

Theological hermeneutics and practical exegesis, TÛ.01.01
Estonian Free Church Theological Seminary

Workload 4 ECTS. 12 contact hours (45') in school, 8 contact hours in web, 84 individual work hours.

Lecturer Fred Hansen (2theou@gmail.com; +1-217-735-0018), Sander Tulk, MA (sander.tulk@kogudused.ee)

Assessment non-differentiated (pass/fail)

Language of Instruction – English, but can also given dispensation to be written in Estonian.

Course Dates: Nov. 14 – Jan. 8., 2024 Tallinn, Estonia

Learning outcomes. After passing the course successfully, the student...

1. Will demonstrate knowledge of the Bible and analyzing skills of the meaning of its parts and entire content from the perspective of the church and social life.
2. Will be able to interpret the Biblical message using basic methods of hermeneutics and exegesis to transform the research results into a message.
3. Will be able to analyze social and church phenomena in the light of biblical teaching and offer ways to increase trust in church and society.
4. Will be able to articulate and contextualize major questions of ethics and mission on local and global level, based on the Bible message.

Assessment Methods and Criteria

Assessment Methods	Due date	Assessment Criteria
Exegetical Research Worksheet on Philippians 2:5-11 – Complete the major steps of exegesis from the assigned exegetical worksheet over the assigned passage.	Jan. 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Length of worksheet between 4-5 pages. • Demonstrates specific knowledge of context, co-text, word meaning, and grammar. • Demonstrates student’s ability to conduct exegetical research alone in a pastoral environment. • Makes use of exegetical tools necessary for study
Sermon Manuscript – Write a sermon or lesson manuscript over Philippians 2:5-11 demonstrating use of Exegetical Research Worksheet	Jan. 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Length of manuscript is between 3-4 pages. • Sermon must show knowledge of Philippians 2:5-11 gained from exegesis. • Sermon must show discernment as to what important exegetical elements to include and exclude.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sermon must include practical application of Philippians 2:5-11 to the church and society
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Formation of the final mark

All three/two assessment methods have to be done according to the assessment criteria.

Study flow

<i>Independent work</i>	<i>Time and place, hours</i>	<i>Contact hours, main themes and methods</i>
Prior to class: Recommend that students watch hermeneutics videos in media section ; as needed, depending on familiarity with hermeneutics.	November 14: (6 hours)	Zoom (hybrid)- Sander Tulk, Fred Hansen. Defining Hermeneutical Terms, The Hermeneutical Task, and what it means to engage scripture as both God's word and a textual record. Reading Paul's epistles in their first century environment.
	December 12-13: (12 hours)	Face-to-face interaction with students in Tallinn, Estonia- Fred Hansen. Reading Paul's Epistles Continued, Reading the Gospels, Parables, and Apocalyptic literature.
	January 8: (6 hours)	Zoom (hybrid)-Sander Tulk, Fred Hansen Reading New Testament texts continued. Examining student sermon manuscripts.

Learning materials

Primary literature:

William Klein, Craig Blomberg, and Robert L. Hubbard Jr. *Introduction to Biblical Interpretation*. 3rd Edition. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2017.

T. Norton Sterrett and Richard L. Schultz. *How to Understand Your Bible*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Connect, 2010.

Secondary literature:

J. Scott Duvall and J. Daniel Hays. *Grasping God's Word*. Fourth Edition. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2020.

Gorman, Michael J. *Elements of Biblical Exegesis: A Basic Guide for Students and Ministers*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker Academic, 2010.

Media:

Complete the 10-part video series on how to study the Bible on Youtube from the Westgate Church of Christ, USA:

[How to Study the Bible | Episode 1: Introduction - YouTube](#)

[How to Study the Bible | Episode 2: Exegesis and Hermeneutics - YouTube](#)

[How to Study the Bible | Episode 3: Inspiration - YouTube](#)

[How To Study the Bible | Episode 4: Reader Bias - YouTube](#)

[How to Study the Bible | Episode 5: The Old Testament - YouTube](#)

[How To Study the Bible | Episode 6: Canon - YouTube](#)

[How to Study the Bible | Episode 7: Knowing and Understanding - YouTube](#)

[How to Study the Bible | Episode 8: Historical and Cultural Context - YouTube](#)

[How to Study the Bible | Grammar and Word Studies - YouTube](#)

[How To Study The Bible | Episode 10: Reflecting Theologically - YouTube](#)