

**Note:**

**Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice.  
The information below is provided as a guide for course selection  
and is not binding in any form.**

## MOODY DISTANCE LEARNING

### Course Number, Name, and Credit Hours

BI5528 Methods for Biblical Interpretation: Philosophy, Research and Techniques, 3 credit hours

### Course Description

An orientation to the principles, practice, and philosophy of biblical interpretation. Provides a broad overview of hermeneutics with an emphasis on the grammatical-historical hermeneutic, the hermeneutical triad, the formation of themes from biblical texts, and the role of research in the interpretation of the Scriptures. Attention given to information literacy and research skills to enable lifelong learning. Basic methods of biblical interpretation are introduced.

### Course Objectives

1. **Evaluate** the impact of personal characteristics and socio-cultural trends on biblical interpretation
2. **Employ** a consistent hermeneutic in the interpretation of biblical texts of various genres
3. **Construct** theological themes from the biblical text
4. **Utilize** various primary and secondary sources and incorporate these insights into one's interpretation of the biblical text

### Course Materials

Required textbooks for all Moody Online classes can be found on the [Required Textbooks](#) section of the Moody website.

### Assignments (*what student does for a grade*)

**Course Syllabus and Schedule:** For assignment details, use the Course Syllabus (PDF) or view the weekly lessons within the course. Use the Course Schedule (in the **Course Resources folder**) as a checklist to make sure you complete all assignments including discussions each week.

**Discussion Boards:** Participation is expected. You must maintain a significant presence in the discussion board. Please refer to the discussion board rubric included in the Course Resources section of this course for more information on how your participation in the discussion board will be assessed. Please submit your first post by **Wednesday night** to give others time to read it. Then respond to others' post by **Friday** or **Saturday**.

**Written Papers:** All papers must be in Turabian style. Each page should be DOUBLE-SPACED, approximately 300 words, 12-pt. Times New Roman. For help with Turabian style or to buy the manual, view this website: [http://www.press.uchicago.edu/books/turabian/turabian\\_citationguide.html](http://www.press.uchicago.edu/books/turabian/turabian_citationguide.html)

**Grading Rubrics:** All assignments have attached rubrics by which your assignment will be graded. It is recommended that you study the rubric before you create the assignment. To do this, click on the assignment link within each week's lesson.

**Due Date:** All written assignments are due by **11:59 pm CT Monday**.

**1-1 Klein Reference Chart:** After reading Klein's overview of the history of interpretation, create a reference chart using the major headings in the reading.

**2-1 Week 2 Journal:** In a two-page reflection, address the 3 assigned topics.

**2-2 Frameworks and Interpretation Paper:**

Reflecting on the reading and the lecture from this week. Write a **two-page paper** discussing your takeaways from the reading and how you feel the perspectives expressed in the reading might impact the manner in which you interpret Scripture.

**3-1 Week 3 Journal:** Complete a brief (one page or less) reflection on your character this week and note how it impacted (1) your relationship with the Lord and (2) your approach to the Scriptures and the impact they have had on your life.

**3-2 Interpreting OT Narrative and Law Paper:** Identify and discuss various aspects of plot, character, time, dialogue, etc., with regard to Genesis 22:1-24 in a **two-page paper**.

**4-1 Week 4 Journal:** Complete a brief (one page or less) reflection on your character this week and note how it impacted (1) your relationship with the Lord and (2) your approach to the Scriptures and the impact they have had on your life.

**4-2 Parallelism List:** Create a list of various types of parallelism in Psalm 8 and explain your decisions.

**4-3 Word Study:** Complete a word study on the word "subdue" in the Old Testament following the steps outlined in the "Word Study Worksheet."

**5-1 Week 5 Journal:** Complete a brief (one page or less) reflection on your character this week and note how it impacted (1) your relationship with the Lord and (2) your approach to the Scriptures and the impact they have had on your life.

**5-2 Gospel Analysis Worksheet:** Using the "Literary Forms in the Gospel Explanation" as a guide, fill in the "5-1 LITERARY FORMS WORKSHEET" about the assigned passages.

**5-3 Bibliography (List):** Using the ATLA Religion Database, the Library website, and Internet-based search engines (e.g. Google), compile a bibliography (using [Turabian formatting](#)) on the parable of the Prodigal Son in Luke.

**6-1 Week 6 Journal:** Complete a brief (one page or less) reflection on your character this week and note how it impacted (1) your relationship with the Lord and (2) your approach to the Scriptures and the impact they have had on your life.

**6-2 Sentence Flow Diagram:** Create a sentence flow diagram of **Philippians 1:3-11** using the process outlined in Fee.

**Assessments**

<b>Discussions (6)</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Journals (5)</b>	<b>15</b>
2-1 Frameworks and Interpretation 2-Page Paper	<b>10</b>
3-1 Interpreting OT Narrative and Law 2-Page Paper	<b>10</b>
<b>Other Assignments, including:</b>	<b>50</b>
1-1 Klein Reference Chart 4-1 Parallelism List 4-2 Word Study 5-1 Gospel Analysis Worksheet 6-1 Sentence Flow Diagram 7-1 7-2	
<b>Total:</b>	<b>100%</b>

Letter grades are determined by the following scale:

<b>Letter Grade</b>	<b>Percentage Equivalent</b>	<b>Description</b>
A	96 – 100	Exceptional work
A-	94 – 95	Excellent work
B+	92 – 93	Very good work
B	89 – 91	Good work
B-	87 – 88	Above average work
C+	83 – 86	Average work
C	79 – 82	Work needs improvement
C-	75 – 78	Minimally acceptable work
F	< 75	Unacceptable work

**Course Copyright Statement**

Copyright 2014 by The Moody Bible Institute of Chicago. All rights reserved.

Unless otherwise specified, the materials and services on this website are for your personal and non-commercial use, and you may not modify, copy, distribute, transmit, display, perform, reproduce, publish, license, create derivative works from, transfer, or sell any information, software, products or services obtained from the website without the written permission from Moody Distance Learning, Moody Bible Institute, 820 N. LaSalle Blvd., Chicago, Illinois 60610.