

**Birmingham Theological Seminary
Demopolis Extension
Christian Chapel Church ,500 west Decatur Street Demopolis, AL 36732**

OT1023 Old Testament Studies III

Fall 2019, Sept. 5 – Dec. 15

Professor: Fred D, Moore

Meeting Time: Thursday, 5:30 pm 7.30

Work Phone: 334-216-1247

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COURSE PURPOSE

This course is an exposition of the Old Testament prophetic books. As such, it will focus on the historical periods of the writing prophets, their distinctive form of writing, their message to Israel and the nations, as well as their message for the Church today. The purpose of this course is to provide students with an introduction to the history and theology of the Old Testament books from Isaiah through Malachi, enabling them to make application of their teaching in their personal lives and their churches.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. To enable the students to grasp and articulate the theology of the Biblical books covered in this class.
2. To enable the students to understand how to apply the teachings of these books to his or her personal life and Church setting.
3. To provide the students an opportunity to work through passages of these books that have lent themselves to various interpretations.
4. To encourage the student to speak the truth in love as he or she engages in discussions about the Word of God.
5. To provide the students with the tools necessary to relate the teachings of these books to the New Testament and the Person and work of Jesus Christ.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Holy Bible

Walton, John H and Andrew E. Hill. *Old Testament Today, 2nd Edition*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2013. 452 pages. ISBN 978-0-310-49820-9 (*This book is recommended, but not required for students in the Certificate Program*)

Robertson, O. Palmer. *The Christ of the Prophets*. P&R Publishing, 2008. Abridged edition. 417 pages. ISBN: 978-1596380660

RECOMMENDED BUT NOT REQUIRED

Bullock, C. Hassell. *An Introduction to the Old Testament Prophetic Books*. Moody Publishers, 2007. 480 pages. ISBN: 978-0802441546

Pratt, Richard. *He Gave Us Stories: The Bible Student's Guide to Interpreting Old Testament Narratives*. Phillipsburg, NJ: P&R, 1993. 520 pages. ISBN: 978-0875523798

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. **Attendance and class discussion**—30% of grade. Class discussions and questions are expected throughout the entirety of the course. Regular attendance and active participation are essential elements to the learning process and will help the student better understand some subjects that will not be covered in the reading assignments.

2. **Reading**—25% of grade. Textbook assignments must be read prior to each class. **Certificate students will complete the reading assignments the Bible, but not Old Testament Today.*

3. **Response papers**—20% of grade. The student will prepare four 1-page papers (double-spaced; Times New Roman 12 font) summarizing the students' reflections on any of the following topics (other topics can be used if approved by the professor):

Why must all Old Testament texts be understood in light of the gospel?

What is the significance of "holiness" in the book of Isaiah?

How did the prophets use symbolic actions to communicate truth?

Discuss the different forms of communication used by the prophets.

How is the message of the prophets used in the New Testament?

What covenants are referenced in Ezekiel 37:15-28? How do these anticipate the new covenant in Christ?

How does the imagery of the prophets influence the imagery used by New Testament writers?

How are the themes of judgment and hope used by the prophets?

**Certificate students will complete two of these papers.*

4. **Summary of Books**—25% of grade. This will be a class project. The students will work together to develop a one-sentence summary of each of the books of the Bible from Isaiah to Malachi. Each student will turn in their own copy of these summaries. For example:

Book
Genesis

Summary (Original audience)
Moses wrote Genesis to teach the Israelites that leaving Egypt and possessing Canaan is God's design for them.

During the last class period, the class will discuss these summaries and develop a one-sentence summary of each of these books that explains their relevance for today. For example:

Book
Genesis

Summary (Modern audience)
Because of the work of the new Moses (Jesus), we should see that leaving Egypt (this world) and moving toward Canaan (heaven) is God's design for us.

COURSE LECTURES AND ASSIGNMENTS

OTT: Old Testament Today; CP: Christ of the Prophets

**Certificate students will complete the reading assignments from the Bible and Christ of the Prophets (CP), but not from Old Testament Today (OTT).*

<u>Date</u>	<u>Class Topic</u>	<u>Reading Assignment for Class</u>
9-5	Syllabus review; Introduction to The prophets	OTT: 2-24; CP: Introduction
9/12	The prophets: who and why?	OTT: 251-265; CP ch. 1
9/19	The covenant and the prophets	OTT: 266-278; CP: ch. 5
9/26	The covenant and the prophets	OTT: 279-297; CP: ch.
10/03	The prophets and their historical setting	CP: ch. 7, 8
10/10	Literary Analysis of the prophets	OTT: 298-317; CP: ch. 3
10/14	Fall Break	
10/24	The prophets and predictions	CP: ch. 4
10/31	The prophets and the future	two response papers due; Certificate students can turn in one or both)
11/7	Isaiah	Isaiah
11/14	Jeremiah	Jeremiah; Lamentations
11/21	No classes: Thanksgiving break	
11/28	Ezekiel	Ezekiel
12/5	Minor Prophets	Minor prophets; two response papers due
12/12	Class Project: Summaries of	book summaries due

Prophetic Books

BTS FORMAT AND STYLE STANDARDS

BTS uses the Turabian style of formatting as a standard for papers. However, students should regard individual professor preferences if they communicate any variance in outlining their requirements for papers. Professors retain discretion in determining how “formal” a paper must be. In this technological age, information is readily available; make sure that you understand about giving reference sources the proper recognition. Please refer to the BTS Student Handbook section on plagiarism for guidance.

GRADING

1. Class attendance and discussion—30%
2. Reading—25%
3. Response papers—20%
4. Summary of Books: Class Project—25%

Please refer to the BTS Student Handbook for additional policies related to grading and late assignments.

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Beale, G.K. and D.A. Carson. *Commentary on the New Testament Use of the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2007. 1,239 pages. ISBN 978-0-8010-2693-5
- Bullock, C. Hassell. *An Introduction to the Old Testament Prophetic Books*. Moody Publishers, 2007. 480 pages. ISBN: 978-0802441546
- Davis, Dale Ralph. *The Word Became Fresh: How to Preach from Old Testament Narrative Texts*. Mentor, reprint 2012. 160 pages. ISBN 978-1845501921
- Dillard, Raymond B and Tremper Longman III. *An Introduction to the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1994. 473 pages. ISBN 0-310-43250-2
- Dockery, David, Ken Mathews, and Robert Sloan. *Foundations for Biblical Interpretation: A Complete Library of Tools and Resources*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 1994. 614 pages. ISBN 0-8054-1039-2
- Goldsworthy, Graeme. *The Goldsworthy Trilogy: Gospel & Kingdom, Gospel & Wisdom, The Gospel in Revelation*. Paternoster, 2011. 575 pages. ISBN: 978-1-84227-036-3
- _____. *Preaching the Whole Bible as Christian Scripture: The Application of Biblical Theology to Expository Preaching*. Eerdmans, 2000. 288 pages. ISBN 978-0802847300
- Harris, R. Laird, Gleason L. Archer, and Bruce K. Waltke. *Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament*. 2 Vol. Chicago: Moody Press, 1980. 1,124 pages. ISBN 0-8024-8631-2

- House, Paul R. and Eric Mitchell. *Old Testament Survey, 2nd Edition*. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 2007. 368 pages. ISBN 978-080544036-2
- Jackman, David. *Teaching Isaiah: Unlocking Isaiah for the Biblical Teacher*. Proclamation Trust Media, 2010. 304 pages. ISBN: 978-1-84550-565-3
- Merrill, Eugene. *Kingdom of Priests: A History of Old Testament Israel*. Baker Book House, 1987. 546 pages. ISBN 0-8010-6220-9
- Motyer, J. Alec. *The Prophecy of Isaiah: An Introduction and Commentary*. IVP Academic, 1993. 544 pages. ISBN: 978-0-8308-1593-7
- Pratt, Richard. *He Gave Us Stories: The Bible Student's Guide to Interpreting Old Testament Narratives*. Phillipsburg, NJ: P&R, 1993. 520 pages. ISBN: 978-0875523798
- Schultz, Samuel J. *The Old Testament Speaks: A Complete Survey of Old Testament History and Literature*. New York: HarperCollins Publishers, 2000. 440 pages. ISBN 978-0-06-251674-9
- Walton, John H and Andrew E. Hill. *Old Testament Today, 2nd Edition*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2013. 452 pages. ISBN 978-0-310-49820-9
- Walton, John H. *Ancient Israelite Literature in Its Cultural Context*. Zondervan, 1990. 256 pages. ISBN 0-310-36591-0

Logos Bible Software: Information available at www.logos.com. If you plan to purchase this software, please go through the Seminary's website for substantial discounts.

For recommendations regarding commentaries on books of the Bible, see www.ligonier.org/blog/top-commentaries-on-every-book-of-the-bible