

## ASSOCIATED CANADIAN THEOLOGICAL SCHOOLS OF TRINITY WESTERN UNIVERSITY

### Graduate Course Syllabus

**Course Number: BIB 505 OL**

**Course Name: Biblical Interpretation**

**Semester and Year: Summer 2023**

**Instructor:** Don Chang, Ph.D. (Associate Professor of Biblical Studies)

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**Office Hours:** Zoom meeting is available by appointment

**Semester Dates:** May 1 to June 24, 2023

**Course Website:** [www.learn.twu.ca](http://www.learn.twu.ca)

**Co-requisites or Pre-requisites:** None

**Semester Hours:** 3 Credit Hour

### Course Description

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This course will focus on the development of a systematic approach to the interpretation of Scripture. While various critical-interpretative systems and strategies will be considered, special attention will be given to the historical-grammatical method. The predominant literary genres of the Bible will be examined and relevant principles of interpretation highlighted. Emphasis will be placed on understanding the original, intended meaning of Scripture in its canonical context as the basis upon which to prepare expositions and make appropriate contemporary applications.

### Course Objectives

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By the end of this course, each student should be able to:

1. Have a deeper appreciation of and love for Jesus, the Christian faith, and Scripture.
2. Gain a greater understanding of the philosophy and methodology of biblical interpretation.
3. Identify the various literary genres of the Bible and equip the hermeneutical procedures that are relevant to each genre;
4. Formulate applications that are consistent with the original intention of biblical passages and the trajectories that they sketch.

# Course Learning Outcomes

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## **Knowledge and its Application**

- Evince an enhanced understanding of the history of biblical interpretation.
- Exhibit competence in the use of hermeneutical methodologies and relevant resources.
- Demonstrate increased proficiency in determining the context of biblical books and establish the textual meaning of biblical passage on the basis of sound hermeneutical methodology.

## **Cognitive Complexity**

- Demonstrate the ability to use skillfully the available tools and resources for the study and practice of biblical interpretation.
- Demonstrate the familiarity with various literary genres of the Bible and the relevant Hermeneutical procedures.
- Show the capability to identify theological presuppositions and key issues involved in biblical hermeneutics.
- Identify theological observation from various biblical passages and draw conclusions that are appropriate for personal life and ministry.

## **Inter-and intra-personal Wellness**

- Demonstrate increased professional capacity and autonomy in the discipline of biblical interpretation.
- Display superior organizational and time management skills.
- Demonstrate academic and personal integrity.

## **Aesthetic Expression and Interpretation**

- Communicate how the historical-grammatical and literary approach to the biblical literature reveals the authorial message and theology of the scripture.
- Demonstrate the ability to engage in various genres of the Biblical books within which the deeper appreciation of the contents of the Biblical literature are formulated into the theological understanding of the issues of our time

## **Social Responsibility and Global Engagement**

- Demonstrate the ability to analyze, appraise and evaluate the text to contextualize and adapt its theology for diverse ministry contexts, be they local or global

## **Spiritual Formation**

- Demonstrate a greater understanding of the Christian scripture and its connection to God's work in the world
- Utilize spiritual practices by deeper-reflection of the authorial messages and the implied theological insights of various biblical passages that are covered in the course.
- Exemplify a Christian ethic in pursuit of truth, reconciliation, compassion, and hope reflected in the various passages in the Bible.

## **Leadership**

- Demonstrate academic proficiency to communicate effectively and to establish constructive dialogue with others in various interpretational matters.

Demonstrate integrity and humility in all matters

## Required Texts and Materials

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You will be expected to have to hand a reliable English translation of the Bible (not a paraphrase) such as *ESV*, *NRSV*, *NIV*, or *NASV*. Beyond this, the required textbooks for the course are:

- 1. William W. Klein, Craig L. Blomberg, and Robert L. Hubbard. *Introduction to Biblical Interpretation*. 2017; 3rd edition, Nashville: Nelson, 2004. [543 pages; hereafter KBH]
- 2. G. Camery-Hoggatt. *Reading the Good Book Well: A Guide to Biblical Interpretation*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2007. [233 pages]
- 3. R. N. Soulen and R.K. Soulen, *Handbook of Biblical Criticism*. 4th ed.; Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2011. [258 pages]

## Course Activities/Requirements

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Assignments are due by midnight on the day they are due. I would ask that you submit your assignments in the online Moodle classroom accessible through MyCourses([www.learn.twu.ca](http://www.learn.twu.ca)). When you go to the Moodle classroom, you will see assignment folders where you can submit assignments. Once I have marked your assignment, I will put it in your grade book in the Moodle classroom where you can check your grade and review the comments I made on the assignment (you will receive an automatic notification whenever I put a graded assignment in your grade book). The Moodle submission of each assignment will remain open until two weeks after the given due dates. 0.25% (per each day) of deduction of the overall grade of this course will be applied to the late submission. Weekend (Saturday and Sunday) will be considered as one day. Extension of the due date will be considered in exceptional circumstances such as a medical emergency (when a doctor's note accompanies the request).

Here is an overview of all the assignments followed by a detailed description of them:

Week	Due Date	Assignments	% Final Grade	Cumulative %
1	May 1 (Monday) May 1–6	Pre-reading due		
2	May 8–13 May 13 (Saturday)	Book Review Due	15%	15%
3	May 15–20	Forum Discussion #1	5%	20%
4	May 22–27 May 27 (Saturday)	Forum Discussion #2 History of Interpretation Paper	5% 15%	25% 40%
5	May 29–June 3	Forum Discussion #3	5%	45%
6	June 5–10 June 10 (Saturday)	Exegetical Note and Discussion Paper due	25%	70%

7	June 12–17	Forum Discussion #4	5%	75%
8	June 19–24 June 24 (Saturday)	Reading Log Hermeneutical Research Paper	5% 20%	80% 100%

### Course Pre-Reading Requirement

Due to the condensed nature of this course, please have the following read before the course begins on May 2, 2022:

- G. Camery-Hoggatt. *Reading the Good Book Well: A Guide to Biblical Interpretation*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2007

You will be expected to integrate ideas from this textbook into the forum discussions and other assignments

### Book Review (15%) | Due on the end of Week 2 (May 13, 2023)

Review and critique G. Camery-Hoggatt's, *Reading the Good Book Well*.

- The book review and critique should not exceed typewritten 1800 words total (cover page and table of contents are not counted in the word limit)
- A good book-review paper will have the following component:

#### **Introduction (1 page)**

- Give full bibliographical data at the top of the page
- Author's educational (or scholarly) and ministry background, theological stance, which are relevant to the topic of the book in the first paragraph
- Identify and describe the purpose of the book and the layout of the book

#### **Body (3 - 4 pages)**

- Summarize the content of the book with reader's own words
- Identify and describe the points of argument that the author uses to persuade his readers
- Discuss the persuasiveness of the author and whether the stated argument of the author has been achieved and how and if not state why not.
- How would you describe the author's style?
- Identify strengths or weaknesses of the book. Support your evaluation with clear explanations.
- State how helpful this book is to your understanding on the process of Biblical Interpretation and your personal development in your ministry.

#### **Conclusion (1 page)**

- Conclude with an appraisal of your reading experience. What of personal value did you learn from it? What significant insights did you gain with reference to the subject?

### **Readings and Online Forum Participation (25 %) | Due on the designated Week**

By the end of the course you should have read the required textbooks—KBH and Camery-Hoggatt in their entirety, and selections from Soulen and Soulen. Together, KBH and Camery-Hoggatt amount to 776 pages. And additional 200 pages must be read for this course. These 200 pages should reflect the objectives of having consulted the Soulen and Soulen textbook and to have read commentaries and other resources with a view to the fulfillment of the course assignments—esp. *Forum #4* and *Hermeneutical Research Paper*. In the provided Reading Log, **indicate your reading list and what percentage of the assigned reading you have done**. Calculate thus: (Total pages read of KBH + Total pages read of Camery-Hoggatt + 200 additional pages, including Soulen and Soulen and to complete assignments) ÷ 9.76 = \_\_\_\_\_ %. At the end of your reading log, you indicate, “I have completed \_\_\_\_\_% of the assigned reading.”

As you read and watch, please take notes in preparation for participation in the online forum. At any time in the course, you may initiate or join in discussions on the online forum. For grading purposes, interaction on the online forum though, your knowledgeable and thoughtful interaction on the online forum will be divided into four segments. You should plan to invest approximately four hours into crafting forum posts and responding to forum discussions during each forum segment, for a total of approximately 16 hours during the course. Each forum segment is worth 5% of your final grade. Although it is impossible to interact knowledgeably in the forums if you have not completed the readings and watched the videos, I will also grant an additional 5% will be given for completion of the online reading log that records your readings.

Students are expected to contribute to the forum discussions by posting a minimum of four conversational (worth up to 10 points each) and three substantive contributions (worth up to 20 points each) per forum week. Please make sure that you spread out your contributions over the designated forum weeks so that you engage in the forum conversations at different points.

By conversational contributions, I mean simply joining the flow of discussion with shorter responses (e.g. questions, affirmations, quick thoughts about what someone has said).

By substantive responses, I mean responses that show a deep processing of relevant ideas (this usually takes 200-300 words). We have a tremendous opportunity to build upon one another’s knowledge, insights, and experience. Our goal is to collaborate in the forum. At times, we will respectfully challenge each other. We anticipate that this will be a rich time of dialogue. To create a safe environment for this to take place, we must build a supportive subculture that encourages one another. Disagreeing and challenging can be stimulating if done in an edifying manner.

#### **Substantive participation may include (among other things):**

- Providing and developing a new thought, idea, or perspective.
- Citing an experience or example of what we are learning and showing how it applies.
- Adding a new twist on a perspective.
- Critically reflecting on an idea/concept.

- Questioning or challenging a principle/perspective and giving reasons for your questioning.
- Integrating Scripture and other sources in a meaningful way

**What Substantive Participation is NOT:**

- Very basic comments such as “I agree” or “I disagree.”
- Restating what someone has said (*unless there is a direct purpose in doing so*).
- Disrespectfully disagreeing.
- Pat answers that are not thought-provoking.

**Below are examples of how to stimulate your own and others’ thinking:**

- What would happen if...
- Other times it may be helpful to...
- It is my understanding...what is your experience with this?
- You might approach this from...
- Is it possible that...
- Would you consider...
- Maybe...
- Possibly...
- Sometimes...
- I'm wondering if...
- Do you think...

Have fun!

Note: You can use any of your forum posts in other papers for this course. I would also encourage you to view the posts of others as resources that you can cite in your papers. Everyone brings a wealth of insights into the class!

**History of Interpretation Paper (15%) | Due on the end of Week 4 (May 27, 2023)**

- (1) Research on the history of biblical interpretation and write a paper on it. The purpose of this assignment is to expand your understanding on various biblical interpretations in history by making an analytical reading on the history of interpretation on the Bible.
- (2) Read chapters 2–3 of KBH (pp. 66–164), relevant portions of Soulen and Soulen, and some other related scholarly resources.<sup>1</sup> Choose two methodologies from the following list (select two from the titles in bold font)

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<sup>1</sup> Some of the titles that deal with related issues are as follows:

Childs, B. S., *Biblical Theology in Crisis*. Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1970.

Dockery, David S. *Biblical Interpretation Then and Now: Contemporary Hermeneutics in the Light of the Early Church*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 1992.

Goppelt, L., *Typos: The Typological Interpretation of the Old Testament in the New*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1982.

Kaiser, W. C. & M. Silva, *An Introduction Biblical Hermeneutics: The Search for Meaning*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1994.

McKim Donald K. ed. *Historical Handbook of Major Biblical Interpreters*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1998.

Porter, Stanley E. and Beth M. Stovell eds. *Biblical Hermeneutics: Five Views*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2012.

Powell, M. A., *What Is Narrative Criticism?: A New Approach to the Bible*. London: SPCK, 1993.

- Early Church and the 2nd Temple Judaism:
  - “**Allegorical Interpretation**” (Alexandria-North African school),
  - “**Literal Interpretation**” (Syria-Antioch school),
  - “**Typology**” or “**Eschatological Interpretation.**”
- The church in the middle age:
  - “**Traditional Interpretation**”
- The reformation:
  - **Luther and Calvin**
- Modern Period:
  - “**Historical Criticism (a.k.a. Old-Literary criticism): Documentary Hypothesis, Source Criticism, Form Criticism, Tradition History**” (You may choose either “historical criticism” as a whole or pick an individual sub-category)
  - “**redaction criticism**” or “**Canonical criticism,**”
  - “**New-Literary Criticism: Narrative Criticism, Rhetorical Criticism,**” (You may choose either “New-literary criticism” as a whole or pick a sub-category)
  - “**Social-Scientific approaches**”

(3) Summarize and evaluate some of the representative biblical interpretational methods from your readings: (a) explain the distinctive interpretational elements of individual interpretational approaches; (b) expound the historical, social, or philosophical-theological circumstances that might be influential to the emergence of the selected methodology; (c) evaluate the individual methods; comment merits and demerits of them.

(4) Paper format

- The paper should demonstrate decent performance of research and be formatted properly with title page, table of contents, and bibliography.
- Use at least four scholarly resources which include KBH and Soulen and Soulen. (avoid internet blog, study bible, or author-unknown commentaries)

The paper should not exceed 2000 words (title page, table of contents, and bibliography are not included in this 2000 words), and should follow either Turabian or SBL (Society of Biblical Literature) style.

### **Exegetical Notes and Discussion Paper (25%) | Due on the end of Week 6 (June 10, 2023)**

Students write an *Exegetical Note and Discussion* paper according to the following instruction.

(1) Passage: choose **one passage** from the OT or NT of which you will make an analysis in accordance with the historical-grammatical method. Select **ONLY ONE** of the following passages:

- \* **OT:** Genesis 23:1–20; Exodus 24:1-11; Numbers 25:1–18; Psalm 19:1–14; Ecclesiastes 4:1-12; Isaiah 6:1–13.

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Ryken, L. *How to Read the Bible as Literature*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1984.  
 Yarchin, William. *History of Biblical Interpretation*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2004.

\* **NT:** Matt 1:1–17; Mark 6:30–44; John 2:1–11; Acts 2:1–13; Hebrews 7:11–28; Revelation 5:1–14.

(2) Make exegetical notes according to the structure of Corley's Cubing the Text (see Week 3) which contains the following components:

- **a. World behind the Text: Setting**
  - A selected passage and the historical-cultural context of the given passage
- **b. In the Text - Style**
  - Literary/Biblical Context: Genre, Outline of the passage, Immediate and broad literary context.
- **c. In the Text - Semantics**
  - Lexical Analysis (word study)
- **d. In the Text - Syntax**
  - Analysis on grammar (word and phrase level), syntax (sentence level), and discourse (a cluster of sentence level: relationship between the sentences) if necessary. For significant syntactical issues in the selected passage, consult commentaries see how scholars make their approach to the issue.
- **e. In the Text - Summation**
  - Authorial use of Key-word (Leitwort), Rhetorical marker, or Discourse marker.
- **f. World before the Text:**
  - Exegetical and interpretational issues in dispute.<sup>2</sup>
  - Theological Analysis and Application: authorial/textual intent, possible implication to the contemporary

(3) The ultimate purpose of this assignment is to help you (a) to make a step by step historical-grammatical approach to the selected passage, (b) to collect relevant exegetical information for each step, and (c) to reflect the authorial intention behind each interpretational element.

(4) This Exegetical Note will be the core research work for your **Hermeneutical Research Paper**.

(5) Paper Format:

- This paper is a relatively loose in format: no footnote is required for this assignment. However, bibliography should be listed at the end of the paper.
- Make the paper-guide as the sub-sections of this paper (i.e. Settings, Literary Genre and Outline, Semantics and Syntax, Summations, Significance, etc). Addition of Introduction and Conclusion sections are encouraged.
- The paper should not exceed 2000 words (title page, table of contents, and bibliography are not included in this 2000 words).

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<sup>2</sup> You may want to consult good critical commentaries for relevant interpretational issues of the selected passage: Suitable series are WBD (Word Biblical Commentary, Word Publisher) series; NICOT (the New International Commentary on the Old Testament, Eerdmans) and NICNT (the New International Commentary on the New Testament, Eerdmans) series; Hermeneia (Fortress Press); ECNT (Baker Exegetical Commentary on the New Testament, Baker Academic) series; The Old Testament Library (Westminster John Knox Press) series, etc.



## **Hermeneutical Research Paper (20%) | Due on the end of Week 8 (June 24, 2023)**

Reshape one's *Exegetical Notes and Discussion* paper into an essay type hermeneutical research paper (2000–2300 words; 7-8 pages) which has a thesis statement and argumentations to demonstrate it.

The purpose of this assignment is to integrate the diverse interpretational elements reasonably (which are found in the *Exegetical Notes and Discussion* paper) to support one's thesis statement concerning the authorial intention and message of the given passage. Therefore, in this paper, students are expected **to discuss about how individual exegetical components are coherently work together to reveal the author's message.**

(1) Make a thesis (statement) concerning the interpretation of the given passage, the passage that you worked with for the **Exegetical Note and Discussion** paper.

- Examples of thesis statement:

- on Psalm 19

- "This essay will argue that the main point the psalmist was trying to make to his original audience was that God's revelation in the law is greater than his revelation in nature"

- on Isaiah 6

- "the overall message of the book of Isaiah (and Isaiah's calling narrative in Isa. 6) is not about urging the repentance of Israelites for the deliverance from upcoming judgement but about proclaiming an inevitable judgement and the new beginning"

- on Matthew 1:1-17

- "Using a narrative critical lens this paper will argue first that Matthew chose the women to reveal how oppression is used for God's redemptive purpose and to confirm that Jesus redeems the most contemptible and shameful members of society"

- on Hebrew 7

- "Along with a survey of relevant background information that aids the understanding of Hebrews 7, this paper will conclude that the question of Melchizedek's eternal state is irrelevant to the message of Hebrews and that its core message is that God extravagantly provided a perfect priest for his people with the chief goal of drawing them near to himself."

- Please note that these sample thesis statements are not from the instructor, and instructor does not necessarily agree to or support these thesis statements. However, the key of this assignment is not to find the instructor's idea on the given passage but to make a student's own case and to provide a reasonable and persuasive (logical and coherent) arguments of one's claim.

(2) use the exegetical items **selectively** (from the *Exegetical Notes and Discussion* paper) in order to **make a coherent line of argument** to demonstrate and support that your thesis statement is reasonable and plausible.

(3) Consult the class texts, reference works (concordance, Bible dictionary/encyclopedia, theological dictionary, etc.) and other reputable and recent books and journals/periodicals (but not Bible Study notes, internet blogs, or Wikipedia). **At least ten such sources (including at least 3 journal articles) should be**

**used.** However, be sure to employ these sources for background and contextual information. Do not simply survey the interpretations of commentators for the passage that you investigate, but give evidence of having worked through interpretative issues for yourself. Citation or other use of sources must be scrupulously documented.

(4) Format. This paper is to be well-researched, properly footnoted, and is to include an outline/table of contents (the headings of which appear in the body of your paper) and a bibliography of works consulted and cited. Title page, Table of Contents, and Bibliography are **not** counted in 2200-2500 words

**Reading Log (5% of the final grade; Due on June 26)**

	<b>Author</b>	<b>Book title</b>	<b>pages</b>
<b>1</b>	Klein, Blomberg, Hubbard jr	Introduction to Biblical Interpretation	
<b>2</b>	Kamery-Hoggatt	Reading the Good Book Well	
<b>3</b>	Soulen & Soulen	Handbook of Biblical Criticism	
<b>4</b>			
<b>5</b>			
<b>6</b>			
<b>7</b>			
<b>8</b>			
<b>9</b>			
<b>10</b>			

Calculate thus: (Total pages read of KBH + Total pages read of Camery-Hoggatt + 200 additional pages, including Soulen and Soulen and to complete assignments) ÷ 9.76 = \_\_\_\_\_ %.

*“I have completed \_\_\_\_\_% of the assigned reading.”*

Name:

Student Number:

Signature:

## Course Evaluation

Course Requirement	Grade Value	TWU Student Learning Outcome(s)	BIB 505 Learning Outcome(s)
<i>Readings and Online Forum Participation</i>	25%	Knowledge and its Application Cognitive Complexity Inter and Intra- personal wellness Spiritual Formation	a, b, d, f, g
<i>Book Review</i>	15%	Knowledge and its Application Cognitive Complexity	b, d, f, g
<i>History of Interpretation Paper</i>	15%	Knowledge and its Application Cognitive Complexity	a, b, c, e, f
<i>Exegetical Note and Discussion</i>	25%	Knowledge and its Application Cognitive Complexity Spiritual Formation	c, d, e, f, g
<i>Hermeneutical Research Paper</i>	20%	Knowledge and its Application Cognitive Complexity	c, d, e, f, g
Total	100%		

Near the conclusion of this course, you will be asked to complete a course evaluation. Because feedback is very important, the course evaluation is a required part of the course and is tied to the submission of your last assignment. The course evaluation will be integrated into the Moodle classroom in Week 8.

## Grading System

Letter Grade	Percentage	Description	Grade Point	Meaning in Graduate Work
A+	97-100	Superior	4.30	Exceptionally well-reasoned, compelling development of position. Outstanding incorporation of personal vision as well as of references and resources. Strikingly appropriate examples. Extraordinary insight, critical analytical and evaluative ability, and creativity. Superlative style and language usage. Makes an original contribution and is potentially publishable.
A	93-96.99	Excellent	4.00	Well-argued and convincing development of position. Insightful incorporation of personal vision as well as of references and resources. Notably appropriate examples. Excellent insight, critical analytic and evaluative ability, and creativity. Impressive style and language use.
A-	90-92.99	Very Good	3.70	Thorough and plausible development of position. Skilful incorporation of personal vision as well as of references and resources. Very good examples. Very good insight, analytic and evaluative ability, and creativity. Commendable and fluent style and language usage.

B+	87-89.99	Proficient	3.30	Proficient development of position. Appropriate incorporation of personal vision as well as of references and resources. Relevant examples. Good quality insight, analytic and evaluative ability, and creativity. Clear and correct style and language usage.
B	83-86.99	Good	3.00	Competent development of position, but possibly with some gaps and/or limitations. Good incorporation of personal vision as well as of references and resources. Good examples. Reasonable insight, analytic and evaluative ability. Little creativity. Generally good style and language usage, but possibly with some minor flaws.
B-	80-82.99	Average	2.70	Average development of position, but with obvious gaps and/or limitations. Satisfactory incorporation of personal vision as well as of references and resources. Satisfactory examples. Reasonable insight, analytic and evaluative ability. Little creativity. Generally satisfactory style and language usage, but possibly with some minor flaws.
C+	77-79.99	Adequate	2.30	Adequate development of position with significant gaps and/or limitations. Some incorporation of personal vision as well as references and resources. Adequate use of examples. Very little creativity. Considerable number of issues related to coherence and style.
C	73-76.99	Acceptable	2.00	Limited development of position with a noticeable lack of consistency with personal vision or references. Limited integration with external sources. Acceptable analytic and evaluative ability. Numerous weaknesses in terms of clarity, coherence, and grammar.
C-	70-72.99	Needs Work	1.70	Passable but unimpressive development of position. Position not completely consistent with personal vision <i>or</i> references and resources not taken fully into account <i>or</i> examples are basic or not completely convincing <i>or</i> barely acceptable insight and analytic and evaluative ability. Adequate style and language usage, but with weaknesses in some respects (e.g., clarity, coherence, grammar). Overall quality shows noticeable deficiencies.
F	Below 70	Below Standard	0.00	Unacceptable work at graduate level. Shows lack of understanding and/or competence in several of the criteria described above. This grade is a failing grade at the graduate level.

## Course Outline

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Consult Course Activities/Requirements on pages 2–3 of this syllabus

## Course Policies

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### ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND AVOIDING PLAGIARISM AT TWU

One of the core values of Trinity Western University is the integration of academic excellence with

high standards of personal, moral, and spiritual integrity. The University considers it a serious offence when an individual attempts to gain unearned academic credit. It is the student's responsibility to be informed about what constitutes academic misconduct. For details on this, and on identifying and avoiding plagiarism go to the [University Homepage > Academics > Academic Calendar](#) (p. 47).

<https://prezi.com/od62fxnkbmxh/plagiarism-how-to-get-it-out-of-your-life/> (Prezi presentation)

<http://bit.ly/1p00KX3> (Google Slide presentation offering more comprehensive information)

### **STUDENTS WITH A DISABILITY**

Students with a disability who need assistance are encouraged to contact the Equity of Access Office upon admission to TWU to discuss their specific needs. All disabilities must be recently documented by an appropriately certified professional and include the educational impact of the disability along with recommended accommodations. Within the first two weeks of the semester, students must meet with their professors to agree on accommodations appropriate to each class. Students should follow the steps detailed by the Equity of Access Office on their website at:

<http://www.twu.ca/student-life/student-success/disabilities-and-equity-access>.

### **HOSPITALITY IN THE CLASSROOM**

TWU is committed to an ethic of inclusion centred on the principles of Christian hospitality, reciprocity and reconciliation. We seek to cultivate generous learning spaces that are based on respect for differences and are open to diverse views, opinions, and identities that are thoughtfully expressed in a collegial manner. We welcome and value all voices, including those from under-represented groups or those who have been marginalized.

The following policies are optional but recommended, to allow you to efficiently respond to student challenges to the syllabus. *Click on these fields and press delete if you do not wish to use them:*

### **CAMPUS CLOSURE AND CLASS CANCELLATION POLICY**

In the event of extreme weather conditions or other emergency situations go to the <https://www.twu.ca/campus-notification>.

### **COURSE GRADE APPEALS**

Students can appeal their grade to the course instructor by stating in writing their reasons for contesting the grade. Deadline for such appeals is one week after the student has receipt of grade. Formal course grade appeals can be made with the ACTS Office.

### **PAPER FORMATTING**

The preferred manner for citations is the Turabian Notes (Bibliography) format. For information and accuracy you may wish to reference the following style guide: Kate L. Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses and Dissertations*, 9th ed. Students may find the following website helpful: [http://www.press.uchicago.edu/books/turabian/turabian\\_citationguide.html](http://www.press.uchicago.edu/books/turabian/turabian_citationguide.html)