

Syllabus Religion 121: Book of Mormon (1 Nephi - Alma 29)

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Office Hours: By appointment or after class (I would love to meet with you, so please feel free to call.)

Texts

- LDS editions of the Standard Works. (Bring to every class—paper version preferred)
- Book of Mormon Student Manual, Religion 121 (Bring to every class--paper version preferred)
- Scripture Journal (Bring to every class--paper version preferred)

Daily Points (300 total points)

Every class (25 total), you will receive a possibility of **12 daily points**. You are required to mark your own points online after each class and, at the latest, before each Sunday at 11:59 pm. There will be no later exceptions, so please do not ask. These 6 areas each get two points (you can receive one point each in your scripture and manual reading--if you read at least half of each assignment).

- 1) Did you do ALL the assigned scripture reading BEFORE class?
- 2) Did you read ALL the assigned student manual chapter BEFORE class?
- 3) Did you complete your daily journal entry BEFORE class (at least 1 large paragraph)?
- 4) Did you attend class, come early/on time, and stay for the entire class?
- 5) Did you come to class with your 3 necessities--scriptures, student manual, and personal journal?
- 6) Did you fully participate (fully involved in class discussion and activity, not on ANY other websites, not doing any other class's homework, not talking to others, etc.)

Attendance

Attendance is critical because of what you can gain from the classroom experience and your responsibility to contribute. Attendance will be taken daily via a circulating roll. You are responsible (even if you are tardy) to make sure you mark it each day. Students with more than **three unexcused absences** will be penalized one letter grade. Student with more than **five unexcused absences** will fail the class. "Excused" absences are immediate family funerals and weddings, University-excused absences, and medically authenticated absences (contagious sickness with a doctor's note please). If absent, please **e-mail me your papers and other assignments BEFORE class for full credit**. Extended illness will require an individual completion plan. Please be **on-time** for class--tardy entrances are disruptive to the class. You must be in class in person (for either excused or unexcused absences) to receive your daily attendance point. **(2 daily points)**

Reading Assignments

Each class, there will be a reading assignment. Each block of study will be outlined in the syllabus. These will come from the Book of Mormon and the Book of Mormon Student Manual. Please record on Canvas if you completed the reading BEFORE class. If you complete the assignment on time, you receive 2 points; late (any time after class begins until the following Sunday), you receive 1 point. If you do not complete the assignment after, you receive 0 points. **(2 daily points scriptures; 2 daily points manual)**

Journal Assignments

The most important learning you do this semester will be between you and the Holy Ghost. As you read the assignments, write down the insights, thoughts, or impressions that come to you. It could be something new you learned or maybe something you saw in a different light. Practice finding connections that relate the block to your life. **Please always bring your journal to class and be ready to share in class what you found.** You can use an inexpensive spiral notebook to record these in, or if you would like something more formal, that is fine too. These are personal, so I will not be reading them. You are on your honor to record if you have written a *meaningful* journal entry. For extra ideas, feel free to complete any of the “points to ponder” or “suggested assignments.” You will receive two daily points if your journal is completed on time (BEFORE class), one point if completed late (any time after class begins until following Sunday report), and 0 points if completed later. You can keep class notes in the same book if you would like. **(2 daily points)**

In-Class Activities (50 points)

We will have five unannounced in-class activities. Whether you have an excused or unexcused absence, these cannot be made up at all. You must be in class that day to participate and get your 10 points.

Class Participation (50 points)

Gospel learning is an active process. There are many ways you can actively participate in class:

- Willingness to sing, choose a hymn, and offer prayers
- Offering to read quotes or scriptures in our class discussions
- Sharing thoughts, feelings and questions (without dominating the discussion)
- Actively listening to what others say
- Participating in group activities, pair shares, presentations, etc.
- Taking notes and marking your scriptures
- Praying for, and listening to the promptings of the spirit

Hopefully you will come to class prepared to share and contribute in ways that will bless you and the lives of those around you. Please stay involved. You will have a better experience if you do. With a large class, please **contribute** but **do not dominate** the class discussion. Speaking 3-4 times a class is too much with so many students, but speaking 1-2 times a week gives everyone a chance to participate. We would love to hear insights from everyone! (25 points at mid-term; 25 points final class = **50 total points**)

Paper/Talk (50 points)

For this assignment, choose any doctrine from the semester that you would like to dive into and explore. You can write this in the form of a talk (which may come in handy some day). It should be 3-5 pages double-spaced. Look to General Conference talks for a good model. I would like you to cite **3** scripture references and **3** General Authority references. This paper is worth 50 points. It should be type-written, 12 point font, times new roman script. You may choose your own topic, so choose one that will bless your life. A 50 point paper/talk will meet the following criteria:

- Well organized and thought out
- Doctrinally correct
- Contains the required number of citations (3 scripture, 3 General Authority)
- Contains useful application to life

Scripture Memorization Mid-term (50 points)

Memorize three scriptures of your choosing from our course of study. Please don't just pick the shortest ones J-- choose verses that will be a blessing and a strength to you. This exam will be given in the

testing center --come ready to write out your three scriptures from memory and what they mean to you personally in your life through application.

***Elder Richard G. Scott: "Great power can come from memorizing scriptures. To memorize a scripture is to forge a new friendship. It is like discovering a new individual who can help in time of need, give inspiration and comfort, and be a source of motivation for needed change." (Oct. 2011 General Conference)*

Final Exam/Principles Paper (50 points)

Develop a Principles Paper. This isn't a difficult paper. It can easily be built from the readings, journal, and your work in the class--if you keep it in mind while you read and do other assignments. This paper should include a short introduction paragraph, a short conclusion paragraph and 20 "principle" paragraphs. Please make each principle into a separate paragraph. Each of these paragraphs should identify a principle of the gospel you discovered this semester as you studied and pondered the Book of Mormon. This should be a principle you have "likened" unto your life and feel strongly about. Give a short explanation of why you feel it is important and/or how it can be applied to your personal life. Proof-read your paper. Points will be deducted for glaring typos or if it is not college level. While there is no minimum or maximum length, past experience suggests that papers that are both concise and have adequate depth are generally between 2100-2800 words. **Please cite all scriptures, authors and page #s.**

*A 50 point final principles paper will meet the following criteria for each principle:

- Well organized and thought out
- Doctrinally correct
- Contains required number of citations (1 scripture, 1 General Authority for each)
- Contains useful application to life
- Presented to the class the final day of class

Honor and Dress Codes

By accepting admittance to BYU-Hawaii you have already agreed to live by the honor and dress and grooming codes. The codes are an integral part of the classroom learning environment. President Wheelwright has encouraged us all to raise our personal bar with the promise that these seemingly small things will bring about great differences in our personal growth and influence. With regard to the honor code, my expectations for honesty include that you will do your own work on the individual exams and projects. *It is not appropriate for you to tell your classmates what was on or NOT on the exams.* Please familiarize yourself with the base standards of BYU-Hawaii and seek to personally operate a notch above. Please always watch tight clothing, low/revealing necklines, skirt and short length, etc. Mahalo!

Sexual Harassment

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits sex discrimination against any participant in an educational program or activity that receives federal funds, including Federal loans and grants. Title IX also covers student-to-student sexual harassment. If you encounter unlawful sexual harassment or gender-based discrimination, please contact the Personnel Office.

Students With Disabilities

Brigham Young University-Hawaii is committed to providing a working and learning atmosphere that reasonably accommodates qualified persons with disabilities. If you have any disability, which may impair your ability to complete this course successfully, please contact Services for Students with Disabilities

Office. Reasonable academic accommodations are reviewed for all students who have qualified documented disabilities. Services are coordinated with the student and instructor by this office. It is the student's responsibility to disclose to the teacher any special need she/he may have before the end of the first week of class. If you need assistance or if you feel you have been unlawfully discriminated against on the basis of disability, you may seek resolution through established grievance policy and procedures. You should contact the Personnel Office.

Student Personal Point/Grade Record

January 6 & 8 (24 points)	_____
January 13 & 15 (24 points)	_____
January 22 (12 points)	_____
January 27 & 29 (24 points)	_____
January 29 th Paper/Talk (50 points)	_____
February 3 & 5 (24 points)	_____
February 10 & 12 (24 points)	_____
February 17 Participation #1 (25 points)	_____
February 19 (12 points)	_____
February 19 Scripture Midterm (50 points)	_____
February 24 & 26 (24 points)	_____
March 3 & 5 (24 points)	_____
March 10 & 12 (24 points)	_____
March 17 & 19 (24 points)	_____
March 24 & 26 (24 points)	_____
March 31 & April 2 (24 points)	_____
April 7 (12 points)	_____
April 7 Participation #2 (25 points)	_____
April 9 Final Exam/Paper (50 points)	_____
Five In-Class Activities (10 points each; 50 total)	1) _____
	2) _____
	3) _____
	4) _____
	5) _____
*Extra Credit (Read Daily 30 min.) (20 points)	_____
Total Points	550 Points

Grading Scale

Daily Assessments	300 points
Five In-class Activities	50 points

Class Participation 1	25 points
Class Participation 2	25 points
Mid-term:	50 points
Paper/Talk	50 points
Final Exam/Paper:	50 points

Total: 550 Points

Percentages
93-100%=A
90-92%=A-
86-89%=B+
83-85%=B
80-82%=B-
76-79%=C+
73-75%=C
70-72%=C-
66-69%=D+
63-65%=D
50-62%=D-
<50%=F

Class Schedule and Assignments

	Day	Date	Assigned Reading Block	Assignments Due
1	Monday	January 6	Book of Mormon Title Page clear through 1 Nephi 1. Student Manual Ch. 1-- The Keystone of Our Religion	*Know, Read, & Memorize Class syllabus! *Reading/Journal/Attendance weekly points begin. Please record on Canvas by Sun. night
2	Wednesday	January 8	1 Nephi 1-5; SM Ch 2	
3	Monday	January 13	1 Nephi 6-11; SM Ch. 3	
4	Wednesday	January 15	1 Nephi 12-15; SM Ch. 4	
	Monday	January 20	Human Rights Day—No Class	
5	Wednesday	January 22	1 Nephi 16-18; SM Ch. 5	
6	Monday	January 27	1 Nephi 19-22; SM Ch. 6	
7	Wednesday	January 29	2 Nephi 1-3; SM Ch. 7	Paper/Talk due online on Canvas (midnight)
8	Monday	February 3	2 Nephi 4-8; SM Ch. 8	
9	Wednesday	February 5	2 Nephi 9-10; SM Ch. 9	

10	Monday	February 10	2 Nephi 11-16; SM Ch. 10	
11	Wednesday	February 12	2 Nephi 17-24; SM Ch. 11	
	Monday	February 17	President's Day —No Class	*Class Participation #1 Points Given
12	Wednesday	February 19	2 Nephi 25-27; SM Ch. 12	*Scripture Mid-term given in Testing Center February 19-22nd.
13	Monday	February 24	2 Nephi 28-30; SM Ch. 13	
14	Wednesday	February 26	2 Nephi 31-33; SM Ch. 14	
15	Monday	March 3	Jacob 1-4; SM Ch. 15	
16	Wednesday	March 5	Jacob 5-7; SM Ch. 16	
17	Monday	March 10	Enos – Words of Mormon; SM Ch. 17	
18	Wednesday	March 12	Mosiah 1-3; SM Ch. 18	
19	Monday	March 17	Mosiah 4-8; SM Ch. 19	
20	Wednesday	March 19	Mosiah 9-17; SM Ch. 20	
21	Monday	March 24	Mosiah 18-24; SM Ch. 21	
22	Wednesday	March 26	Mosiah 25-29; SM Ch. 22	Kuhio Day Holiday
23	Monday	March 31	*Alma 1-4; SM Ch. 23 Alma 5-7; SM Ch. 24	Read/Record first scripture and SM block
24	Wednesday	April 2	*Alma 8-12; SM Ch. 25 Alma 13-16; SM Ch. 26	Read/Record first scripture and SM block
25	Monday	April 7	*Alma 17-22; SM Ch. 27 Alma 23-29; SM Ch. 28	*Last Day of Actual Class *Class Participation #2 Points Given * Final weekly points due by midnight
	Wednesday	April 9	Final Exam/Principles Paper Due	*BYU-H Reading Days *Final Paper due online— Canvas(midnight)