

## Hebrew Exegesis (OT506)

RTS-Atlanta

FALL 2018

J. Nicholas Reid, D.Phil.

Class meets September 14 & 15, October 19 & 20, and November 9 & 10. Friday evenings are from 6pm-9pm. Saturdays are from 8:30am-3:30pm.

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION (According to the RTS Website)**

This course introduces basic tools for interpreting the Old Testament. Attention is given to a working knowledge of biblical Hebrew and to principles of interpretation.

### **COURSE DETAILS**

1. *Grading Schedule.* The letter grading scale for this course is institutional catalogue and is summarized below.

A (97-100) 4.00  
A- (94-96) 3.66  
B+ (91-93) 3.33  
B (88-90) 3.00  
B- (86-87) 2.66  
C+ (83-85) 2.33  
C (80-82) 2.00  
C- (78-79) 1.66  
D+ (75-77) 1.33  
D (72-74) 1.00  
D- (70-71) 0.66  
F (below 70) 0.00  
I (incomplete) –  
W (withdraw) –  
S (satisfactory) –  
P (passing) –

2. *Attendance and Late Assignments.* **Attendance and prepared participation is required.** If class is not attended, the student's final grade will be affected. Late assignments are reduced one letter grade per day.

3. *Special Needs*. In order to ensure full class participation, any student with a disabling condition requiring special accommodations (e.g. tape recorders, special adaptive equipment) is strongly encouraged to contact the instructor at the beginning of the course.
4. *Disclaimer*. This syllabus is intended to reflect accurately the learning objectives, instructional format and other information necessary for students to appraise the course. However, the instructor reserves the right to modify any portion of this syllabus as may become necessary.

## Course Requirements

### Textbooks

Elliger, Karl, and Wilhelm Rudolph, eds. *Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia*. Compact. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 1997. (Abbreviated *BHSI*)

Stuart, Douglas. *Old Testament Exegesis: A Handbook for Students and Pastors*. 4<sup>th</sup> ed. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Know, 2009.

van der Merwe, Christo H.J., and Jacobus A. Naude. *A Biblical Hebrew Reference Grammar: Second Edition*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. London; New York: T&T Clark, 2017. (Abbreviated *BHRG*)

Wegner, Paul D. *A Student's Guide to Textual Criticism of the Bible: Its History, Methods and Results*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2006.

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### Assignments

1. Notebook Assignments: 8 notebook assignments to be turned in periodically. Total constitutes 16% of your grade.
2. Reflection Papers: 7 short (150-200 words) reflection papers on Jonah. They are due the week after each section is completed. The reflections are to be more personal than exegetical. Total constitutes 7% of your final grade.
3. Quizzes: 6 quizzes to be taken, one each meeting. The quizzes cover the Hebrew text from Jonah, assigned Hebrew vocabulary, and assigned Hebrew verb forms. Total of the quizzes constitutes 25% of the final grade.
4. Hebrew Reading: Read the assigned Hebrew text of 1 Kings 17-18. Parse the verbs of the assigned Hebrew text. Listen to audio. Total constitutes 12% of the course grade.
5. Final Exam: Covers the Hebrew text of Jonah, vocabulary from the quizzes, paradigms from the quizzes, and the assigned material from *BHRG*. The exam constitutes 20% of the course grade.
6. Paper: Write an exegetical paper (10-15 pages) on 1 Kings 17-18 applying what you have learned in this course. Paper constitutes 20% of the course grade.

## **Extension Policy**

All assignments and exams are to be completed by the deadlines announced in this syllabus or in class.

Extensions for assignments and exams due within the normal duration of the course must be approved beforehand by the Professor. Extensions of two weeks or less beyond the date of the last deadline for the course must be approved beforehand by the Professor. A grade penalty may be assessed.

Extensions of greater than two weeks but not more than six weeks beyond the last deadline for the course may be granted in extenuating circumstances (i.e. illness, family emergency). For an extension of more than two weeks the student must request an Extension Request Form from the Registrar's Office. The request must be approved by the Professor and the Academic Dean. A grade penalty may be assessed. (RTS Catalog p. 42 and RTS Atlanta Student Handbook p. 14)

Any incompletes not cleared six weeks after the last published due date for course work will be converted to a failing grade. Professors may have the failing grade changed to a passing grade by request. (RTS Catalog p. 42)

**Course Objectives Related to MDiv Student Learning Outcomes With Mini-Justification**

Course: Hebrew Exegesis (OT506)

Professor: Dr. J. Nicholas Reid

Campus: Atlanta

Date: Fall 2018

MDiv Student Learning Outcomes		Rubric Strong Moderate Minimal None	Mini-Justification
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	Provides students with skills to write exegetical papers.
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	Learn skills to exegete passages in their original language.
Reformed Theology	Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.	Strong	Ad fontes.
Sanctification	Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student's sanctification.	Moderate	Rigorous study of the Bible
Desire for Worldview	Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God.	Minimal	
Winsomely Reformed/ Evangelistic	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.)	Strong	Academic integrity and warm piety expected when engaging the ideas of others.
Preach	Ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.	Strong	The course attempts to give the student knowledge of the biblical text and tools for preaching
Worship	Knowledgeable of historic and modern Christian- worship forms; and ability to construct and skill to lead a worship service.	Minimal	The regulative principle is informed by Scripture.
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	The biblical text informs all aspects of church service.
Church/World	Ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues.	Minimal	