

Course Syllabus

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is designed to provide an expositional study of the pre-exilic Old Testament books of prophesy (Isaiah, Jeremiah, Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, and Zephaniah), the exilic Old Testament books of prophesy (Daniel, Ezekiel, Lamentations), and the post-exilic Old Testament books of prophesy (Haggai, Zechariah, and Malachi). Special emphasis will be given to:

1. the nature and ministry of the prophets,
2. the character of the biblical prophecy, and
3. the major themes and content of their writings.

II. COURSE OBJECTIVES

The course is intended to help the student to deepen his/her knowledge of the major issues involved in the prophetic books of the Old Testament. As a result of this course of study, the student will be able to do the following:

- A. Describe the nature and the ministry of the Old Testament prophets.
- B. State the character of the biblical prophecy.
- C. Articulate the purpose, major theme(s), and content of every book.
- D. Give the overall historical background of each book
- E. Put the prophetic books in their canonical and historical sequence.
- F. Show how the prophetic books fit together into God's plan and purpose for Israel.
- G. Describe the prophets and their ministries particularly to the Northern and Southern Kingdoms.
- H. Integrate truths learned to personal Christian walk and ministry.

III. COURSE TEXTBOOK

- Geisler, Norman. *A Popular Survey of the Old Testament*, Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker, 1977.
- Walvoord, John and Roy Zuck, eds. *The Bible Knowledge Commentary*, OT ed., Wheaton, IL: Victor, 1985.
- *The Bible* (NASB, NIV, NKJV, or KJV). You are free to use "whatever" translation you are familiar with. For study, I use NASB:

IV. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Papers: All papers are to be in the MLA Format. You can find that in the Library or online at:

<http://www.ccc.commnet.edu/mla/format.shtml> OR
http://www.csus.edu/owl/index/mla/mla_format.htm

Attendance:

It is vital that all students follow the attendance policy of the college. If a student has difficulty attending class or experiences continually tardiness, it will adversely impact their grades.

Papers:

1. Write a (10) page paper discussing the (11) pre-exilic prophets. As an introduction to this paper, you should provide a brief synopsis of each of these (11) books. In the following pages, write an essay discussing the historical, geographic, and chronological accounts of the era before the Babylonian Exile. Identify the key role and message that each prophet provided to the children of Israel/Judah. Discuss the impact of the prophet's message on the people. Discuss the people's immediate response, if any, to the prophet's message. Discuss how these chapters have affected your theological (understanding about God), spiritual (understanding of your personal development in God), ecclesiastical (understanding of your role in the church), and sociological (understanding of service to the world) perspectives.
2. Write a (6) page paper discussing the (3) post-exilic prophets. As an introduction to this paper, you should provide a brief synopsis of each of the (3) chapters. Use the instructions from paper one to complete paper two.

All assignments are due at the announced time. Any late assignment will receive a reduced grade. The assignment is considered late if it is not received at or before the start of class on the date due. The first late day will result in a 20 point deduction. The second day late will result in a 30 point deduction. The third day late will result in a 40 point deduction. No assignments will be accepted after the third day late and will result in a grade of zero (0) for the assignment.

Quizzes & Final Exam:

We will have four (4) quizzes this semester. All quizzes will be composed of one (1) essay question. You will be required to discuss the question based on your notes and our discussions from the class. These quizzes will be closed book. The final exam will be a compilation of the quizzes that have been completed.

Group Presentation:

Groups will be assigned at the beginning of the semester to work together to complete an Exilic Prophets presentation. Group 1 will be called "The Lamenters" (Lamentations), Group 2 will be called "The Weepers" (Ezekiel), and Group 3 will be called "The Prayers" (Daniel). Each group will be responsible for giving a presentation that brings each of these prophets to life. The presentation should be no longer than 20 minutes in length. After each presentation we will discuss the historical and societal impact of each prophet on their communities and for antiquity. Each group is to artistically demonstrate to the viewing class the challenges, struggles, and humanity of these prophets in a context that allows us to see these biblical giants as ordinary men who were used extraordinarily by God. Allow your gifts to flow in the presentation communicating the truth of God's word to all who witness.

Class Attendance & Participation	50 Points
Introduction & Pre-Exilic Written Paper	150 Points
Exilic Prophets Group Presentation	150 Points
Introduction & Post-Exilic Written Paper	150 Points
Quizzes (4)	400 Points
Final Exam	100 Points
Total Possible Points	1000 Points

VI. COURSE LECTURES AND ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE

No.	Date	Lecture Topics	Assignments
1.	January 20	Introduction to the Course Introduction to the Old Testament	
2.	January 27	Introduction to the Books of the Law Introduction to the Books of Prophecy	Read: Isaiah 1—32 □ Geisler, Chapter 3,p. 26-31; Chapter 31, p. 230-237
3.	February 3	Overview of Isaiah	Read: Isaiah 33—66 □ Geisler, Chapter 33,p. 246-251□ Walvoord and Zuck 13, 1028- 1121
4.	February 10	Overview of Jeremiah	Read: Jeremiah 1—52 □ Geisler, Chapter 36,p. 267-273□ Walvoord and Zuck 1123- 1206 Quiz #1
5.	February 17	Overview of Lamentations	Read: Lamentations 1—5 Geisler, Chapter 36,p. 273-276□ Walvoord and Zuck 1207- 1223
6.	February 24	Overview of Ezekiel	Read: Ezekiel 1—48 Geisler, Chapter 37,p. 277-286□ Walvoord and Zuck 1225- 1317
7.	March 3	Overview of Daniel Mid-Term Review	Read: Daniel 1—12 Geisler, Chapter 38,p. 287-295□ Walvoord and Zuck 1323-1375
8.	March 10	Overview of Hosea	Read: Hosea 1—14 □ Geisler, Chapter 32,p. 242-245□ Walvoord and Zuck 1377-1407 Mid-Term - Quiz 2
9.	March 17	Spring Break	
10.	March 24	Overview of Joel Overview of Amos	Read: Joel 1—3 □ Amos 1—9 □ Geisler, Chapter 32,p. 238-242□ Walvoord and Zuck 1409-1452 Introduction & Pre-Exilic Written Paper Due
11.	March 31	Easter Break	
12.	April 7	Overview of Obadiah Overview of Jonah	Read: Obadiah Jonah Geisler, Chapter 34,p. 254-258 Walvoord and Zuck 1453-1473 Exilic Prophets Group Presentation

13.	April 14	Overview of Micah Overview of Nahum	Read: Micah 1 - 7 Nahum 1—3 □ Geisler, Chapter 33,p. 252-253; Ch. 34,p. 259-261 Walvoord and Zuck 1475-1504 Quiz #3
14.	April 21	Overview of Habakkuk Overview of Zephaniah Overview of Haggai	Read: Habakkuk 1 - 3 Zephaniah 1—3 Haggai 1 - 2 Geisler, Ch. 35,p. 264-266; Ch. 35,p. 263-264; Ch. 39, p. 296 - 298 Walvoord and Zuck 1505-1544
15.	April 28	Overview of Zechariah	Read: Zechariah 1 - 14 Geisler, Chapter 39,p. 298-302 Walvoord and Zuck 1545-1572
16.	May 5	Overview of Malachi Final Review Conclusion to the Course	Read: Malachi 1 - 4 Geisler, Chapter 39,p. 302-304 Walvoord and Zuck 1573-1589 Quiz #4 Introduction & Post-Exilic Written Paper
17.	May 12	Final Exams	

VII. COURSE BIBLIOGRAPHY

<http://dtslib.dts.edu> This is the Library Catalog at Dallas Theological Seminary. You can do searches and get some good titles.

<http://www.quodlibet.net> Search for articles.

<http://www.theologywebsite.com> Several helpful resources are available.

www.bible.org A very good resource with great deal of Dallas Theological Seminary influence. Check out “Study Tools.”

Archer, Gleason. *A Survey of Old Testament Introduction*. Revised. Chicago: Moody, 1994.

Arnold, Bill T. and Bryan E. Beyer. *Encountering the Old Testament: A Christian Survey*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1999.

Baker, David W. and Bill T. Arnold eds., *The Face of Old Testament Studies: A Survey of Contemporary Approaches*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1999.

Broyles, Craig C. ed. *Interpreting the Old Testament. A Guide for Exegesis*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2001.

Childs, B.S. *Introduction to the Old Testament as Scripture*. Philadelphia: Fortress, 1979.

Dillard, Raymond and Tremper Longman III. *An Introduction to the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1994.

Dillard, Raymond B. and Tremper Longman III. *An introduction to the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids, Zondervan, 1994.

Harrison, R. K. *An Old Testament Introduction*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1979.

Hill, Andrew E. and John H. Walton, *A Survey of the Old Testament*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids, Zondervan, 2000.

LaSor, William Sanford, David Allan Hubbard, and Frederic Wm. Bush. *Old Testament Survey: The Message, Form, and Background of the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1996.

Note:

Walvoord and Zuck give a list for each of these books at the end of their commentary on individual books.