



**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

Professor: Max Rogland

**[Syllabus Revised 12/3/10]**

Office Phone: (803) 771-6180 ext. 106	Email: roglan@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 1:00-3:00 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, 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>.

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 AND ASSESSMENT:**

Student progress toward attaining the course objectives described above will be assessed by the following means:

1. Two exams, worth 25% each (**50% total**)
2. A major research paper, worth **30%**
3. The student's participation in/contributions to class discussions of assigned weekly readings is worth **20%** of the course grade (the specific schedule of readings will be handed out at the first class session). All students are required to complete the assigned readings, but note that discussion leaders will be assigned to prepare an oral review and to lead/facilitate classroom discussion of the readings. The discussion leader must submit a written version of his/her notes in the proper seminary format.

In addition, students are required to read the Book of Deuteronomy in its entirety at least three times over the course of the semester. The student must submit a signed statement attesting to the completion of this requirement. This does not contribute a percentage amount to the overall course grade, but a final course grade will not be assigned by the instructor until the statement has been submitted; any late/incomplete fees that are incurred are the responsibility of the student.

**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		

**IMPORTANT DATES/CLASS SCHEDULE:**

Make sure to take note of the following:

- The schedule of course readings will be handed out at the first class session.
- The first class session meets on January 31.
- The first exam is scheduled for Monday, February 21.
- The second exam is scheduled for Monday, April 11.
- The term paper is due on Monday, May 9.

**CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS AND SEMINARY POLICIES:**

For official seminary policies on Course Drop/Add/Withdrawals, Required Textbooks, Language About God and Humanity, Conduct in Theological Discussions, Course Incompletes, Class Attendance, Style and Bibliographic Formatting Requirements, Exegesis Credit for Bible Electives, Chapel Attendance, Portfolio Requirements, and Plagiarism, see the following link:

[http://seminary.erskine.edu/content\\_policies/SeminaryPoliciesforETSSstudents.pdf](http://seminary.erskine.edu/content_policies/SeminaryPoliciesforETSSstudents.pdf)

In addition to the information provided there, please note the following:

**Policy on Absences:** Sleeping in class is counted as an absence, as is missing more than half of a class session. More than one class absence will result in grade penalties.

**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>

## **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.