BI 14 ● Biblical Hermeneutics
Professor: Richard C. Barcellos, Ph.D.
3 Credit Hours

Course Description:
Covers principles of Reformed hermeneutics, history of hermeneutics, sources of hermeneutical principles, canonical structure and hermeneutics, biblical genres and hermeneutics, the Bible’s interpretation of the Bible, *sensus plenior*, and contemporary issues.

Educational Objectives:
By means of class lectures and discussions, reading of textbooks and articles, writing assignments, and the final exam, students will be introduced to the issues involved with the theory and practice of Reformed hermeneutics.

Course Requirements:
The student is required to attend all lectures, participate in class discussion, do all the assigned reading and writing, and take the final exam. *No late work will be accepted for credit, except in case of emergency as defined by the professor.* If a student misses a lecture or lectures, he must inform the professor as to why and read the class notes taken by a fellow student who was present.

Textbooks: Students are required to read *all* the assigned texts and articles below. Students are highly encouraged to use the *Pocket Dictionary* (see supplemental texts below) while reading. The professor may suggest or hand out other reading materials for the energetic student, though not mandatory for course credit. Reading and writing assignments are due 8 weeks after the last day of course lectures.

Reading and Writing Assignments:
Reading
Here is the required reading *in the order to be read.* If at all possible, students should read the first five assigned readings by the last day of class. Two supplemental texts are added as well.

Plummer, Robert L. *40 Questions about Interpreting the Bible.* Grand Rapids: Kregel Academic & Professional, 2010 (327pp.).


Supplemental texts:


Writing
The writing assignments are as follows:

(1) A book review of Carter’s Interpreting Scripture (1,500-2,000 words). The professor will hand out an example book review to be followed in format and writing style. No review under 1,500 or over 2,000 words will be accepted. Students should provide a brief overview of the entire book, showing perceived strengths and perceived weaknesses, and identifying who the book would profit most and why.

(2) Two (2) three- to four-page essays interacting with the articles by Beale (second article above) and Poythress. No essay under three or over four pages will be accepted. Students should explain the thesis of each essay and show how the author sought to prove it.

Grading Plan: Grades will be tabulated as follows: one exam based on lectures alone (45% of total grade; exam to be taken 1 week after course ends), reading assignments (15% of total grade; due 8 weeks after course ends), and writing assignments (40% of total grade; due 8 weeks after course ends).
Academic Performance:
No student will be deemed to have successfully completed the work in any CBTS course who does not achieve a cumulative grade of 75 or above for his course work. The letter equivalents for the percentile grades assigned are as follows:

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<tr>
<th>Letter</th>
<th>Percentile Range</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>96-100</td>
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<td>A-</td>
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<td>B+</td>
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<td>B-</td>
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<td>C-</td>
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Course Schedule:
Monday, May 27, 8:00 am – 5:30 pm
Tuesday, May 28, 8:00 am – 6:30 pm
Wednesday, May 29, 8:00 am – 6:30 pm
Thursday, May 30, 8:00 am – 5:30 pm