General Information

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Class time: Mondays, 1:30-4:30 p.m.

Course Purpose and Objectives

The purpose of this course is to deepen our experience and understanding of God’s Word found in the prophetic books of the Old Testament: Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, and the Twelve Minor Prophets. We will do this by gaining a familiarity with the message of the prophets and its meaning both for the ancient audience and for the believing community acquainted with the prophetic ministry of Jesus Christ. Emphasis will be placed on historical setting, literary structure, canonical situatedness, and the theological system communicated by the prophets and their biblical interpreters.

Students will be required to demonstrate:
1. a familiarity with the content of the prophetic books,
2. a grasp of the theological issues and patterns that arise from these books, and
3. an ability to interpret the books in light of the person of Jesus Christ and communicate their message to others.

Course Materials

ISBN: 978-0310263418

ISBN: 978-0801038600

Selected readings on reserve in the library or on course website.
Course Assignments

- Mid-term (due: March 13) and final exams (due: May 18) will test material discussed in class and in reading assignments. (60% = 30% each)
- Student papers (due: April 24) will treat a passage from Isaiah, aiming to explain its meaning and significance within the book of Isaiah and the Scriptures as a whole, including its significance to the apostolic witness, the contemporary Church, and our future hope. Treatments will rely on scholarly research, a close reading of the English text (those students who know Biblical Hebrew can use this as an opportunity to exercise that knowledge), and personal reflection. (30%)
- Outline Memorization. You will be given suggested outlines, which we would highly encourage you to use. You may make two attempts to recite your outline to your partner before having to wait a minimum of 30 minutes before trying again. Once you have successfully recited each outline, have your partner sign in the appropriate space. This sheet is to be turned in at the conclusion of the course. (10%)

Reading Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Bible Reading</th>
<th>Chisholm</th>
<th>D&amp;L</th>
<th>Chapters</th>
<th>Reading pp.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2nd Feb</td>
<td>First Day</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>9th Feb</td>
<td>Isaiah 1-23</td>
<td>13-64</td>
<td>301-320</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16th Feb</td>
<td>Isaiah 24-39</td>
<td>65-92</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23th Feb</td>
<td>Isaiah 40-55</td>
<td>93-125</td>
<td></td>
<td>16</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Mar</td>
<td>Isaiah 56-66</td>
<td>126-152</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16th Mar</td>
<td>Spring Break</td>
<td>187-230</td>
<td>342-353</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23th Mar</td>
<td>Jeremiah 26-52, Lam.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>30th Mar</td>
<td>Ezekiel 1-24</td>
<td>231-264</td>
<td>354-370</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6th Apr</td>
<td>Ezekiel 25-48</td>
<td>265-290</td>
<td></td>
<td>24</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13th Apr</td>
<td>Daniel</td>
<td>291-334</td>
<td>371-396</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20th Apr</td>
<td>Hosea</td>
<td>335-367</td>
<td>397-408</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27th Apr</td>
<td>Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah</td>
<td>368-402</td>
<td>409-448</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>75</td>
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<tr>
<td>4th May</td>
<td>Micah, Nahum, Hab., Zeph.</td>
<td>403-450</td>
<td>449-476</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>75</td>
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<tr>
<td>11th May</td>
<td>Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi</td>
<td>451-501</td>
<td>477-502</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Total      | 249                    | 691      |

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1 Broyles, “Traditions, Intertextuality, and Canon” and Pratt, “Historical Contingencies and Biblical Predictions” posted on the course homepage.

## MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes

In order to measure the success of the MDiv curriculum, RTS has defined the following as the intended outcomes of the student learning process. Each course contributes to these overall outcomes. This rubric shows the contribution of this course to the MDiv outcomes.

*As the MDiv is the core degree at RTS, the MDiv rubric will be used in this syllabus.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rubric</th>
<th>Mini-Justification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Knowledge of the prophetic books and theology therein will be presented and articulated in class discussion and written assignments.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>The course is primarily concerned with the prophetic books of the OT. Research will be approached as a means to interpretation and exhortation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Articulation (oral & written)
- Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both oral and written, of essential biblical, theological, historical, and cultural/global information, including details, concepts, and frameworks.
- **Strong**

### Scripture
- Significant knowledge of the original meaning of Scripture. Also, the concepts for and skill to research further into the original meaning of Scripture and to apply Scripture to a variety of modern circumstances. (Includes appropriate use of original languages and hermeneutics; and integrates theological, historical, and cultural/global perspectives.)
- **Strong**

### Reformed Theology
- Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.
- **Strong**

### Sanctification
- Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student’s sanctification.
- **Moderate**

### Desire for Worldview
- Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God.
- **Moderate**

### Winsomely Reformed
- Embraces a winsomely Reformed ethos. (Includes an appropriate ecumenical spirit with other Christians, especially Evangelicals; a concern to present the Gospel in a God-honoring manner to non-Christians; and a truth-in-love attitude in disagreements.)
- **Moderate**

### Preach
- Ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.
- **Strong**

### Worship
- Knowledgeable of historic and modern Christian-worship forms; and ability to construct and skill to lead a worship service.
- **Minimal**

### Shepherd
- Ability to shepherd the local congregation: aiding in spiritual maturity; promoting use of gifts and callings; and encouraging a concern for non-Christians, both in America and worldwide.
- **Minimal**

### Church/World
- Ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues.
- **Moderate**