

## RELIGION 121 – BOOK OF MORMON (1 Nephi--Alma 29)

Semester: Winter 2014	Instructor: Elder Rowell
Room/Time: Stake Center	Office: Stake Center (South Foyer)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Section 06: 102...M/W 08:40 AM</li><li>• Section 07: 102...M/W 11:00 AM</li><li>• Section 08: 102...M/W 01:20 PM</li></ul>	Email: ljr29@go.byuh.edu Phone: 808.675.4901 Office Hours: by appointment

### **Text/Materials:**

- *The Scriptures* (including the Book of Mormon, D&C, and Pearl of Great Price). Bring them, or have electronic access to them, in every class.
- *The Book of Mormon Student Manual* for REL 121-122. This book is also available online at: <http://institute.lds.org/courses/the-book-of-mormon.asp>

### **Objectives:**

1. Obtain a clear understanding of the significant principles/doctrines and historical aspects of the Book of Mormon.

Prophet Joseph Smith said: "...the Book of Mormon was the most correct of any book on earth, and the keystone of our religion, and a man would get nearer to God by abiding by its *precepts* [doctrines and teachings], than by any other book." (Book of Mormon introduction)

"All true faith must be based upon correct knowledge or it cannot produce the desired results." (LDS Bible Dictionary, p. 670)

2. To better learn how to apply the doctrine and experiences of the Book of Mormon in our daily life (See Mormon 8:34-35).

"If they saw our day, and chose those things which would be of greatest worth to us, is not that how we should study the Book of Mormon? We should constantly ask ourselves, why did the Lord inspire Mormon (or Moroni or Alma) to include that in his record? What lesson can I learn from that to help me live in this day and age? (Ezra Taft Benson, *Ensign*, Nov. 1986, p. 6)

3. Improve one's ability to independently find personal direction and understanding through *diligent study* of the Book of Mormon.

"There are those who have made a casual...effort to test the scriptures and have come away having received nothing, which is precisely what they have earned.... If you think it [the scriptures] will yield to casual inquiry, to idle curiosity, or even to well-intentioned but temporary searching, you are mistaken" (Boyd K. Packer, *We Believe All That God Has Revealed*, *Ensign*, May 1974, 95).

4. Gain an increased testimony of the divinity of the Book of Mormon (See Moroni 10:4-5), and the vital role of Jesus Christ plays in each of our lives.

"In the final chapter of the book [of Mormon] is the never failing promise that every person who will read the book with a sincere, prayerful desire to know of its divinity shall have the assurance. Aside from all other interest that the Book of Mormon holds, this reason for our prayerfully studying it remains prominent: through it we can obtain true knowledge of God and what he wishes of us." (Spencer W. Kimball, *Faith Precedes the Miracle*, p. 227)

### **Grading:**

Grades will not attempt to measure some of the more important student efforts or spiritual growth that can be gained from this course. Rather, grades will measure a few observable tasks (see "Assignments" below) that may indicate a degree of student effort and understanding of the course material. Your final grade reflects the accumulated percentage points based on your academic performance in this class. It is not a reflection of your spirituality, your individual worth, or how much the instructor likes you...I do.

## Assignments:

- Learning Exercises (quizzes): (24 Learning exercises, 5 pts. Each= 100 pts. possible)  
A learning exercise will be given at the beginning of each class. The learning exercises are based on the **Reading** assignments (see schedule below) and questions will specifically be taken from the **Study Questions** posted on Canvas. Do the reading assignment and respond to the study questions and you will be well prepared for the class. Learning Exercises can be made up by answering the Study Questions for the day you missed and handing them in to me.
  
- Attendance Paragraph: (24 classes, 5 pts. each, = 100 pts. possible)  
*During class or* after each class period, you will need to write a paragraph on two ideas, thoughts, or teachings from the class that caught your attention. Identify what it was and explain what it means to you personally. The paragraph should run about four sentences. This Paragraph counts as your attendance for the class each time we meet and is to be handed in before you leave class. If you have 10 unexcused absences you will not get a passing grade in this class.
  
- Application Paragraphs: (4 times, 25 pts. each = 100 pts. possible)  
We experience the power of the scriptures as we learn the principles they teach, and then apply those principles to our own lives. During the semester turn in an *Application paper* [25 points]. Here is how it works. Look for principles as you read the Scriptures we are studying that you can apply to your own life. What is a principle? Elder Boyd K. Packer explained: "A principle is an enduring truth, a law, or a rule you can adopt to guide you in making decisions." (Ensign, May 1996, p.17.)  
This *Application Paper* should only be two paragraphs long. **Paragraph one** should be the *principles paragraph*. This paragraph should identify and explain the principle you have learned from your reading. **Paragraph two** is the *application paragraph* where you share an experience you have had in discovering and applying this principle in your own life. Please note: this paper is more than a description of an observation or an insight. It is a brief report of how you have applied or will apply a principle from the scriptures in your own life.
  
- EXAMPLE:** (only two paragraphs)
  
- Paragraph 1-The PRINCIPLE:**  
The Lord knows what lies before us and he knows how to help us. Sometimes I forget that the work of the Lord cannot be frustrated. In section 3 and 10, we read about how the devil has plans to deceive us, but the Lord always provides a way to overcome and avoid what Satan puts in our way. Section 10 tells how the Lord knew the 116 pages would be lost and he prepared the way that we still have the teachings from the small plates of Nephi. The Lord knows what lies before us and how to help us.
- Paragraph 2- The APPLICATION:**  
I learned from reading that I really can trust in the Lord. Proverbs 3:5-6 is my favorite scripture: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct thy paths." I need to look to him more and more. I realize when I forget to look to Him I have a much harder time doing what I need to do and make more mistakes. I need to place my trust in Him; that is how I can get through the financial spot I am in right now. I can hardly afford food. But I know that the Lord has "looked upon the wide expanse of eternity" and that he will help me!
  
- Exams: (Midterm & Final, 50 pts. each = 100 pts. possible)

Grade breakdown:

- Learning exercises – 100 pts.
- Attendance Paragraphs – 100 pts.
- 4 Application Paragraphs – 100 pts.
- Midterm & Final Exams – 100 pts.

**Total Possible: 400 pts.**

Letter	%	Letter	%
A	94% +	C	74% - 76%
A-	90% - 93%	C-	70% - 73%
B+	87% - 89%	D+	67% - 69%
B	84% - 86%	D	64% - 66%
B-	80% - 83%	D-	60% - 63%
C+	77% - 79%	F	0% - 59%

**Class Schedule:**

M/W DAY	LESSON TITLE	READING BLOCK	A.P.
<b>Jan:</b> Mon 06 <sup>th</sup> Wed 08 <sup>th</sup> Mon 13 <sup>th</sup> Wed 15 <sup>th</sup> <b>Mon 20<sup>th</sup></b> Wed 22 <sup>nd</sup> Mon 27 <sup>th</sup> Wed 30 <sup>th</sup>	Introductions/ Class Leadership/Syllabus Obedience to the Lord—Flee Jerusalem Lehi’s Dream/ Nephi’s Vision Great & Abominable Church/ Liahona <b>Holiday—Human Rights Day</b> Promised Land/ Prophecy & the Last Days Lehi Blesses his Children Jacob Quotes Isaiah 49-51	None 1 Nephi 1-7 1 Nephi 8-13 1 Nephi 14-17 <b>No Classes</b> 1 Nephi 18-22 2 Nephi 1-5 2 Nephi 6-11	A. P.
<b>Feb:</b> Mon 03 <sup>rd</sup> Wed 05 <sup>th</sup> Mon 10 <sup>th</sup>  Wed 12 <sup>th</sup> <b>Mon 17<sup>th</sup></b> Wed 19 <sup>th</sup> Mon 24 <sup>th</sup> Wed 26 <sup>th</sup>	Nephi Quotes Isaiah 2-20 Nephi Quotes and Explains Isaiah 29 Nephi’s Teachings and Prophecies <b>Mid-Term Exam (take home)</b> Jacob’s Teachings at the Temple <b>Holiday—Presidents Day</b> Jacob Quotes Zenos & Encounters Sherem Teachings of Enos through King Benjamin King Benjamin’s Discourse on Christ	2 Nephi 12-20 2 Nephi 21-26 2 Nephi 27-33  Jacob 1-4 <b>No Classes</b> Jacob 5-7 Enos- W.of M. Mosiah 1-4	A. P.
<b>Mar:</b> Mon 03 <sup>rd</sup> Wed 05 <sup>th</sup> Mon 10 <sup>th</sup> Wed 12 <sup>th</sup> Mon 17 <sup>th</sup> Wed 19 <sup>th</sup> Mon 24 <sup>th</sup> <b>Wed 26<sup>th</sup></b> Mon 31 <sup>st</sup>	King Benjamin/ The Record of Zeniff Wicked King Noah and Abinadi Limhi & Alma—Freedom from Bondage The Church in Zarahemla—End of the Kings Alma the Chief Judge and the Prophet Alma Resigns to Teach the People Alma, Amuleck, and Ammonihah <b>Holiday-- Kuhio Day</b> Alma’s Teachings-- Ammonihah is destroyed	Mosiah 5-11 Mosiah 12-17 Mosiah 18-24 Mosiah 25-29 Alma 1-4 Alma 5-8 Alma 9-12 <b>No Classes</b> Alma 13-16	A. P.
<b>Apr:</b> Wed 03 <sup>nd</sup> Mon 07 <sup>th</sup> Wed 09 <sup>th</sup>	Son’s of Mosiah Among the Lamanites Aaron Coverts the King/ Anti-Nephi-Lehies Ammon Brings the Lamanites to Zarahemla <b>Final</b>	Alma 17-20 Alma 21-24 Alma 25-29	A. P.
<b>Classes= 24</b>			