



**OTEN5324: Old Testament Exegesis  
Daniel**  
**LCBS4310: Special Topics in Biblical  
Studies (Daniel)**  
**English Exegesis (FLEX)**  
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary  
Fall 2023, Tuesday/Thursday: 8:00-9:20  
LSC \_\_\_\_

**Professor's Name:** Archie W. England

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### **Mission Statement**

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Leavell College prepare servants to walk with Christ, proclaim His truth, and fulfill His mission.

### **Course Description**

This course will investigate the Book of Daniel, utilizing a verse-by-verse and paragraph-by-paragraph analysis. Combining the comparison of various modern versions with various Bible study methods, the book of Daniel will be studied in its historical, literary, and theological contexts in order to understand and address significant issues for Christian ministry. Since this class does not focus on languages, students will consult commentaries, devotional to academic, and apply appropriate critical thinking and methods to discover the meaning of the text and make application of the Book of Daniel in preaching and teaching.

### **Student Learning Outcomes**

#### Knowledge

At the conclusion of the semester, the student will:

- Know the background and context for the original audience(s) of the book of Daniel
- Understand the historical settings, theological themes, and interpretive issues of the book of Daniel shapes its interpretation
- Know the various millennial interpretations of the book of Daniel
- Know the intertextual occurrences concerning the book of Daniel

#### Attitude

Value the message(s) of the book of Daniel as revelation for the local church  
Perceive how traditional interpretations of the book of Daniel might be both helpful and harmful to contemporary churches  
Develop the right spirit by which to guide believers in the study of this complicated book.

### Skills

Explicate certain historical, thematic, and literary themes addressed in the book of Daniel  
Learn how to write an exegetical paper on a selected passage in the book of Daniel  
Learn how to utilize the literary structure of the book of Daniel for teaching/preaching (as the final result of the exegetical paper)  
Be able to debate critical issues in the book of Daniel (in Christian love)

### **Required Course Texts**

1. **One** of the following translations of the Bible: Christian Standard Bible, English Standard Version, New International Version, New Revised Standard Version, New American Standard Bible Updated.
2. Tanner, J. Paul. Daniel: Evangelical Exegetical Commentary. England: Lexham Press, 2020.
3. House, H. Wayne, and Randall Price. Charts of Bible Prophecy. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2003.

Optional Texts:

Sprinkle, Joe M. Daniel: Evangelical Biblical Theology Commentary. England: Lexham Press, 2020.

### **Course Teaching Methodologies**

The course will involve the following methodologies:

The primary method of instruction for this course will be lecture and guided analysis of the Book of Daniel. Students will also learn through reading, discussion, and research assignments which they will complete as required components of the course.

The Book of Daniel, treated as one of the major prophetic books, actually serves as a later “history” book in the final section of the Hebrew Bible: the Writings. With its date and authorship highly contested—especially due to the apocalyptic nature of some of its content—the study of Daniel will introduce students to the critical scholarship that critiques the historical setting and the theological message of this later OT book. Hence, this course will seek to provide the context for understanding how the Book of Daniel was understood by its first audience(s), as well as its intent and impact for the future of the messianic kingdom.

### **Course Requirements**

Students are responsible for reading the assigned material for each class meeting (see course schedule for reading assignments), by following the weekly assignments. All students are expected to have read the texts according to the course schedule and to come to class on time and prepared to participate in discussion on the topic of the day.

1. Read all textbooks and participate in class debates (with perhaps PowerPoint presentations, 10 slides or less for any debate).
2. Initial position paper: What do you believe about the Book of Daniel (prior to starting class). 500 words.
3. Reflection papers ("What if"): Reflect on how each eschatological system uses/misuses the text of Daniel, 1,500-2,500 words.
4. Apologetics: Defend a date and authorship for the Book of Daniel and explain why this matters for the contemporary church (1,500-3,000 words). Engage at least six academic resources: no devotional materials allowed.
5. Define apocalyptic literature. Identify all suspected apocalyptic literature in the Old Testament. Engage at least 6 academic sources. 1,500-2,500 words.
6. Investigate the intertextuality of the Book of Daniel, either at a general level or of only one specific text/theme (1,000-2,000 words)
7. Identify and briefly describe the major and minor theological themes of the Book of Daniel (500-1,000 words).
8. Develop ten devotions/sermons (not a full text) from the Book of Daniel (outlines).

All documentation must use Turabian (or equivalent) styles. While informal, submissions should be typed, preferably in single-spaced, 12 pt, Times New Roman font. Footnote sources.

**If you are taking this course as a NOLA2U Flex student, please note the following attendance policies:**

1. You are required to be in class either through viewing the lectures live or viewing the recorded lectures on Canvas. When you view the recorded lecture, you will be considered present for that class—if viewed within seven days. Regardless of if you watch the class live or recorded, you are **only allowed to miss** the amount of class time specified in the NOBTS attendance policy as stated in this syllabus.
2. You will be asked to certify that you have been present for the live session or have viewed the recorded session. This certification will be done through my grading assistant or flex instructor after having watched the class live or viewing the recorded session.
3. All video lectures are available for 7 days after the video is posted. If you are unable to view the video within that time frame, you will be considered absent for that class session.
4. Technical issues will not be considered a valid reason for missing a lecture.

## Evaluation of Grade

Grad/Undergrad required all.....

Participation and commentary reading (Bible and textbooks)	10%
Initial position paper	10%
Three Reflection papers (Pre; A; Post)	20%
Grad–Choose four@15%; Undergraduate–Choose 3@20%	60%

Each select two of the three options:

Apologetics concerning the date and authorship of Daniel 1.5-3.0 pages

Apocalyptic literature analysis 1.5-2.5

Intertextuality in the Book of Daniel (general or a specific text) 1.5-2.5

Undergrad–choose one; Grad–choose both (or get permission for 3rd above)

Theological Themes and their impact on spiritual disciplines paper

Ten Devotional/Sermonic briefs

Extra-Credit impact (one letter grade possible boost)--complete an additional assignment from the above five options and submit.

## Attendance & Lateness policy

Students are expected to attend and participate in the class sessions. Any student missing more than nine hours may receive an automatic grade of "F" for the course. Three tardies will count as one absence.

Please notify the professor and/or teaching assistant as soon as possible if you, your family, or your church suffer emergencies that require your absence or might otherwise delay your completion of the work.

Unpreparedness through lack of reading, missed attendance, and consistent late arrival will significantly impact your participation grade. **All assignments must be completed in order to receive a passing grade in the course.**

**Late assignment submissions will be accepted, but will have a maximum score of 60%. No submissions will be accepted once the semester ends according to the posted time of the final exam.**

In case of school closure due to hurricanes, the professor may modify the course schedule or revise the course requirements. The first and second worksheets are designed so that they can be accomplished without access to research resources if weather emergencies require. If hurricane activity causes excessive closures, lecture material will be supplemented via Canvas and/or BlueJeans.

Extra credit is available through early submission of part or all of the final project and/or through submission of a book review, as detailed in the instructions for the final project.

Technical Assistance: For assistance regarding technology, consult ITC (504-816-8180) or the following websites:

1. Selfserve@nobts.edu - Email for technical questions/support requests with the

Selfserve.nobts.edu site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.)

2. Canvas.NOBTS.com Click on the "Help" button for technical questions/support requests regarding the NOBTS Canvas System. You can also email questions to [Canvas@nobts.edu](mailto:Canvas@nobts.edu).

3. ITCsupport@nobts.edu - Email for general technical questions/support requests.

4. www.NOBTS.edu/itc/ - General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.

### Help for Writing Papers at "The Write Stuff"

NOBTS maintains a Writing Center designed to improve English writing at the graduate level. Students can receive writing guides, tips, and valuable information to help in becoming a better writer. A copy of the approved NOBTS Style Guide can be found in the course Canvas shell, or can be located online at the Writing Center's page on the seminary website at: [https://www.nobts.edu/\\_resources/pdf/writing/StyleGuide.pdf](https://www.nobts.edu/_resources/pdf/writing/StyleGuide.pdf)

### Plagiarism on Written Assignments

NOBTS has a no tolerance policy for plagiarism. Plagiarism in certain cases may result in expulsion from the seminary. See the NOBTS Student Handbook for definition, penalties, and policies associated with plagiarism.

**The England/Michalski rubric for evaluating papers**

	<b>Substance (40%)</b>	<b>Research (30%)</b>	<b>Composition (20%)</b>	<b>Presentation (10%)</b>
<b>A</b>	Presentation of original concepts with subtlety and depth in conversation with major sources  Strong, complete arguments with clear connection to data  Research question relevant to the nature of the text, the needs of the church, and the norms of the academy  Discovery, use, and presentation of significant quantity of	Thorough representation of the field  Meaningful use of sources  Responsible interaction with sources  Transparent acknowledgment of sources	Compelling, readable prose  Unique, confident authorial voice establishing rapport with reader  Serious style but not stuffy  Very well-ordered thinking and wording	Clean text without distractions

	high-quality data			
<b>B</b>	Promising but inconsistent/incomplete arguments  Competent conceptual development	Serviceable representation of the field  Ambiguous acknowledgment of sources	Serviceable presentation of research	Minor errors in grammar, spelling, punctuation, or formatting
<b>C</b>	Failure to connect arguments with data  Ambiguous concepts  Inaccurate data  Relevance is obscure	Shallow representation of the field, or reliant on small subset of sources  Ambiguous acknowledgment of sources	Inconsistent language sometimes obscuring content or degrading research credibility	Frequent errors obscuring content
<b>D</b>	Derivative arguments  Obscure concepts  Grossly inaccurate data  Research is off-topic or irrelevant	Inaccurate representation of the field  Irresponsible or insignificant handling of sources	Damaged language obscuring content and degrading research credibility	Pervasive errors obscuring content
<b>F</b>	No effort evident	No effort evident	No effort evident	No effort evident

Course Schedule

Wk	Date	Topic(s)	Reading Due	Assignment Due
1	8/15	Syllabus Day; Chiasm		
	8/17	Daniel 1	Tanner 123-58	
2	8/22	Dan 2-3	Tanner 159-209a	Position Paper
	8/24		Tanner 209b-61	
3	8/29	Dan 4-5	Tanner 262-316a	
	8/31		Tanner 316b-64a	
4	9/5	Dan 6-7	Tanner 364b-415a	
	9/7		Tanner 415b-74	
5	9/12	Dan 7 continued, (Eschatology intro)	Tanner 477-519 (actually for 8)	
	9/14	Dan 8		

Wk	Date	Topic	Reading Due	Assignment Due
6	9/19			
	9/21	Dan 9	Tanner 520-615a	
7	9/26	Millennial Systems		Millennialism Paper
	9/28			
	10/3			

	10/5			
8	10/10	Daniel 10	Tanner 615-40a	
	10/12	Dan 11	Tanner 640b-728a	
9	10/17			<b>Selected Project #1</b>
	10/29	Dan 12		

10	10/24	Critical Issues of authorship	Tanner 1-122	
	10/26	Apocalyptic genre	Charts	
11	10/31			
	11/2	Millennialism	Charts	
12	11/7			<b>Selected Project # 2</b>
	11/9			

13	11/14	Intertextuality	TBD + OT	<b>% of Reading Report</b>
	11/16		+ NT (Revelation)	
	11/21	Thanksgiving Break (no class)		
	11/23			

14	11/28	Catch-up	Clean up!	<b>Selected Project # 3</b>
			Exams Begin	