so outside of class time. The professor reserves the right to ask students to leave phones/smart phones at home.

4. Document format: All written assignments must be submitted as Word documents (.doc or .docx). Documents submitted in any other format will not be graded. Please use Times New Roman 12-point font, use one-inch margins on all sides, and double space all work. Unless otherwise noted, a cover page is not needed for assignments, but the student’s name should be visible on the first page of each assignment.

5. Office hours: Office hours will be as follows: Tuesdays/Thursdays from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.; Wednesdays from 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon; and by appointment.

6. Special instructions: In the event the seminary campus is closed, class will still meet in an online format. Should campus close for any reason, please take your textbooks with you and be prepared to move the discussion to an online format via Blackboard. I will post any necessary schedule revisions to the Announcements page of Blackboard.

7. Plagiarism Policy: A high standard of personal integrity is expected of all Leavell College students. Copying another person’s work, submitting downloaded material without proper references, submitting material without properly citing the source, submitting the same material for credit in more than one course, and committing other such forms of dishonesty are strictly forbidden. Although anything cited in three sources is considered public domain, we require that all sources be cited. Any infraction may result in failing the assignment and the course. Any infraction will be reported to the Dean of Leavell College for further action.

8. Technology Policy: If you have any questions about Blackboard, SelfServe, or ITC services, please access the ITC page on our website: [www.NOBTS.edu/itc/](http://www.NOBTS.edu/itc/) - General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.
Selected Bibliography


For other suggested resources see the professor.
# Reading Log

Name: ____________________________________________

Please put the date you completed the reading assignments.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Material</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Indicate in the space below the date read</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jesus Christ and the Bible  <strong>Due 1/22</strong></td>
<td>Wegner 13-37, 69-72</td>
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<tr>
<td>How Ancient Books Were Made  <strong>Due 2/10</strong></td>
<td>Wegner 75-100</td>
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<td>The Old Testament as Christian Scripture  <strong>Due 2/24</strong></td>
<td>Wegner 101-30</td>
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<td>The New Testament as Christian Scripture  <strong>Due 2/26</strong></td>
<td>Wegner 131-62</td>
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<td>OT and NT Textual Criticism  <strong>Due 3/3</strong></td>
<td>Wegner 165-206; Wegner 207-240</td>
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<td>What Makes a Translation Good?  <strong>Due 4/2</strong></td>
<td>Wegner 399-403</td>
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<td>History of the Bible  <strong>Due 4/9</strong></td>
<td>Wegner 263-70, 273-305</td>
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<td>The 1611 King James Version  <strong>Due 4/21</strong></td>
<td>Wegner 307-24, 337-40</td>
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<td>Modern Translations  <strong>Due 4/28</strong></td>
<td>Wegner 324-36, 341-397</td>
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