

## **BI115 BIBLE STUDY/HERMENEUTICS**

<b>Course:</b>	BI115 Bible Study/Hermeneutics
<b>Credit:</b>	3 Semester Hours
<b>Semester:</b>	Spring 2026, Sessions 1-2 (January 12- May 8)
<b>Time:</b>	Tuesday/Thursday 8:00 am- 9:20 am
<b>Place:</b>	Langmade Room
<b>Instructor:</b>	Ian Bacon, M.Div, Ph.D
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:ian.bacon@calvary.edu">ian.bacon@calvary.edu</a>
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### **I. DESCRIPTION**

This course will help the student learn the inductive method of Bible study following the steps of observation, interpretation, application, and correlation. Students will learn how to use the literal grammatical historical hermeneutic to interpret the Bible. Students will be introduced to traditional dispensationalism which distinguishes Israel and the Church.

*\* This course is offered in two formats: in-person and online. Students registered for in-person attend the classes in person, online students attend the classes via the online classroom. For both in-person and online students, assignments and interaction outside of the class period are done in the learning management system.*

### **II. OBJECTIVES**

#### **A. General competencies to be achieved:**

1. Discover a new appreciation for the wonder and precision of God's Word (PLO 1,5) (A 1,2,3,4,5,6,7, 8, 9, 10)
2. Develop a competence in interpretation of Scripture that will enhance a lifetime of service to our Lord (PLO 1, 5) (A 1,2,3,4,5,7, 8 ,9, 10)
3. Discern the complexities involved in correctly interpreting Scripture from a Biblical Hermeneutic (PLO 1, 4) (A1,2,3,4,5,6,7)
4. Determine the indispensable nature of inductive Bible study for faith and practice, for life and ministry (PLO 1,2,3,4,5) (A 1,2,3,4,5,6,7, 8, 9, 10)

5. Demonstrate a knowledge of the distinction between hermeneutics and exegesis (PLO 1,2,5) (A 1)

**B. Specific competencies to be achieved:**

1. Acquire skills in the inductive method of Bible study that will lead to accurate exposition of the Word of God, and then to personal application (PLO 1,4,5) (A ,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10)
2. Learn to apply the grammatical-historical-contextual principles of hermeneutical analysis to the whole of Scripture (PLO 1,2) (A 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10)
3. Demonstrate skill in analyzing words, verses, segments, and books of Scripture (PLO1,2) (A 2,3,4,7,8,9,10)
4. Demonstrate skill in dealing with different genres of Scripture (PLO 1,2) (A 6,10)
5. Learn new ways to study the Bible for personal devotions (PLO 1,5) (A 2,3,4,6,7,8,9,10)

### **III. TEXTBOOKS**

- A. The Bible** is a required textbook in every course at Calvary University. To facilitate academic level study, students are required to use for assignments and research an English translation or version of the Bible based on formal equivalence (*meaning that the translation is generally word-for-word from the original languages*), including any of the following: New American Standard (NASB, English Standard Version (ESV), New King James (NKJV), or King James (KJV). Other translations and versions based on dynamic equivalence (*paraphrases, and thought-for-thought translations like NLT and NIV*) may be used as supplemental sources. Please ask the professor if you have questions about a particular translation or version.
- B.** Hendricks, Howard G. and William Hendricks. *Living by the Book*. Chicago: Moody Publishers, 2007, ISBN: 9780802408235 Retail: \$18.99

### **IV. ASSIGNMENTS**

**Assignment 1:** Read Hendricks, *Living by the Book* pages 13-65. In a Word document indicate that you finished the reading assignment and list five things you learned from your reading. Participate in the discussion board. (59 points).

**Assignment 2:** Write a Bible book background of Jonah. (25 points).

**Assignment 3:** Take an exam on the order of the books of the Bible (66 points). Participate in the discussion board (75 points)

**Assignment 4:** Read Hendricks pages 66-99. In a Word document indicate you finished reading this reading and list five things you learned from your reading. (25 points).

**Assignment 5:** Type out a detailed outline of the book of Jonah. Be sure to put verse references after all main points and sub-points. Participate in the discussion board (100 points).

**Assignment 6:** Read Hendricks pages 100-144. In a Word document indicate you finished reading this reading and list five things you learned from your reading. (25 points).

**Assignment 7:** Do a character study on Barnabas in the Bible. Participate in the discussion board (100 points).

**Assignment 8:** Read Hendricks pages 145-195. In a Word document indicate you finished reading this reading and list five things you learned from your reading. (25 points).

**Assignment 9:** Type out 50 observations on the book of Jonah. Participate in the discussion board (100 points).

**Assignment 10:** Read Hendricks pages 199-226. In a Word document indicate you finished reading this reading and list five things you learned from your reading. (25 points).

**Assignment 11:** Type out 50 questions on the book of Jonah. Participate in the discussion board (100 points).

**Assignment 12:** Read Hendricks pages 229-272. In a Word document indicate you finished reading this reading and list five things you learned from your reading. (25 points)

**Assignment 13:** Type out a word study of the student's choice (25 points).

**Assignment 14:** Read Hendricks pages 273-373. In a Word document indicate you finished reading this reading and list five things you learned from your reading. (25 points).

**Assignment 15:** Write out 20 applications for your life from the book of Jonah. Participate in the discussion board (100 points).

**Assignment 16:** Write a 20-slide PowerPoint presentation. Participate in the discussion board (100 points).

## V. GRADING SCALE

930-1000	A
900-929	A-
870-899	B+
830-869	B
800-829	B-
770-799	C+
730-769	C
700-729	C-
670-699	D+
630-669	D
600-629	D-
0-599	F

## VI. HELP FOR STUDENTS

- A. **Disabilities:** *Students with disabilities have the responsibility of informing the Accommodations Support Coordinator ([aso@calvary.edu](mailto:aso@calvary.edu)) of any disabling condition that may require support.*
- B. **The Clark Academic Center** ([learning@calvary.edu](mailto:learning@calvary.edu)) is dedicated to providing free academic assistance for all Calvary University students. Student tutors aid with all facets of the writing process, tutor in various subject areas, prepare students for exams and facilitate tests. Please take advantage of this service

## VII. EXPECTATIONS

**All class papers** must follow the Turabian style according to *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, 8th edition and the Calvary Style Guide, 2019 update.

**Late Assignments:** Assignments will be lowered **10%** if not turned in on the due date.

**Plagiarism:** Plagiarism is defined as copying any content without identifying the source. This also includes taking another person's or AI entity's ideas or constructs and presenting them as your own. The use of AI generated content in student work is prohibited (even if cited) as it does not represent original work created by the student and is an unreliable aggregate of ideas from other sources. Plagiarism of any kind will not be tolerated. Any assignment that includes plagiarism will receive a zero (0) grade.

**Attendance:**

Attendance accounts for 20% of your overall grade. I expect students to attend class regularly. My attendance policies are:

- **In class students:** there are 2 class sessions per week in the semester; each class session is worth 1.25% of your grade. I will deduct 1.25% from your grade for each unexcused absence.
- **For online students:** I will take attendance once a week. Attendance is based on academic activity, which includes weekly lecture attendance report, responding to discussion questions, submitting research papers, book reports or similar assignments, or taking an examination. I will deduct 2.50% from your grade for each week in which an online student fails to demonstrate academic activity.

**VIII. CLASS SCHEDULE**

<b>Week 1</b>	<b>Introduction Go Over Assignments for Course Importance of Studying God's Word</b>
<b>Week 2</b>	<b>Discussing Work in Discussion Boards Importance of the Holy Spirit Definition of Terms</b>
<b>Week 3</b>	<b>Dispensational Hermeneutics Literal Hermeneutic over Allegorical Introduction to Observation</b>
<b>Week 4</b>	<b>Discussing Work in Discussion Boards Context Practice with Additional Texts</b>
<b>Week 5</b>	<b>Grammar of a Text Practice with Additional Texts Practice with Additional Texts</b>
<b>Week 6</b>	<b>Discussing Work in Discussion Boards Reading Well Skills Practice with Additional Texts</b>

<b>Week 7</b>	<b>Reading Well Skills Practice with Additional Texts Practice with Additional Texts</b>
<b>Week 8</b>	<b>Discussing Work in Discussion Boards Summarizing a Text Practice with Additional Texts</b>
<b>Week 9</b>	<b>Outlining a Text Practice with Outlining Practice with Additional Texts</b>
<b>Week 10</b>	<b>Discussing Work in Discussion Boards Observation Clues Practice with Additional Texts</b>
<b>Week 11</b>	<b>Making Charts Practice Making Charts Practice With Additional Texts</b>
<b>Week 12</b>	<b>Discussing Work in Discussion Boards Keys to Interpretation Practice with Additional Texts</b>
<b>Week 13</b>	<b>Word Studies Practice Word Studies Practice with Additional Texts</b>
<b>Week 14</b>	<b>Discussing Work in Discussion Boards Steps of Application Practice with Additional Texts</b>
<b>Week 15</b>	<b>Application Questions Application Principles Survey of the book of Jonah</b>
<b>Week 16</b>	<b>No Classes: Finals Week</b>

**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Couch, Mal. *An Introduction to Classical Evangelical Hermeneutics*. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2000.

Duvall, J. Scott and J. Daniel Hays. *Grasping God's Word*. Third edition. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Academic, 2012.

Fee, Gordon and Douglas Stuart. *How to Read the Bible For All Its Worth*. Fourth edition. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2014.

Jackson, Walter and Gayle. *Studying, Interpreting and Applying the Bible*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1990.

Osborne, Grant. *The Hermeneutical Spiral*. Revised. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2006.

Plummer, Robert. *40 Questions About Interpreting the Bible*. Grand Rapids: Kregel Academic, 2010.

Ryrie, Charles. *Dispensationalism*. Chicago: Moody Press, 1995.