



ERSKINE
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

For Christ and His Church

OT 727 CO: DEUTERONOMY

Spring 2011

Columbia Campus: Mondays, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m., beginning January 31

Final Exam Session: May 9, 9:00 a.m. – noon

Professor: Max Rogland

[Syllabus Dated 9/23/10]

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Office Phone: (803) 771-6180 ext. 106 | Email: rogland@erskine.edu |
| Office Fax: (803) 540-2846 | Web: www.erskineseminary.org |
| | Address: Erskine Theological Seminary 1500 Lady Street, Suite 200 Columbia, SC 29201 |

OFFICE HOURS FOR SPRING TERM 2011:

During Spring Term 2011 my office hours are 1:30-4:00 p.m., Tuesday through Thursday, but it is always advisable to call or email for an appointment first, just in case I have to be away for some unexpected reason. Other times may be available by appointment.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The course is an intensive study of the book which forms the capstone of Mosaic teaching. Attention is given to the importance of the content of the book to Israel, to Judaism, and to the Christian Church.

Prerequisite: In order to receive exegesis credit for this course, students must have successfully completed BI 502 Principles of Exegesis (and, where applicable, Hebrew I & II) prior to taking this class. Exegesis/elective. Three hours.

COURSE PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES:

The mission of Erskine Theological Seminary is to “educate persons for service in the Christian Church.” To achieve this mission, the ability to understand the Bible in various contexts must be taught. This course in particular seeks to further the students’ skill in reading and interpreting the Book of Deuteronomy. By the end of the course, the student should be able to:

1. Demonstrate a mastery of the content, structure and theology of the Book of Deuteronomy.
2. Explain the significance of the covenant concept for the Book of Deuteronomy and to compare and contrast it with other ancient Near Eastern covenant documents.
3. Discuss the role played by the Book of Deuteronomy within the Pentateuch as a literary corpus.
4. Trace the use of the Deuteronomy and deuteronomic theology in the rest of the Bible, both Old and New Testaments.
5. Articulate Deuteronomy’s place within the larger history of redemption as it culminates in the person and work of Jesus Christ.
6. Apply the laws of Deuteronomy appropriately to the present day.

7. Explain and interact with critical issues pertaining to the Book of Deuteronomy, such as the controversies concerning its authorship and date of composition.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS:

Students are expected to secure their own copies of all required textbooks. As a convenience, the seminary has a bookstore portal of the website at <http://www.erskineseminary.org/bookstore.html>. There you will find links to familiar vendors (CBD, Amazon, B&N, and Books-A-Million) and can check availability of texts, compare prices, and place orders. The ETS SBA will receive a modest percentage of the profits from students' and professors' purchases through this portal. The Erskine Campus Bookstore will carry a limited number of copies of every required text and orders for books can be placed through the Campus Bookstore.

Barker, P., *The Triumph of Grace in Deuteronomy: Faithless Israel, Faithful Yahweh in Deuteronomy* (Paternoster, 2004) [ISBN: 978-1-84227-226-8]

Millar, J., *Now Choose Life: Theology and Ethics in Deuteronomy* (Downers Grove: Intervarsity Press, 1998) [ISBN: 0-8308-2606-8]

Wright, C., *Deuteronomy* (Peabody: Hendricksen, 1996) [ISBN: 978-1-56563-171-7]

Yoder, P. (ed.), *Take This Word to Heart: The Shema in Torah and Gospel* (Elkhart: Institute of Mennonite Studies, 2005) [ISBN: 0-936273-38-0]

RECOMMENDED TEXTBOOKS:

Grudem, W. (ed.), *The ESV Study Bible*. Wheaton: Crossway, 2008. Many formats and bindings are available; the basic hardcover edition is ISBN 978-1-4335-0241-5.

McConville, J. G., *Deuteronomy* (Apollos Old Testament Commentaries; InterVarsity Press, 2002) [ISBN: 978-0830825059]

McConville, J. G., *Grace in the End. A Study in Deuteronomical Theology* (Studies in Old Testament Biblical Theology; Zondervan, 1993) [ISBN: 978-0310514213]

John H. Sailhamer, *The Pentateuch as Narrative. A Biblical-Theological Commentary* (Library of Biblical Interpretation; Zondervan, 1995) [ISBN: 978-0310574217]

COURSE REQUIREMENTS, GRADING, AND SCHEDULE:

TBA – continue to check the ETS website for updated versions of this syllabus.

ERSKINE VIRTUAL CAMPUS (EVC):

This course utilizes Erskine's EVC website as a place to make a number of required class resources available to you. Thus, you will need frequent access to a computer with a reliable internet connection. See Appendix A below for directions on setting up an account. After you have set up an account and are officially registered for the course then you will need an enrollment key in order to access the OT 727 CO online classroom (this key is available from the instructor). Students must have their EVC accounts set up by the first class session. As soon as you have registered for the course you should check the online classroom for important information pertaining to the class. The OT 727 CO course is listed under the "hybrid" classrooms on EVC: <http://hybrid.erskineseminary.net/>

OVERALL GRADING SCALE:

| | | | | | |
|--------|----|-------|----|-------|----|
| 100-95 | A | 85-84 | C+ | 71-70 | D- |
| 94-93 | A- | 83-80 | C | | |
| 92-91 | B+ | 79-78 | C- | 69-0 | F |
| 90-88 | B | 77-76 | D+ | | |
| 87-86 | B- | 75-72 | D | | |

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS AND SEMINARY POLICIES:

Drop/Add and Course Withdrawal: Once a student has completed, signed, and submitted his/her registration to the Registrar for this class, it is a binding contract, and billing will be based on this registration. If the student decides not to take this class, he/she must complete a “drop/add” form and secure the appropriate signatures prior to the drop/add deadline during the second week of the semester or term. If one wishes to withdraw from the course after the drop/add deadline, one must complete a withdrawal form, and tuition will be refunded on a pro rated basis. Failure to withdraw from the class properly will result in the student’s receiving a grade of “F” for the course, and full tuition charges will apply. No exceptions will be made to this policy.

Official Seminary Class Attendance Policy and Policy on Absences: Class participation is considered an important part of the total educational experience at Erskine Seminary. Students are expected to attend classes on a regular basis and are responsible for the mastery of all materials required in the course. In general, students are allowed up to three hours of unexcused absence without penalty. Students taking a class that meets four times over a semester/term must attend the first meeting of the class. Students who cannot attend the first course meeting should not register for the course or, if already registered, should drop the course and complete the drop/add form. (If the drop/add form is not completed and turned in to the Registrar, the student will still be charged for the course and will receive an “F” grade.) If students have to be absent for part or all of another class meeting day, they are still responsible for all work missed and all work due. A student who misses as much as one full class day or its equivalent in late arrival or early departure should consult with the professor to see whether it is still possible to pass the course. Sleeping in class is counted as an absence. If you are aware of any conflicts that will prevent you from attending one of the class sessions, you should register for a different section or take the course at another time.

Late and/or Incomplete Work: Any work not submitted by the due date will be assessed a late penalty. Students should review the Seminary policy on “Incompletes” in the Seminary catalog. The grade of “I” or incomplete is given at the discretion of the professor. A grade of “I” is normally given when a student has substantially completed the requirements for a course but has been prevented by extraordinary circumstances from completing the remainder of the course requirements. A student who wishes to request an incomplete should normally complete an incomplete form prior to the end of the semester and ask the professor to grant the request. (Under unusual circumstances, the student may communicate with the professor by phone or email rather than in person, and the professor may then agree to fill out the form at the student's request. Under exceptional circumstances, the professor may initiate the process by filling out the form on the student's behalf.) If the professor grants the request, he/she will sign the in-

complete form and turn it in with his/her final grade report. An “I” in any course must be removed by March 1 for the Fall Term, April 1 for the January Term, August 1 for the Spring Term, and November 1 for the Summer Term. Only the Dean may grant extensions of incompletes beyond the established completion date. Otherwise, these grades automatically become “F.”

Language about God and Humanity: Although God transcends the distinction between male and female, the Bible and the Church’s historic creeds and confessions use masculine language in reference to God. Thus, the Seminary encourages all students to retain this masculine usage when speaking and writing about God. Furthermore, the Seminary recognizes that all human beings, male and female, are created equally in the image of God (Gen. 1:26-27), and believers of both sexes are fellow heirs of the grace of life (1 Pet. 3:7). Accordingly, whenever students are speaking and writing about males and females, they should use language that clearly includes both men and women (for example, by saying/writing "humanity" rather than "man" or "people" rather than "men").

Conduct in Theological Discussions: Erskine Seminary is committed to the one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church, and it expects its students to show respect for all who identify with that one Church. In all written work, oral presentations, and discussions both inside and outside the classroom, the Seminary expects students to conduct discussions of controversial issues in a context of respect for those with whom one disagrees. Please see the Community Life Statement in the Catalog for more information.

Taping Class Lectures: If you wish to tape a lecture using your own recording device, you must complete an “Audio Recording Request” form, which can be downloaded from the Seminary website at: <http://www.erskineseminary.org/Academics/PdfDownloads.html>

Style and Bibliographical Formatting Requirements: All papers must be typed/processed (12-point type, double-spaced, one-inch margins) and fully documented, following the standards in the “Style and Form Standards” (Erskine Seminary). In this course, footnotes and a bibliography are required in each paper. The paper’s cover page and bibliography are not counted towards page requirements.

Exegesis Credit Policy for Bible Elective/Exegesis Course Syllabi: Students intending to use this course to fulfill their Old or New Testament exegesis requirement, must choose a passage and do a thorough exegetical study, using the exegetical procedure taught in the Principles of Exegesis course. Such students, then, must have successfully completed BI 502 Principles of Exegesis and, for those who began in Fall 2008 or after, BI 503 Introduction to the Biblical Languages prior to taking any course for exegesis credit. Additionally, students who are required to take the Biblical languages (Hebrew and Greek) must, in place of BI 503 Introduction to the Biblical Languages, successfully complete the respective language courses (Hebrew I & II for Old Testament courses; Greek I & II for New Testament courses) prior to taking any Bible course for exegesis credit. Students taking Bible electives without having met the exegesis and language course prerequisites may only count those courses as general Bible electives, and cannot receive exegesis credit for them.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is the use in writing of wording or ideas produced by others without crediting the author and/or source from which the material was taken. As the following statement indicates, plagiarism is a serious offense that undermines both the witness and the integrity of the Christian community:

Plagiarism injures the community by inhibiting the recognition and cultivation of gifts imparted by the Spirit. Clearly unattributed use of the words and/or ideas of others fails to give appreciative recognition of their gifts. But this illegitimate appropriation of the gifts of others also blocks the recognition and cultivation of the actual gifts of the person engaged in plagiarism.

Plagiarism creates an atmosphere of falsehood in the community's discernment and cultivation of gifts, both within the Christian community and in God's larger creation. Since freedom comes only by way of truth (Jn. 8:32), such falsehood can only result in captivity, and therefore has no place in the Christian community.

On this basis, the Seminary adheres to the following general requirements for the acknowledgement of sources of academic work. These requirements apply to both print and electronic media.

1. Quotations. Any sentence or phrase that a student uses from another source must be placed in quotation marks or, in the case of longer quotations, clearly indented beyond the regular margin. Any quotation must be accompanied (either within the text or in a note) by a precise indication of the source.

2. Paraphrasing. Any material that is paraphrased or summarized must also be specifically acknowledged in a note or in the text.

3. Ideas. Specific ideas that are borrowed should be acknowledged in a note or in the text, even if the idea has been further elaborated by the student.

4. Bibliography. All the sources consulted in the preparation of an essay or report should be listed in a bibliography.

In addition to plagiarism, the following related practices are also unacceptable compromises of the truth requisite to a free community:

1. Multiple submission. Failure to obtain prior written permission of the relevant instructors to submit work which has been submitted in identical or similar form in fulfillment of any other academic requirement at any institution.

2. False citation. The deliberate attribution to, or citation of, a source from which the material in question was not, in fact, obtained.

3. Submission of work done by someone else, either with or without that person's knowledge. Neither ignorance of the regulations concerning academic violations nor personal extenuating circumstances are an adequate defense against charges of plagiarism. The Seminary's provisions for "due process" apply in cases of alleged plagiarism.

[The italicized statement above is used by permission of The Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia and Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey, based upon a document adapted by LTSP, with permission, from "Princeton University Rights, Rules and Responsibilities," 1990 Edition. Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey.]

For details refer to the Erskine Seminary Handbook under the Honor Code.

NOTE: Under no circumstances will the professor accept a paper containing others' work, either downloaded from Internet sites or used from other students' papers. (In other words, the purpose of the assignment is for the student to reflect critically on the topic at hand and to articulate those reflections in writing.) If the student turns in such a paper to the professor, the grade is an automatic "F" or "0". As in scholarly writing, the student may quote from a reference work using

proper citations. The student may also reference others' work in the student's own wording but must give proper credit by citing the original source. (See Turabian for instructions on footnotes, parenthetical references, citations, reference lists, and bibliographies.)

If the student is a published author and chooses to cite from his/her copyrighted material, proper citations must be made as well. Not to do so is considered plagiarism.

Appendix A: First time EVC users

If you have never created an EVC account, please complete the following steps to access to the online classroom.

If you have taken an EVC course previously, go to the web site listed below and enter your user name and password.

1. Go to the online classroom website: <http://seminary.erskine.edu/Academics/EDEN.html>
2. Click on the EVC Login button.
3. Select the term for which you are enrolled.
4. Read carefully the text under the heading “*Is this your first time here?*” Click on the “*Start now by creating a new account*” button.
5. An email will be immediately sent to the email address you entered in the new account form. When it arrives read the email and click on the web link it contains. Your account will be confirmed and you will be logged in. This must be done in a timely manner – the confirmation will not stay for long in the system.
6. Find the course for which you are enrolled.
7. Enter the **enrollment key** in order to access the online classroom. Once your registration is confirmed by the Registrar’s office you may contact the instructor to obtain the key.

** Notes:

- The **enrollment key** and your **user name and password** are different. Do not attempt to use one for the other.
- It is recommended that you write down your user name and password so that it won’t be forgotten. The EVC office cannot provide you with this information.
- Please do not share the enrollment key with other students.