Mission Statement
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and Leavell College prepare servants to walk with Christ, proclaim His truth, and fulfill His mission.

Core Value Focus
The seminary has five core values: Doctrinal Integrity, Spiritual Vitality, Mission Focus, Characteristic Excellence, and Servant Leadership. The core value focus for this academic year is Spiritual Vitality.

Curriculum Competencies
All graduates of NOBTS are expected to have at least a minimum level of competency in each of the following areas: Biblical Exposition, Christian Theological Heritage, Disciple Making, Interpersonal Skills, Servant Leadership, Spiritual and Character Formation, and Worship Leadership. The curriculum competencies addressed in this course are: Biblical Exposition, Christian Theological Heritage, Worship Leadership, and Spiritual Formation.

Course Description:
This course combines an overview of the Book of Psalms and its place in the Hebrew Bible with an in-depth analysis of selected portions of the Hebrew text. Primary attention will be given to the grammatical, literary stylistics, historical, and theological features of the text. The study will include a discussion of the process leading to hermeneutical goals of teaching and preaching.

Course Objectives/ SLO:
Upon the successful completion of this course the student will have demonstrated a proper knowledge of and an ability to use effectively in study, teaching and preaching:
1. The overall literary structure and content of the Book of Psalms
2. The major theological themes and critical issues in the books.
3. The Hebrew text of the Book of Psalms.
4. Hebrew syntax and literary style in Hebrew Poetry

Core Values:
1. Doctrinal Integrity - Study of the Hebrew Bible for teaching, preaching, and personal devotion.
2. Characteristic Excellence - Development of skill in Biblical interpretation and exposition.
3. Spiritual Vitality: Transforming Power of God’s Word
Textbooks:

*Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia*

*Encountering the Psalms*, by C. Hassell Bullock (Baker, 2004)

*Psalms 1–50*, Word Biblical Commentary, by Peter C. Craigie (Nelson, )

*Psalms 101-150*, Word Biblical Commentary, by Leslie C. Allen (Nelson, )

Course Requirements:

1. Class attendance and preparation (25%) MEMORIZE PSALM 23 IN HEBREW FOR CLASS RECITATION
2. Reading – Textbooks (10%).
3. Translation Exam (25%) Thurs July 31 AM
4. Exegetical Research Paper (40%). Due Date August 9

Exegetical Research Paper:

The student is to write an exegetical research paper on a selection from the Book of Psalms which will include the following elements:

1. Introduction – To the passage (not the entire biblical book) including the historical and cultural setting, important biblical background material, etc.
2. Translation – Your own translation, having the following quality goal: the precision of the *NASB* or the *NKJV*, with the readability of the *NIV* or *NLV*.
3. Textual Footnotes: Address the issues in important text critical notes, as well as any key words which you have translated in a distinctive manner.
4. Exegetical Outline – Provide an exegetical outline of the chosen passage, with at least one but no more than two sub-levels.
5. Exegetical Notes and Discussion – Explicate the meaning of the text, highlighting words studies, structural elements, pertinent background material.
6. Homiletical Outline – Assuming you will be teaching or preaching from this material, provide an outline of your presentation, including Title, Theme or Key Point, Outline with one sub-level, Conclusion.

Students will turn in a statement regarding their chosen passage on or before July 23

Course Schedule:

**Mon July 20**

pm1 Introduction. Discussion: C. Hassell Bullock.
Psalm 1:1–6 Wisdom Psalm: The Way of Life
pm2 Psalm 19:1–15 Wisdom Psalm of Creation & the Torah

**Tue July 21**

am Psalm 22:1–22 Lament: Deliverance of God’s Anointed
pm Psalm 22:23–32 (Vow to Praise)
Psalm 23:1–6 The Good Shepherd

**Wed July 22**

am Psalm 32:1-11 Penitential Prayer of David
pm Psalm 110:1–7 Celebration of the Lord as King
pm Psalm 111:1–10 Acrostic Hallel Psalm
Thu  July 23  am  Psalm 113:1–9  Hymn of Praise and Hope
      Psalm 115:1–18  Praise for God vs. Gods of the Nations
            pm  Psalm 118:1–29  Thanksgiving for Deliverance
                   Psalm 121:1-8  Song of Ascent
Fri.  July 24  am  Psalm 136:1–26  History of God’s CHESED
              Psalm 148:1–14  All Creation to Praise the Lord

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Beckwith, R. and M.J. Selman, eds. Sacrifice in the Bible. Tyndale Fellowship for Biblical and
___________. The Testimony of the Poets and Sages: The Psalms and Wisdom Literature.
Bouzard, Walter C., Jr. We Have Heard With Our Ears, O God: Sources of the Communal
Brenner, Athalya, and C.R. Fontaine. Wisdom and Psalms. Feminist Companion to the Bible, 2,
Brueggemann, Walter. David’s Truth: In Israel’s Imagination and Memory. Philadelphia: 
___________. The Message of the Psalms: A Theological Commentary. Augsburg OT Series.
Crow, Loren D. The Songs of Ascents (Psalms 120-134): Their Place in Israelite History and
Cole, Robert. The Shape and Message of Book III (Psalms 73-89). Sheffield: 
Daly-Denton, Margaret. David in the Fourth Gospel: The Johannine Reception of the Psalms.
Davidson, Robert. The Vitality of Worship: A Commentary on the Book of Psalms. Grand 
Gillingham, S.E. The Poems and Psalms of the Hebrew Bible. New York: Oxford University 


McCann, J. Clinton, Jr., ed. The Shape and Shaping of the Psalter. JSOTSup 159. JSOT, 1993.


