



International Apostolic Bible College
Apostolic Assembly of the Faith in Christ Jesus

INTRODUCTION TO HERMENEUTICS

Associate of Arts — Year 2

Instructor: Dr. Matthew Garcia

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Campus Location: IABC West Texas District Campus

Date: September 14, 21, 28 & Oct 05

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is taught with the intention of giving students of the Bible a greater understanding of the study of the history, principles, and methods of biblical interpretation. Students will consider the relationship between the interpreter and the biblical text along with its implications, to establish a contextualized hermeneutical approach. The hermeneutical analysis of the books will include internal context, semantics, syntax, grammar, literary genre, and historical theology, as well as the documentary contributions of the biblical and social sciences such as archaeology, textual criticism, and linguistics. A thorough investigation will also include authorship, the recipients or target audience, the date of composition, the outline of the book, its purpose and original meaning, and its relevance for today.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Help students become students and “interpreters” of the Bible rather than mere readers or listeners (2 Timothy 2:15).
- Help students discover for themselves and distinguish between what God says and what humanity says and learn to apply hermeneutical principles for a correct understanding of the Bible.
- Encourage the practice of doing exegesis instead of eisegesis.
- Enable students to refute false or erroneous teachings while confessing, believing, and teaching sound Christian doctrine revealed in the Scriptures through the proper application of hermeneutical principles.

REQUIRED READING

- The Holy Bible
- Virkler, Henry A., and Karelynn Gerber Ayayo. *Hermeneutics: Principles and Processes of Biblical Interpretation*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 1981.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS / ASSIGNMENTS

1. Reading Assignments

- Students will read the assigned portions of the textbook along with the corresponding Scripture passages.
- Reading assignments reinforce the lecture material and provide a deeper understanding of each topic studied.

- Completion of reading will be verified through in-class discussions, short quizzes or written responses, and integration of the reading into assigned work.

2. In-Class Assignment

Students will practice hermeneutics on an assigned passage, working through its context, literary genre, and grammar to distinguish exegesis from eisegesis, and will share their interpretation for class discussion.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance throughout the class period is required to obtain academic credit. Attendance involves being present in class for the entire duration. Tardiness will be addressed by the attending professor and, if accepted, will require the student to submit additional work to compensate for the time missed. Any additional time missed will forfeit the class credit and will require the student to retake the class.

GRADING SYSTEM

Punctuality & Attendance	20%
Participation	20%
In-Class Assignment.....	30%
Essay / Homework	30%
Final Grade	100%

GRADE SCALE

97–100 = A+	87–89 = B+	77–79 = C+
93–96 = A	83–86 = B	73–76 = C
90–92 = A–	80–82 = B–	70–72 = C–

POLICIES

Assignments

Students are expected to complete and submit all assignments by the stated deadline. Students are responsible for notifying the instructor if they are unable to turn in work on time; if they fail to do so, the instructor will assume the assignment was not completed.

Homework assignments are a required component of the course and are designed to reinforce class instruction, discussion, and the learning objectives. Submission of all homework assignments is required to receive credit for the course. Attendance alone does not fulfill course requirements. Any student who attends class but fails to submit the required homework will not receive credit and will be required to retake the course to complete the program.

Plagiarism

Any student who submits written material as their own that has been fully or partially copied from someone else's work without proper acknowledgment is guilty of plagiarism. Students must identify quoted material and document it with specific citations. Paraphrased content must also be attributed to the original author. Copying another student's work, with or without permission, or using their ideas with minimal rewording is considered plagiarism, as is copying from printed books or articles without crediting the source.

The use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools or applications to generate written assignments, responses, or academic work is prohibited unless explicitly authorized by the instructor. Submitting AI-generated content as one's own work is considered a violation of academic integrity and will be treated as plagiarism.

Any student who submits plagiarized work, submits AI-generated work as their own, or allows another student to copy their work is subject to a grade of "zero" or "F" for the assignment.