
JUDGES-ESTHER RTS-H

05OT510 FALL 2018

Michael G. McKelvey, Ph.D.
mmckelvey@rts.edu

Class meets Friday 6:30pm-9:30pm and Saturday 8:00am-3:00pm on Sept. 14-15, Oct. 19-20, and Nov. 2-3.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This overview of the literature, history, and themes of Judges through Esther gives particular attention to the relevance of these books for the church and world today.

COURSE PROTOCOLS

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

97-100%	A	80-82%	C
94-96%	A-	78-79%	C-
91-93%	B+	75-77%	D+
88-90%	B	72-74%	D
86-87%	B-	70-71%	D-
83-85%	C+	0-69%	F

2. *Attendance and Late Assignments.* **Attendance is required.** If class is not attended, the student's final grade will be docked. Students are expected to be on time and prepared for each class session. Late assignments are docked 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 (in addition to a standard English Bible and Hebrew Bible)

Required

Currid, John D. and David P. Barrett. *Crossway ESV Bible Atlas*. Wheaton: Crossway, 2010.

Bright, John. *A History of Israel*. Fourth Edition. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2000.

Van Pelt, Miles V., ed. *A Biblical-Theological Introduction to the Old Testament: the Gospel Promised*. Wheaton: Crossway, 2016.

Howard, David. *An Introduction to the Old Testament Historical Books*. Chicago: Moody Publishers, 2007.

Recommended

Goldsworthy, Graeme. *Preaching the Whole Bible as Christian Scripture: The Application of Biblical Theology to Expository Preaching*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2000.

Greidanus, Sidney. *Preaching Christ from the Old Testament: A Contemporary Hermeneutical Method*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1999.

Arnold, Bill T. and Williamson, H. G. M. *Dictionary of the Old Testament: Historical Books*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2005.

Longman, Tremper, III, and Raymond B. Dillard. *An Introduction to the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2006.

Pratt, Richard L. *He Gave Us Stories: The Bible Student's Guide to Interpreting Old Testament Narratives*. New Jersey: P&R Publishing, 1993.

Satterthwaite, P., and G. McConville. *Exploring the Old Testament: A Guide to the Historical Books*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 2007.

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

Assignments

1. Read all the biblical books in English and all the textbooks (*Crossway ESV Bible Atlas*, pp. 93–186). These readings constitute **20%** of the term grade. There will be a reading report one the final exam where the student will indicate the percentage completed. (The student is encouraged to begin these readings as soon as possible, even before the course begins. **NO AUDIO BOOKS ALLOWED.**)

2. Students will write three separate three-page reviews of Currid, Bright, and Howard. This will constitute **20%** of the term grade. This assignment is **due November 29**.

Examination

1. **Four English Bible Quizzes** will be given during the semester on each book of the Former Prophets. Students must read Judges, 1 & 2 Samuel, and 1 & 2 Kings as well as the corresponding chapters in Van Pelt, and take a quiz on Canvas by the due date for each quiz. These quizzes will constitute **20%** of the term grade. The quizzes must be taken by the following dates:

Sept. 28—The book of Judges

Oct. 26—The book of Samuel

Nov. 23—The book of Kings

2. **A Final Exam** on Lectures will constitute **40%** of the term grade. Exam must be completed **by 5pm on November 30**.

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

Course: Joshua-Kings (05OT510)
 Professor: Dr. Michael G. McKelvey, PhD
 Campus: RTS-Houston
 Date: Fall 2018

<u>MDiv Student Learning Outcomes</u>		Rubric	<u>Mini-Justification</u>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Strong ➤ Moderate ➤ Minimal ➤ None 	
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	Exam stresses clear writing, cogent thought, and concision.
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	1. Significant exegetical work 2. Emphasis in seeing and understanding the books in the light of the whole Bible.
Reformed Theology	Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.	Moderate	Classically reformed approaches are brought to bear in the consideration of the texts
Sanctification	Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student's sanctification.	Moderate	1. Study of the text is part of sanctification 2. Exegetical work ends in application
Desire for Worldview	Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God.	Moderate	Applications to the different areas of life made from the biblical texts
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	Courteous, careful interaction with other scholarship is a part of the lectures, assigned reading, and writing
Preach	Ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.	Moderate	The course focuses on bringing understanding of the text to the point where homiletical work can continue
Worship	Knowledgeable of historic and modern Christian-worship forms; and ability to construct and skill to lead a worship service.	Minimal	Interpretation and understanding of God's revelation leads to worship
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.	Moderate	Biblical knowledge and hermeneutical skill is vital in the area of church life
Church/World	Ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues.	Minimal	Understanding the whole Bible through biblical theology is necessary to communicating its message