It is the student's responsibility to read and be thoroughly familiar with the syllabus.

Deuteronomy (GB 5133)

Hazelip School of Theology, Fall 2015

Sept 18-19; Oct 23-24; Nov 13-14

Meeting Times and Location: Check with the graduate Bible office prior to class for the room assignment. We will meet from 5:00-9:00 PM on Fridays, and 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM (with a lunch break) on Saturdays.

Instructor: Dr. Phillip Camp  
Office: Ezell 212  
Phone: 615-966-6130  
E-mail: phillip.camp@lipscomb.edu

Course Description (from the graduate catalog on Scripture courses):

The Scripture courses offer serious, in-depth study of a Bible book(s). Based on the English text, attention is given to backgrounds, critical issues, and original language insights. Critical issues of the individual books are reviewed in relation to the wider issues of the surrounding biblical material. Characteristic of each course is a careful reading of the specific book, a study of the general contents, and the integrating of the book into Bible history.

Required Texts:


4. Another commentary of your choice selected from the bibliography at the end of the syllabus. Only one student can choose any given commentary, so the student should notify the instructor as soon as he/she has decided on one. The student may propose an alternate commentary, one not listed in the bibliography (perhaps one representing a particular tradition or demographic), but the commentary must be approved by the instructor. Each student will need to acquire the commentary in time to prepare for the first weekend of class. If a student has not selected a commentary by Sept. 1, the instructor will choose one for him/her, and it must be obtained prior to class.

5. Any modern, committee translation of the Bible (e.g., NIV, NRSV, NASB, ESV).

6. Other readings (on-line resources, essays, articles) will be assigned and posted or linked on Blackboard.
## Course Objectives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning Objectives: Students completing this course will:</th>
<th>How Delivered</th>
<th>How Assessed</th>
<th>Goals</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Have a mastery of the contents of Deuteronomy.</td>
<td>Reading the biblical text.</td>
<td>Journals, exams.</td>
<td>Minimum grade: 70%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Understand Deuteronomy in its historical and literary contexts.</td>
<td>Lectures, readings.</td>
<td>Exams.</td>
<td>Minimum grade: 70%</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Understand the place of Deuteronomy in the Pentateuch, the OT, and the whole Bible.</td>
<td>Lectures, readings, class discussion.</td>
<td>Book review, exams.</td>
<td>Minimum grade: 70%</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Gain skills to interpret OT legal texts.</td>
<td>Lectures, readings, class discussion.</td>
<td>Lesson/sermon plans, exams.</td>
<td>Minimum grade: 70%</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Understand the theology Deuteronomy.</td>
<td>Lectures, readings, class discussion.</td>
<td>Lesson/sermon plans, journals, exams.</td>
<td>Minimum grade: 70%</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Be able to hear and apply Deuteronomy as God’s word, to Christians and the church today.</td>
<td>Readings, class discussion.</td>
<td>Lesson/sermon plans, journals, exams.</td>
<td>Minimum grade: 70%</td>
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## Course Requirements:

1. **Attendance.** Since this is a weekend course, you must be present and on time for every class meeting. Missing any part of a class weekend will result in a reduction in the course grade, and missing a significant part of the class will result in failing the class. So please schedule your weekends accordingly. Please do not ask to leave class early or come to class late, and please do not ask to be excused for one of the weekends.

2. **Participation.** Be prepared to discuss the assigned readings and to contribute your thoughts and insights to the general class discussions. Good participation means that all reading and other assignments are completed before class and that the student is able to helpfully and intelligently contribute to the class discussion. It also means that you will represent the "voice" of the commentary you have chosen, so that a variety of perspectives will be presented in class.
3. **Journal.** Prior to the class meeting each weekend, the student will post a journal on Blackboard under the "Journal" link. Each journal will cover the reading assignment from Deuteronomy for the weekend in four sections. The sections are in the schedule below under "Assignments." For each of the four sections, the journal should have three components:

1. **As you read in Deuteronomy, before consulting commentaries,** keep a journal of thoughts, insights, and applications that occur to you as you read. That is, I am interested in your fresh thinking on the biblical text with the influence of the commentaries. Also, **do not quote at length or summarize the biblical text.** Just give the chapter and verse(s) to which you are referring. For each section of Deuteronomy listed in the course schedule below, write **at least 300 words** of reflection (about 1 page, typed, double-spaced).

2. After doing the first part for a section, read the McConville commentary and write **at least 300 words** (about 1 page, typed, double-spaced) of new thoughts or insights you gained from his commentary for each section of Deuteronomy. You can also argue against McConville. That is, engage the commentary.

3. Next write **at least 150 words** (about ½ page, typed, double-spaced) of insights from the commentary you chose into the sections of Deuteronomy, ones that McConville does not give. That is, what does your commentary add to the discussion beyond what you find in McConville?

Therefore, for each of the four sections of Deuteronomy for a weekend, you will have about 2 ½ pages (at least 750 words), and the journal for that weekend will be about 10 pages total (at least 3000 words). Obviously, you cannot cover everything in detail, so reflect on what you find significant. Feel free to exceed the word limits.

These journals need not be profound, polished works, but they should be thoughtful and engaged with the biblical and commentary texts. However, **check your grammar and spelling.** If the journals are full of spelling and grammatical errors, the grade will be lowered.

Late journals will be penalized (10 points if tuned in after the beginning of class, and 10 points for every day late afterward). Attach your file to the appropriate date under the "Journal Link." The attachment should be a Word or Word-compatible file (.doc or .docx).

4. **Book Review.** The student will write a 1200-1500 word (approx. 4-5 pages, typed, doublespaced) review on Fretheim's The Pentateuch. The review should include the following:
   (1) state the general purpose and theme(s) of the work; (2) identify the author's method and presuppositions; (3) summarize the general content and main points of each chapter; (4) indicate the strengths and weaknesses of this work. This last item should deal with how well the author makes his case, his logic, how well and consistently he applies his method(s), how his presuppositions affect his arguments (positively or negatively), etc. It should not simply be a list of what you like and don't like about the book, though you may include that as well. The grade is based on demonstrating that the book has been read, understood, thoughtfully engaged, and thoughtfully critiqued. **Note:** You demonstrate that you understand the book, in part, by being
able to put the author's ideas in your own words. That is, do not fill the paper with quotations from the book. Post your review on Blackboard as an attachment in a Word file (.doc or .docx) under the "Review" link prior to the beginning of class on Friday, Oct. 23. Late reviews will be penalized 10 points/day.

5. Exams. There will be three timed exams taken in the first half hour to hour of the Friday class each weekend. The material covered is listed in the course schedule below. The exam time is limited, so be to class on time on Friday.

6. Final Exam. The exam is comprehensive. The exam will be e-mailed to you on the Monday following the last class, and you will have until 11:59 PM on Saturday, Dec 5, to return the exam by e-mail. Specific instructions on the exam will be given in class. Late exams will be penalized 10 points per day.

7. Lesson/Sermon Plans. In order to move your work on Deuteronomy into the church you will create 10 lessons/sermon plans and outlines on Deuteronomy. Each lesson will deal with an individual text or section of Deuteronomy, and the 10 together should give a good sense of the overall content and movement of the book. Further instructions will be posted once the class begins. The lesson plans are due no later than 11:59 PM on Saturday, Dec. 12, and all 10 must be submitted at one time as a single document. Late assignments will be penalized 10 points/day.

Grading Percentages and Grade Scale:

Exams, 20% (averaged); Journals, 10%; Participation, 10%; review of The Pentateuch, 10%; Final Exam, 25%; Lesson/Sermon Plans, 25%.

Grade scale: 100-93% = A; 92-83% = B; 82-70% = C; below 70% = F

NOTE: No “Incompletes” will be given except for extreme emergency for the student or his/her immediate family. Failure to turn in any assignment will result in a grade of no better than C for the course.

Academic Integrity: In keeping with our identity as a Christian University and our goal to help shape lifelong disciples of Christ, academic integrity will be taken very seriously in this class. Unless specific permission is given to collaborate on assignments with other students, each student's work shall be his/her own. Cheating on exams or assignments and plagiarizing on written assignments will, depending on the severity of the case, result in penalties ranging from a significantly reduced grade on the assignment to failing the course. Instances of cheating or plagiarism may also be reported to appropriate members of the administration, depending on the situation. Decisions in these matters rest with the instructor. For information on Lipscomb’s policies and procedures see the “Academic Integrity” page on Lipscomb’s website (http://academics.lipscomb.edu/content.asp?CID=5329&S1D=12)

Dropping the Course: A decision to stop participating in the class or to not turn in assignments does not constitute dropping the course. Please see the "Graduate Catalog" for the official
policies and procedures for dropping a course. If a student's name appears on the roster at grading time and the course has not been officially dropped, he/she will receive a grade based on the course requirements and grading percentages above.

Students Requiring Accommodations: If you require accommodations for a documented disability, please discuss your circumstances with the instructor ASAP, preferably prior to the beginning of class. If you are entitled to accommodations but have not yet registered with the Counseling Center, contact that office immediately at 615-966-1781.

Course Schedule and Assignments

All reading and assignments must be completed before coming to class and turned in according to the directions. Late assignments will be penalized.

All reading assignments beyond the required textbooks can be found under the "Assignments" link on Blackboard. They are divided under that link by weekend.

Weekend 1: Sept. 18-19

Readings:
Deuteronomy 1-11
McConville, pp. 27-209 (You can skip his translations and "Notes on the text" sections.)
Camp, pp. xi-88, 161-165
Selected commentary – Intro and commentary on Deut 1-11

Dennis Bratcher, "JEDP: Sources in the Pentateuch," which can be found here: http://www.cresourcei.org/jedp.html

Assignment:
Journal on the following sections: Deut 1-4; Deut 5; Deut 6; Deut 7-11. So you should have at least 1200 words (300/section) of your own reflections prior to reading the commentaries, at least 1200 words (300/section) of reflection on McConville's commentary, and at least 600 words (300/section) on unique insights from the second commentary you chose. Post it on Blackboard under the "Journal" link.

Exam:
An objective question (true/false; multiple choice; short answer) over the introduction in McConville, the introduction and "Excursus on the Ban" in Camp, and the Bratcher web article.

Weekend 2: Oct. 23-24

Readings:
Deuteronomy 12-25
McConville, pp. 209-374 (You can skip his translations and "Notes on the text" sections.)
Camp, pp. 89-134, 153-160
Selected commentary on Deut 12-25


Mary Douglas, "The Abominations of Leviticus," which can be found here: http://prophetess.ltc.edu/~rklein/Documents/douglas.htm


Assignments:
Journal on the following sections: Deut 12-14; Deut 15; Deut 16-18; Deut 19-25. So you should have at least 1200 words (300/section) of your own reflections prior to reading the commentaries, at least 1200 words (300/section) of reflection on McConville's commentary, and at least 600 words (300/section) on unique insights from the second commentary you chose. Post it on Blackboard under the "Journal" link.

Book review of The Pentateuch. Post on Blackboard prior to Friday's class.

Exam:
An objective question (true/false; multiple choice; short answer) over the material from the previous weekend, including the biblical text (Deut 12-25) and interpretation of it.

Weekend 3: Nov 13-14

Readings:
Deuteronomy 26-34
McConville, pp. 374-479 (You can skip his translations and "Notes on the text" sections.)
Camp, 135-152
Selected commentary on Deut 26-34

Assignment:
Journal on the following sections: Deut 26; Deut 27-28; Deut 29-32; Deut 33-34. So you should have at least 1200 words (300/section) of your own reflections prior to reading the commentaries, at least 1200 words (300/section) of reflection on McConville's commentary, and at least 1200 words (300/section) on unique insights from the second commentary you chose. Post it on Blackboard under the "Journal" link.

Exam:
An objective question (true/false; multiple choice; short answer) over the material from the previous weekend, including the biblical text (Deut 12-25) and interpretation of it.


Due after the Last Weekend Class

Final Exam – Dec 5, 11:59 PM
Lesson/Sermon Plans – Dec. 12, 11:59 PM

Bibliography for Deuteronomy

Commentaries


**Additional Works on Deuteronomy**


**Works on the Pentateuch**


