

“The mission of Tyndale Seminary is to provide Christ-centred graduate theological education for leaders in the church and society whose lives are marked by intellectual maturity, spiritual vigour and moral integrity, and whose witness will faithfully engage culture with the Gospel.”

Semester, Year	FALL, 2025
Course Title	BIBLICAL INTERPRETATION 聖經詮釋
Course Code	BIBL CM01 XP / BIBL CM01 XS
Date	From September 9, 2025 to <i>December 2, 2025</i> Every Tuesday
Time	From 6:45PM to 9:35PM
Delivery Format	IN-PERSON WITH SYNCHRONOUS ONLINE OPTION
Class information	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The classes will be IN-PERSON & Synchronous online on Tuesdays
Instructor	DR. YAN MA, PhD
Contact Information	Email: yma.ccst@tyndale.ca Tyndale Phone Number: (416) 226-6620 Ext. 2182
Office Hours	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> By appointment only.
Course Materials	Access course material at classes.tyndale.ca or other services at Tyndale One . Course emails will be sent to your @MyTyndale.ca e-mail account only.

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

A study of pivotal methods and interpretative principles involved in discerning the meaning of the Biblical text. Topics covered include essential steps in interpreting the Bible, the variety of methods and approaches available to the contemporary student of Scripture, historical and theological issues arising out of the interpretative task, the relationship between the testaments, word studies, discourse analysis, and literary genre. Students learn to use the standard tools of advanced Biblical research.

此課程旨在介紹釋經學原則及應用。透過學習聖經裡不同的文體及各樣的釋經工具，學生學習到正確的解釋聖經方法，從而將聖經真理應用在信徒的生命中。

II. LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

1. Grow in their ability to interpret Scripture accurately and faithfully 更正確的解釋聖經
2. Understand the importance and value of proper exegesis of a biblical text
明白正確釋經的重要
3. Develop skill in the close reading of the biblical text 建立仔細讀經的技巧
4. Identify the various genres of the Bible and know the methods for their interpretation
分辨聖經中不同的文體，及它們的解釋方法
5. Know and practice the various tools for studying and understanding the Bible
懂得運用各種釋經工具

III. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A. REQUIRED READING

尹妙珍、李金好、羅瑞美、蔡錦圖譯《基道釋經手冊》。香港：基道，2004。
(Klein, William W., Craig L. Blomberg, and Robert L. Hubbard, Jr. Introduction to Biblical Interpretation. 3d ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2017.)

《抓準神的話：閱讀、詮釋和應用聖經的實用指南》。香港：道聲，2007。
(Duvall, J. Scott and J. Daniel Hays. Grasping God's Word: A Hands-On Approach to Reading, Interpreting, and Applying the Bible. 4th ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2020.)

B. SUPPLEMENTARY / RECOMMENDED READING AND TOOLS

See SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Tyndale recommends [STEPBible](#) – a free and reputable online resource developed by Tyndale House (Cambridge, England) – for word searches of original-language texts, as well as for topical searches, interlinear texts, dictionaries, etc. Refer to the library for other [online resources for Biblical Studies](#).

C. ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

A penalty of 1% per day will be applied to all late assignments

1. Readings and Group Discussion (10%):

- Students are required to complete the weekly reading according to the class content and to prepare for the discussion questions before each class.

- Students are expected to attend the group discussion for 20 minutes in each class and to make contributions to the understanding of the topics. Students' comments and questions should reflect a thorough and thoughtful reading of the materials.
- Learning outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4

2. Role-Play Presentation (10%):

- Each group, consisting of three students, will select one literary genre found in the Bible, explain the distinctive features of the chosen genre and the appropriate interpretive method(s) associated with it, and demonstrate the interpretation of a selected biblical passage from the chosen genre through a 15 minutes role-play scenario.
- All three group members are expected to contribute equally and actively participate in the role-play presentation.
- The literary genre is to be selected on **Sept 16**. Role-play will be presented on **Sept 30, Oct 7, 14**.
- Learning outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

3. OT Proposal Presentation (5%):

- Students will present their proposals of the OT exegetical paper for 5 minutes and lead the class discussion for another 5 minutes.
- OT proposals will be presented on **Oct 28, Nov 4, 11**.
- Learning outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

4. OT Exegetical Paper (35%):

- Each student will write an exegetical paper of an OT passage for approximately 4,000 words. The exegetical paper should focus on both the ancient text and its contemporary relevance. As an academic paper, it should have a clear and well-defined thesis statement that is defended throughout the paper.
- The passage of the exegetical paper is to be agreed upon with the instructor by **Sept 16**. The exegetical paper is due in .pdf form at **11:59 p.m., Nov 18**.
- Learning outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

5. NT Proposal Presentation (5%):

- Students will present their proposals of the NT exegetical paper for 5 minutes in class and lead the class discussion for another 5 minutes.
- The proposals will be presented on **Nov 18, 25, Dec 2**.
- Learning outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

6. NT Exegetical Paper (35%):

- Each student will write an exegetical paper of a NT passage for approximately 4,000 words. The exegetical paper should focus on both the ancient text and its

contemporary relevance. As an academic paper, it should have a clear and well-defined thesis statement that is defended throughout the paper.

- The passage of the exegetical paper is to be agreed upon with the instructor by **Sept 16**. The exegetical paper is due in .pdf form at **11:59 p.m., Dec 9**.
- Learning outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

D. SUMMARY OF ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

Readings and Group Discussion	10%
Role-Play Presentation	10%
OT Proposal Presentation	5%
OT Exegetical Paper	35%
NT Proposal Presentation	5%
NT Exegetical Paper	35%
Total	100%

IV. COURSE SCHEDULE, CONTENT AND REQUIRED READINGS

Pre-reading is expected prior to start of class. Late registrants are responsible for the consequences of partial preparation.

Date	Reading Before Class	Content	Assignment
9/9	《基道》第1, 3章 pp. 3-25; 75-93 《抓準神》第10, 12課 pp. 175-182; 206-213	課程簡介 Introduction to hermeneutics 釋經	

9/16	《基道》第2章 pp. 27-74 《抓準神》第6課 pp.93-114 (參 《基道》 pp. 272-284)	History of interpretation 釋經的歷史	Topic of Role-Play, OT/NT Exegetical Paper
9/23	《基道》第9章 pp. 394-413 《抓準神》第18課 pp.315-340	Interpreting Hebrew Narrative 希伯來敘述文 體	
9/30	《基道》第9章 pp. 414-427 《抓準神》第19課 pp. 340-358	Interpreting Hebrew Law 希伯來律法文體	Role-Play
10/7	《基道》第9章 pp. 428-437 《抓準神》第20課 pp. 360-383	Interpreting Hebrew Poetry 希伯來詩體	Role-Play
10/14	《基道》第9章 pp. 437-487 《抓準神》第21課 pp. 387-430	Prophetic and Wisdom Literature 希伯來先知 及智慧文體	Role-Play
10/21	Reading Day		
10/28		The Use of the Old Testament in the New 新 約引用舊約	OT Proposal
11/4	《基道》第10章 pp. 489-504 《抓準神》第15課 pp. 248-262	New Testament Narrative: Gospels 新約敘述文體	OT Proposal
11/11	《基道》第10章 pp. 504-513 《抓準神》第15課 pp. 262-270	New Testament Narrative: Acts 新約敘述文體	OT Proposal
11/18	《基道》第10章 pp. 513-523	Parables 新約比喻	NT Proposal

	《抓準神》第 16 課 pp. 271-289		OT Exegetical Paper due
11/25*	《基道》第 10 章 pp. 523-533 《抓準神》第 14 課 pp. 229-239	Epistles 保羅書信	NT Proposal
12/2	《基道》第 10 章 pp. 534-550 《抓準神》第 14 課 pp. 239-247, 第 17 課 pp. 290-311	Epistles 大公書信 Apocalyptic 新約天啟文體	NT Proposal
12/9			NT Exegetical Paper due

- (SBL conference) alternative arrangement will be provided for this class

V. SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Selected Bibliography will be provided in the first class.

VI. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL COURSES

A. EQUITY OF ACCESS

Students with permanent or temporary disabilities who need academic accommodations must [contact](#) the [Accessibility Services](#) at the [Centre for Academic Excellence](#) to [register](#) and discuss their specific needs. *New students* must self-identify and register with the Accessibility Office at the beginning of the semester or as early as possible to access appropriate services. *Current students* must renew their plans as early as possible to have active accommodations in place.

B. REQUIREMENTS FOR LIVESTREAM INTERACTION (*SYNCHRONOUS ONLINE COURSE ONLY*)

- Livestream attendance for the entire duration of the class at announced times
- Headphones (preferred), built-in microphone, and web-camera
- Well-lit and quiet room
- Stable high-speed internet connection, preferably using an Ethernet cable over Wi-Fi
- Full name displayed on Zoom and Microsoft Teams for attendance purposes*
- A commitment to having the camera on to foster community building*

**exceptions with permission from professor*

C. GUIDELINES FOR INTERACTIONS

Tyndale University prides itself in being a trans-denominational community. We anticipate our students to have varied viewpoints which will enrich the discussions in our learning community. Therefore, we ask our students to be charitable and respectful in their interactions with each other, and to remain focused on the topic of discussion, out of respect to others who have committed to being a part of this learning community. Please refer to “Guidelines for Interactions” on your course resource page at classes.tyndale.ca.

D. GUIDELINES FOR THE SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN WORK

Grading Rubric

Please consult the rubric provided for each assignment on your course resource page at classes.tyndale.ca.

Academic Integrity

Integrity in academic work is required of all our students. Academic dishonesty is any breach of this integrity and includes such practices as cheating (the use of unauthorized material on tests and examinations), submitting the same work for different classes without permission of the instructors; using false information (including false references to secondary sources) in an assignment; improper or unacknowledged collaboration with other students, and plagiarism (including improper use of artificial intelligence programs). Tyndale University takes seriously its responsibility to uphold academic integrity, and to penalize academic dishonesty. Please refer to the [Academic Integrity website](#) for further details.

For proper citation style, consult [Citation Guides](#) for different styles. Students are encouraged to consult [Writing Services](#).

Students should also consult the current [Academic Calendar](#) for academic policies on Academic Honesty, Gender Inclusive Language in Written Assignments, Late Papers and Extensions, Return of Assignments, and Grading System.

Turnitin Text-Matching Software

Tyndale has a subscription to Turnitin, a text-matching software that ensures the originality of academic writing and verifies the proper citation of all sources. The instructor for this course will use Turnitin for assignments submitted through your course resource page at classes.tyndale.ca. Upon submission, you will receive a summary that includes your submitted files along with a similarity report generated by Turnitin. Please be aware that Turnitin can also detect AI-generated content from tools like Grammarly, so students should be mindful of when

using such software. It's advisable to confirm with your instructor before using any AI tools into your assignments. Below are some useful resources:

- [Student](#) Guides for Turnitin via classes.tyndale.ca course resource page
- Interpreting Similarity ([Guide](#), [Video](#), [Spectrum](#))

Research Ethics

All course-based assignments involving human participants requires ethical review and may require approval by the [Tyndale Research Ethics Board \(REB\)](#). Check with the Seminary Dean's Office (aa@tyndale.ca) before proceeding.

Late Papers and Extensions Policy

All papers and course assignments must be submitted by the due dates indicated in the course syllabus. Unless the instructor already has a policy on grading late papers in the course syllabus, grades for papers submitted late without an approved extension will be lowered at the rate of two-thirds of a grade per week or part thereof (e.g., from "A+" to "A-," from "B" to "C+"). Please note that some programs, such as cohort-based or intensive courses, may follow a different policy due to the nature of the program.

Faculty may not grant an extension beyond the last day of exams for the semester. Requests for extensions beyond this date must be addressed in writing to the Registrar by filling out the [Extension Request Form](#). The application will be considered only in cases such as a death in the family, medical emergency, hospitalization of oneself or immediate family member or prolonged illness requiring treatment by a physician. Factors such as assignments for other courses, holidays, and technology-related difficulties are insufficient grounds for requesting an extension.

A temporary grade of incomplete ("I") may be granted by the Registrar. Once an extension is granted, it is the student's responsibility to contact the instructor and make satisfactory arrangements to complete the outstanding work. A grade of "F" will be recorded for students who do not complete the outstanding work by the deadline.

E. COURSE EVALUATION

Tyndale Seminary values quality in the courses it offers its students. End-of-course evaluations provide valuable student feedback and are one of the ways that Tyndale Seminary works towards maintaining and improving the quality of courses and the student's learning experience. Student involvement in this process is critical to enhance the general quality of teaching and learning.

Before the end of the course, students will receive a MyTyndale email with a link to the online course evaluation. The link can also be found in the left column on the course page. The evaluation period is 2 weeks; after the evaluation period has ended, it cannot be reopened.

Course Evaluation results will not be disclosed to the instructor before final grades in the course have been submitted and processed. Student names will be kept confidential, and the instructor will only see the aggregated results of the class.

F. LIBRARY RESOURCES

[Tyndale Library](#) supports courses with [e-journals, e-books](#), and the [mail delivery of books](#) and circulating materials. See the [Library FAQ page](#).

G. GRADING SYSTEM & SCALE

For each course's grading rubric, please refer to your course syllabus or classes.tyndale.ca. For general grading guidelines, refer to Seminary [Grading System & Scale](#).