

THE CONTENT OF THIS DESCRIPTION IS NOT A LEARNING CONTRACT AND THE INSTRUCTOR IS NOT BOUND TO IT. IT IS OFFERED IN GOOD FAITH AND INTENDED AS A HELPFUL GUIDE TO THE STUDENT. THE OFFICIAL COURSE SYLLABUS WILL BE PROVIDED AT THE FIRST CLASS.

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**TITLE:** Prophetic Literature

**TERM:** September – December 2018 [20189]

**PROFESSOR:** Rev. Frederick Y. Chung

**REGISTRATION:** LIMITED TO 30

UNLIMITED \_\_\_\_\_

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course offers an introduction to Israelite prophecy, beginning with the roots of prophecy in the earlier books of the Old Testament, and moving to the “major” and “minor” prophets. It will explore their historical contexts in the Ancient Near East, while recognizing their unique contributions to the understanding of Israel’s God. Various forms of poetic speech and imagery will be studied, as well as the theological themes that can be drawn from them. Lectures, PowerPoint presentations, sacred music, class discussion, midterm assignment, paper, and final oral exam.

**CLASS OBJECTIVES:**

- Acquire the ability to interpret biblical passages using basic exegetical methods and tools.
- Situate the prophets within their historical age, outlining their political, social and religious concerns.
- Appreciate the poetry and artistry of the prophets.
- Recognize recurring theological themes in the prophetic books.
- Articulate the relevance of the prophetic message to the modern reader.
- Be motivated to read the actual text of the prophets.

**PREREQUISITES:** Introduction to the Old Testament

**REQUIRED TEXTS:**

1. A modern English translation of the Bible with notes and cross-references. Recommended editions: *The Catholic Study Bible: The New American Bible Revised Edition* (2016); or *The HarperCollins Study Bible: New Revised Standard Version* (2006).
2. Leclerc, Thomas L. *Introduction to the Prophets: Their Stories, Sayings and Scrolls*. **2nd ed.** New York: Paulist Press, 2017.
3. Additional readings will be made available via the internet on the “Blackboard”/“Learning Portal” (PDF).

**POSSIBLE ASSIGNMENTS/TESTS:**

Participation	20% (10% before midterm; 10% after midterm)
Preliminary Bibliography	5%
Exegetical Paper	35%
Final Exam (Oral)	40%

**ABRIDGED BIBLIOGRAPHY:**

- Baltzer, Klaus. *Deutero-Isaiah: A Commentary on Isaiah 40-55*. Minneapolis, MN: Fortress Press, 2001.
- Blenkinsopp, Joseph. *A History of Prophecy in Israel*. Revised and enlarged ed. Louisville, Ky.: Westminster John Knox Press, 1996.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Isaiah 1-39: A New Translation with Introduction and Commentary*. Toronto: Doubleday, 2000.
- Block, Daniel Isaac. *The Book of Ezekiel*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: W.B. Eerdmans, 1997, 1998.

- Branick, Vincent P. *Understanding the Prophets and their Books*. New York: Paulist Press, 2012.
- Childs, Brevard S. *Isaiah*. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2001.
- Cook, Joan E. *Hear, O Heavens and Listen, O Earth: An Introduction to the Prophets*. Collegeville, Minn.: Liturgical Press, 2006.
- Greenberg, Moshe. *Ezekiel 1-20: A New Translation with Introduction and Commentary*. Garden City, N.Y.: Doubleday, 1983.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Ezekiel 21-37: A New Translation with Introduction and Commentary*. Toronto: Doubleday, 1997.
- Habel, Norman. "The Form and Significance of the Call Narratives." *ZAW* 77 (1965): 297-323, <http://fontes.lstc.edu/~rklein/Documents/habel.htm> (accessed June 21, 2012).
- Limburg, James. *Jonah: A Commentary*. Louisville, Ky.: Westminster/John Knox Press, 1993.
- Mays, James Luther. *Hosea: A Commentary*. Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1969.
- McComiskey, Thomas Edward, ed. *The Minor Prophets: An Exegetical and Expository Commentary*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker Academic, 2009.
- Meyers, Eric M. and Carol L. Meyers. *Haggai, Zechariah 1-8: A New Translation with Introduction and Commentary*. Garden City, N.Y.: Doubleday, 1987.
- Oswalt, John N. *The Book of Isaiah: Chapters 40-66*. NICOT. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans 1998.
- Petersen, David L. *The Prophetic Literature: An Introduction*. Louisville, Kentucky: Westminster John Knox Press, 2002.
- Provan, Iain W. *1 and 2 Kings*. Peabody, Mass.: Hendrickson Publishers, 1995.
- Ralph, Margaret Nutting. *Discovering Prophecy and Wisdom: The Books of Isaiah, Job, Proverbs, Psalms*. New York: Paulist Press, 1993.
- Salter, Robert B. *Jonah & Lamentations*. Sheffield: JSOT Press for the Society for Old Testament Study, 1994.
- Sasson, Jack M. *Jonah*. AncB 24B. New York: Doubleday, 1990.
- Stevenson, Kenneth, Michael Glerup, C. Thomas McCollough et al. *Ezekiel, Daniel*. Downers Grove, Ill.: InterVarsity Press, 2008.
- Stuart, Douglas K. *Hosea-Jonah*. Waco, Tex.: Word Books, 1987.
- Stuhlmüller, Carroll. *The Books of Jeremiah and Baruch*. Collegeville, MN: Liturgical Press, 1971.
- Sweeney, Marvin A. *The Twelve Prophets*. 2 vols. Collegeville, Minn.: Liturgical Press, 2000.
- Watts, John D. W. *Isaiah 1-33*. Waco, Tex.: Word Books, 1985.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Isaiah 34-66*. Waco, Tex.: Word Books, 1987.
- Westermann, Claus. *Isaiah 40-66 : A Commentary*. Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1969.