

Fall 2020
Room TBD
Friday (8/28; 9/25; 11/6; 12/4) 6:30–9:30
Saturday (8/29; 9/26; 11/7; 12/5) 8:30–4:30

Dr. Madison N. Pierce
mpierce@tiu.edu
Zoom Appts: <https://goo.gl/7VYctV>

NT5100 English Bible: Hebrews

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. – Hebrews 13:8

Draft Syllabus: Subject to Change

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Demonstration of inductive Bible study method and treatment of the special teaching of a particular book or books of the New Testament based on the English text. May be repeated for credit as the book studied changes. Not for credit in the MA/NT or MA/OT programs. *Three hours.* (From TEDS Catalog)

II. COURSE OBJECTIVES

At the successful completion of this course each student should be able to:

- exhibit a familiarity with the introductory material on Hebrews.
- summarize the literary structure and outline of the epistle.
- explain both the theological and hortatory content of Hebrews.
- summarize aspects of the use of Scripture in Hebrews.
- demonstrate an ability to apply Hebrews to personal life, as well as to the life and mission of the church.

III. COURSE TEXTS

Required

A standard translation of the Bible, such as NIV, RSV/NRSV, ESV, NASB, NKJV, CSB. Guthrie, George H. *Hebrews*. NIV Application Commentary. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1998. ISBN: 978-0310493907.

Peeler, Amy L. B. and Patrick Gray. *Hebrews: An Introduction and Study Guide*. T&T Clark's Study Guides to the New Testament. New York: T&T Clark, 2020. ISBN: 978-0567674753

Recommended

Schenck, Kenneth. *Understanding the Book of Hebrews: The Story Behind the Sermon*. Louisville: WJK Press, 2003. ISBN: 978-0664224288.

Jobes, Karen H. *Letters to the Church*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2011. ISBN: 978-0310494799.

IV. COURSE EVALUATION

1. **Class Participation:** Students are expected to: attend every class, arrive punctually, contribute to (fruitful) in-class discussions, and refrain from disrupting class. Excessive disruptions (e.g., talking) or disengagement (e.g., texting, watching cat videos on YouTube) will affect this grade component. This component of the course

does not have a set percentage but will be used to determine final grades, particularly where a student's grade is on a border. Please note: students with excessive absences will be in danger of failing the course.

2. **Reading Comprehension Assignments (25%):** For each set of readings, you will complete a series of assignments on Moodle. Your answer to each prompt will be roughly 300 words (+/- 10%) and interact with your textbooks (and other resources where suggested). Parenthetical references should be included as follows (Green et al., 50). **Due before the start of each weekend session.**
3. **Unit Quizzes (20%):** These quizzes test your retention of your reading and the content of Hebrews. They will consist of 15–20 objective questions (primarily multiple choice). **Due before the start of the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th weekend sessions.**
4. **Research Paper Plan (10%): Due September 25 at 6:30 pm.**
 - Each student will prepare a **300-500-word** plan for their research essay. (Word count does not include bibliography.)
 - Choose a topic. (See 4: **Research Essay**.)
 - The plan (with some license to change) will include:
 1. a tentative thesis statement;
 2. a one-paragraph summary of your argument;
 3. an outline of your essay that corresponds to summary;
 4. a bibliography of at least 6 primary and secondary sources, including monographs (scholarly books), journal articles, essays, commentaries, dictionary articles, etc.
 - **Please note:** if you select a new topic for your essay, you will need to submit another essay plan for review (unless told otherwise).
4. **Research Paper (25%): Due November 21 at 11:59.** For this essay, choose one of the prompts from your Reading Comprehension Assignments and develop that topic into a research paper. You may stick with the question that I have posed *or* identify a more specific element.
 - Must be 2250 words (+/- 10%; including footnotes; excluding bibliography, cover page, and appendix); see the Research Paper Guide for more information about formatting.
 - Must build upon your essay plan and the corrections and revisions you have made to the plan and include your revised Essay Plan as an appendix.
 - Must use more than 8 scholarly sources (see 2 above for criteria)
5. **Final Exam (20%): Due December 17 at 11:59 pm.** Your final examination (taken on Moodle) will be comprehensive and cover content from the lectures, readings, and assignments.

V. COURSE EVALUATION (2): STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES

1. **Submission:** Assignments must be submitted on Moodle on their due date. (If they are not submitted on Moodle, then they are late.) Please make sure your submission has been successful. Late assignments will incur a penalty of 5% per day but will not be accepted more than 5 days late. The only exception for assignments (and quizzes) is a Dean approved absence.

2. Grade Scale

A	96–100	B	87–89	C	77–80
A-	93–95	B-	84–86	C-	72–76
B+	90–92	C+	81–83	D	65–71

VI. OTHER POLICIES AND RESOURCES

1. **Students with a Documented Disability:** In compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), it is the policy of Trinity Evangelical Divinity school to provide appropriate and reasonable accommodations, or academic adjustments, and services to students with a documented disability to help ensure an equal educational opportunity. Students seeking these services should contact Student Services.
2. **Academic Integrity and Plagiarism:** The community at Trinity International University promotes a commitment to integrity in all areas of life. In the case of breaches of academic honesty such as plagiarism or cheating on examinations, the matter will be reported to the Dean/Associate Dean of Students. Students should be advised that normally in cases of academic dishonesty or plagiarism the penalty shall be a “0” for the assignment and an “F” for the course. For the full policy, please see the *TEDS/TGS Student Guide*.
3. **Course Extensions:** Course extensions may not be granted by the professor past the final day of exam week, and are granted only for very exceptional reasons. Requests for course extensions must be made to the Dean of Students office. Grades of “incomplete” are not granted at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School.

VII. COURSE SCHEDULE

Please Note: In addition to your textbook readings, for *each weekend*, you must also read Hebrews all the way through as well as the relevant portions of Hebrews a second time.

Weekend 1: Introduction to Hebrews and Hebrews 1:1–4:16

1. Readings: *Introduction and Study Guide*, chs. 1–3; NIVAC, pp. 17–147
2. Reading Comprehension Assignments

Weekend 2: Hebrews 4:11–7:25

1. Readings: NIVAC, pp. 148–276
2. Reading Comprehension Assignments
3. Complete Essay Plan

Weekend 3: Hebrews 7:26–10:25

1. Readings: NIVAC, pp. 277–370
2. Reading Comprehension Assignments

Weekend 4: Hebrews 10:19–13:25

1. Readings: *Introduction and Study Guide*, ch. 4; NIVAC, pp. 371–452
2. Reading Comprehension Assignments

Please note: This provides a basic overview of what is due, but a breakdown of our time and a more detailed schedule will be uploaded on Moodle prior to class.