2018 Fall REL 275-B01 Teachings and Doctrines of the Book of Mormon

**Religion 275 Teachings and Doctrines of the Book of Mormon**

Fall 2018

Instructor: Sister Sherrie Anthony

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Office Hours: Most days 9 a.m. to 4pm in Career Services

Tues/Thurs. 9:00- 9:50 @ STC 111

**Canvas Inbox is the best way to contact Sister Anthony regarding this course.**

**Bring LDS Scriptures to every class:**

**Objectives of this course:**

Most of you will have previously studied the Book of Mormon sequentially—from beginning to end—at seminary, at home, or on a mission. This course, Teachings and Doctrine of the Book of Mormon (Religion 275), is designed to help you use the Book of Mormon to identify and understand doctrines emphasized by inspired authors of the Book of Mormon.

President Ezra Taft Benson (1899–1994) invited readers of the Book of Mormon to center their attention on the doctrine it contains:

“The Book of Mormon was written for our day. … Not only should we know what history and faith-promoting stories it contains, but we should understand its teachings. If we really do our homework and approach the Book of Mormon doctrinally, we can expose the errors and find the truths to combat many of the current false theories and philosophies of men” (“Jesus Christ — Gifts and Expectations”, Ensign, Dec. 1988, 4).

**Learning Outcomes:**

Throughout this course, you will study the prophetic writings and teachings found in the Book of Mormon, with emphasis on Heavenly Father’s plan and the central role of His Son, Jesus Christ. You will better understand the Book of Mormon as another witness of Jesus Christ and will deepen your love for and testimony of Him. You will improve your ability to identify and study the doctrines of the gospel in their scriptural context, leading to greater understanding and personal discipleship. You will be prepared to explain and testify of the importance and divine origin of the Book of Mormon and the doctrine it contains.
Grading:
Grades will not attempt to measure some of the more important student 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 necessarily a reflection of your spirituality, your individual worth, or how much the instructor likes you…I do.

Course Requirements:

Attendance: You are expected to attend class. Poor attendance will negatively affect your grade. Please mark the roll each day. Contact me if you have a problem due to excused university absences or illness. Excessive absences resulting in less than 75% attendance will result in your grade being dropped one letter grade, A to a B, B to a C, C to a D.

Reading: Before each class, students are expected to read the assigned readings (see schedule). Those readings will include scriptures and conference talks.

Reading Assignments Due before each class: (To encourage personal responsibility, missed reading or reporting cannot be made up. All the assignments will be opened on the first day of class so you can work ahead and schedule your time.)

1. You will need to identify a common theme throughout the scripture verses you read. State that theme in a few sentences using phrases you found that were similar.
2. From the scripture blocks you read identify 3 principles you found that relate to your life. These principles should vary from student to student. Learn to find answers to your concerns in the scriptures.
3. Read the conference talk assigned for the lesson. Find your favorite quote from the talk and state why that quote is meaningful in your life and how it motivates you to change your behavior or thoughts. This should be a minimum of a 100 words NOT including the quote you chose. This assignment will take the place of a written paper usually assigned during the semester. Make sure your work is done well.

Quizzes: Quizzes will be found on Canvas. Quizzes will open at the end of each class. You will have at least two days to construct well thought out answers that should be at least 1 to 2 paragraphs long for each question consisting of at least 5 sentences per paragraph totaling at least 150 words. These quizzes will take the place of a final so you will be expected to submit material worthy of a final.

Discussions: Three times during the semester you will be involved in a discussion with other students in the class. This will require reading their responses and making comments in additions to what they have written. Make sure you make meaningful contributions to each other as you share principles and experiences. The intent of this exercise is not to be critical of what someone else has written but an opportunity for you to better understand someone else's opinion and to share your feeling in a constructive manner.
Grading: Grading is based on a traditional percentage scale

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POINTS:

- Reading scripture blocks 10 points each
- Reading Conference talks 15 points each
- Quizzes 25 points each
- Discussions 20 points each