E A S T T E X A S B A P T I S T U N I V E R S I T Y

SYLLABUS FOR MINISTRY (MINS) 1121

The Interpretation of the Bible for Preaching and Teaching

I. <u>COURSE DESCRIPTION</u>: A study of the principles and methods of Biblical interpretation. Attention will be given to the application of these principles and methods to particular biblical passages.

II. <u>TEXTBOOKS</u>:

- Fee, Gordon and Stuart, Douglas. <u>How to Read the Bible For All It Is Worth</u>. Grand Rapids: Academic, 1987.
- Stein, Robert H. <u>A Basic Guide to Interpreting the Bible</u>. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1994

III. <u>COURSE OBJECTIVES</u>:

- General Objectives
    - To acquaint the student with the principles and historical development of hermeneutics.
    - To introduce the student to the terms, methods, and tools of library science.
    - To inform the student of the historical and contemporary religious literature.
    - To assist the student in the methods and techniques of religious research.
- Specific Objectives
    - To enable the student to identify major schools of biblical interpretation.
    - To familiarize the student with the broad areas of religious studies.

IV. COURSE OUTLINE

- General Rules of Interpretation (Stein p 9-82; Fee & Stuart p 9-44)
- Specific Rules of Interpretation based on Genre
    - Wisdom Literature
        - Proverbs
        - Poetry
        - Idioms / Hyperbole
    - Prophecy and Apocalyptic
        - Narrative
            - Old Testament
            - Acts
        - Gospels / Parables
            - New Testament Letters
            - Law

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

- Read all textbooks. Be prepared for quizzes.
- Do an interpretative paper on a book of the New Testament (Titus), which exhibits knowledge of hermeneutical procedures.
- One book review of 3 pages over any book in the Bibliography.
- Students must attend a minimum of twelve sessions of the fifteen class sessions in order to be eligible receive credit.

VI. GRADING:

- The tests will average together for one-third of the grade.
- All reading quizzes will average together for one-third of the grade.
- A Hermeneutical Outline (in four reading cycles) of the book of Titus will average together for one-third of the grade.

- Grading Scale:
    - 90 and above A
    - 80-89 B
    - 70-79 C
    - 60-69 D
    - 59 and below F

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