



## OTEN5308-ONL English Exegesis: Deuteronomy

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

Biblical Studies Division

May 30-July 29

Summer 2022

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**Format:** Internet  
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### *Successfully completing an Internet course*

1. Understand that Internet courses are not “easier” than classroom courses. Disabuse yourself of any notion to the contrary. In a typical semester, 20% of my Internet students do not complete the course whereas 95+% of classroom students do.
2. You must be able to envision specific blocks of time in which you can complete your work, something like regular class times in a traditional course.
3. If you plan to do the work in your spare time, do not take the course because no one has any spare time.

**NOBTS Mission** Prepares servants to walk with Christ, proclaim His truth, and fulfill His mission.

**Course Description** A thorough study of selected texts, through verse-by-verse and paragraph-by-paragraph analysis, comparison of various English versions, consideration of pertinent historical and cultural issues, along with consultation of comprehensive commentaries. The course will emphasize proper methods for discovering the meaning of a text and applying it in teaching and preaching.

**Course Prerequisites:**

(1) OTEN5300 Exploring the Old Testament; (2) BSHM5310 Introduction to Biblical Hermeneutics.

**Student Learning Outcomes**

1. The student will understand how to improve biblical exegesis through a close reading of the text through narrative exegetical strategies.
2. The student will demonstrate how to apply the benefits of biblical backgrounds, word studies, literary analysis, and genre nuances in the proclamation of the English text.
3. The student will communicate clearly the meaning and application of the English text to a contemporary audience.

**Required Textbooks** The Holy Bible: Any modern version (preferably NASB, HCSB, NIV). Students are especially encouraged to use *The Jewish Study Bible: Jewish Publication Society Tanakh Translation* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2004)

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Christopher Wright, *Deuteronomy*, in New International Biblical Commentary. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 1996.

**Recommended Commentaries:**

Daniel I. Block. *Deuteronomy*, in The NIV Application Commentary. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2012.

Eugene H. Merrill. *Deuteronomy*, in The New American Commentary. Nashville: B&H, 1994.

J. Gordon McConville. *Deuteronomy*, in Apollos Old Testament Commentary. Westmont, IL: IVP, 2002.

Jeffery H. Tigay. *Deuteronomy*, in The JPS Torah Commentary. Jerusalem: Jewish Publication Society, 1996.

**Significant recent works:**

Joshua A. Berman. *Inconsistency in the Torah: Ancient Literary Convention and the Limits of Source Criticism*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2017.

Eckart Otto. *Deuteronomium* in 4 vols. 1, 1–4, 43 (2012); 4, 44–11 (2012); 12, 1–23, 15 (2016); 23, 16–34, 12 (2017). Freiburg, Germany: Herder Verlag.

Christine Hayes. *What's Divine about Divine Law? Early Perspectives*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2017.

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| <b>Course Teaching Methodology</b> | The course methodologies include lectures, multiple student presentations, journal article and textbook readings. |
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| <b>Course Objectives</b> | By the end of this course, the student should be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Apply exegesis skills to a narrative text.</li> <li>2. Use commentaries effectively in exegesis.</li> <li>3. Develop contemporary expository messages from Deuteronomy's historical-legal texts.</li> <li>4. Understand the basic theological significance of Deuteronomy and its implications for the New Testament anticipation of the Messiah.</li> </ol> |
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| <b>Course Requirements:</b> | <p>All assignments are due on Friday of the week assigned.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Preparatory Reading and Quizzes on Deuteronomy: (A)</b> The student will read or listen to each biblical text at least twice (2x's) prior to class lectures. Reading the text from two different translations is recommended. <b>(B)</b> The student will take weekly quizzes over the textbook (Wright commentary) reading that correspond to the lectures on each biblical chapter discussed. Questions will be provided and the answers emailed back to the professor. (jgriffin@nobts.edu)</li> <li>2. <b>Secondary Readings and Questions (journal articles and book chapters):</b> The student will read selected journal articles and book chapters throughout the semester. Questions will be provided and the answers emailed to the professor.</li> <li>3. <b>Paper: "A Survey of the Purpose and Theological Themes of Deuteronomy:"</b> The student will compose a five (5) page, double-spaced</li> </ol> |
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paper discussing two concerns: **(A)** What is the purpose of Deuteronomy? and **(B)** What significant theological themes are addressed in Deuteronomy? A minimum of five (5) sources will be cited within the paper. Acceptable sources include, but are not limited to critical commentaries and Old Testament introductions and surveys. The paper will include a title page and a selected bibliography. A table of contents is not necessary.

**4. Exegetical Sermon Briefs:** The student will prepare three (3) sermon briefs with the components noted below. The papers will be double spaced and include a title page and bibliography in Turabian format.

**Selection of Texts:** Every student will exegete Deuteronomy 6 for the first sermon brief assignment. For Brief 2 and 3, the student may select the chapter of the choice from the list below. With permission, a student may select a different text(s) than those listed.

**Sermon Brief One Text:** Deuteronomy 6 (required)

**Sermon Brief 2 & 3 Texts:** Deuteronomy 8, 11, 18, 31, 34 (select only two)

**Lecture Note:** For any chapter selected for a sermon brief, *the student will not view the video lecture for the corresponding chapter of the brief* until after the assignment is completed.

**Note:** Please consult the file "Turabian Tutor" in Course Documents for a simplified presentation, including examples, of Turabian formatting.

**4A. Exegetical Worksheet (5-8 pages):** The student will complete an exegetical worksheet as provided by the professor. Insights will come from narrative analysis and from personal study of critical commentaries in addition to the textbook. A minimum of five (5) critical commentaries will be used in the completion of this assignment. An additional three (3) sources must be used including word study resources, dictionaries, and journal articles. A minimum of eight (8) sources will be cited.

**4B. Sermon Brief (1 page):** The student will prepare a coherent, one-page sermon outline based on their exegesis of the text.

**4C. Bibliography (1 page):** All commentaries, dictionaries, and journal articles used in preparation of this assignment will be listed. A minimum of five (5) commentaries will be used in the assignment.

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**Due Dates** All assignments due on Friday at midnight of the week assigned.

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**Grading Scale** A: 93-100% B: 85-92% C: 77-84% D: 70-76% F: below 70%

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**Evaluation of Grade**

1. Textbook (Wright commentary) reading and quizzes – 10%
2. Article Reading/Quizzes – 15%
3. Paper: Survey of the Purpose and Theological Themes of Deuteronomy – 10%
4. Mid-term and Final Exam – 20%
5. Exegetic Sermon Briefs – 45% (15 points each)

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Total – 100%

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**Technical Assistance**

For assistance regarding technology, consult ITC (504-816-8180) or the following websites:  
[Selfserve@nobts.edu](mailto:Selfserve@nobts.edu) - Email for technical questions/support requests with the [Selfserve.nobts.edu](http://Selfserve.nobts.edu) site (Access to online registration, financial account, online transcript, etc.)  
[BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu](mailto:BlackboardHelpDesk@nobts.edu) - Email for technical questions/support requests with the NOBTS Canvas Learning Management System  
[NOBTS.Blackboard.com](http://NOBTS.Blackboard.com).  
[ITCSupport@nobts.edu](mailto:ITCSupport@nobts.edu) - Email for general technical questions/support requests.  
[www.NOBTS.edu/itc/](http://www.NOBTS.edu/itc/) - General NOBTS technical help information is provided on this website.

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**Help for Writing Papers**

"The Write Stuff" Writing Center exists to improve English writing at the graduate level. Students can receive writing guides, tips, and valuable information to help in becoming a better writer.

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**Writing Style Guide**

Writing assignments should follow the NOBTS/Leavell College Manual of Form and Style (revised August 2019). Go to <https://www.nobts.edu/resources/pdf/writing/StyleGuide.pdf>.

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**Plagiarism**

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.

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**OTEN5308 – ENGLISH EXEGESIS: DEUTERONOMY**  
**LECTURES & ASSIGNMENTS SCHEDULE**

| Week | Dates      | Lectures   | Assignments   |
|------|------------|--|---|
| 1    | May<br>30  | Welcome to the Class!<br>Encountering Deuteronomy<br>Deuteronomy as Literature<br>Deuteronomy 1 – Part 1&2 | Carpenter – “Literary Structure of Unbelief” (1987).  |
| 2    | June<br>6  | The Exegetical Process<br>Deuteronomy 1 – Part 3<br>Deuteronomy 2-4  | <b>Paper: “A Survey of the Purpose and Theological Themes of Deuteronomy:”</b><br>Moran – “Love of God” (1963). |
| 3    | June<br>13 | The Exegetical Process<br>The Purpose of OT Law<br>Deuteronomy 5, 7-10                                     | Wenham – “Date of Deuteronomy – Part 1 (1985)<br>Copan – “Are OT Laws Evil” (2009).                             |
| 4    | June<br>20 | The Blessing<br>Making Sense of OT Law<br>Deuteronomy 11-13  | <b>Exegetical Sermon Brief #1</b><br>Wenham – “Date of Deuteronomy – Part 2 (1985)                              |
| 5    | June<br>27 | Deuteronomy 6<br>Deuteronomy 14-18   | Sohn – “I will be your God and you will be My people” (1999).   |
| 6    | July<br>4  | Deuteronomy 20-26  | <b>Exegetical Sermon Brief #2</b><br>Richter – “The place for My Name” (2007).                                  |
| 7    | July<br>11 | Deuteronomy 27-34  | Block – “A Place for My Name” (2015).   |
| 8    | July<br>18 | <b>Review Week &amp; Final Exam</b>  |   |
| 9    | July<br>25 | <b>Exegetical Sermon Brief #3</b><br><i>(July 31<sup>st</sup> is the Final Day to turn in Assignments)</i> |   |

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- 2021 Edelman Diana, et al, eds. *Deuteronomy in the Making: Studies in the Production of Debarim*. Beihefte Zur Zeitschrift Für die Alttestamentliche Wissensch 533. Boston: De Gruyter.
- 2019 Culp, A. J. *Invited to Know God: The Book of Deuteronomy*. Bellingham, WA: Lexham.
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- 2018 Mattison, Kevin. *Rewriting and Revision as Amendment in the Laws of Deuteronomy*. Forschungen Zum Alten Testament 2. Reihe 100. Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck.
- 2017 Block, Daniel I. and Richard L. Schultz. *Sepher Torath Mosheh: Studies in the Composition and Interpretation of Deuteronomy*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson.
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- Otto, Eckart. *Deuteronomium 12,1–23,15*. Freiburg, Germany: Herder Verlag.
- 2015 Benjamin, Don C. *The Social World of Deuteronomy*. Eugene, OR: Wipf and Stock.
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- worship." *JETS* 58 (2):221-47.
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