

General Information

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Class Meetings:
9 a.m.—6 p.m., July 6-10

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

Dillard, Raymond B., and Tremper Longman, III. *An Introduction to the Old Testament*. 2nd edition. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Zondervan, 2006.

ISBN: 978-0310263418

Chisholm, Robert B. *Handbook on the Prophets*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker, 2002.

ISBN: 978-0801038600

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

ISBN: 978-1433533464

Selected readings on reserve in the library or on course website. See superscripts in reading schedule.

Course Assignments

- Final Exam (**due: July 30**) will test material discussed in class and in reading assignments. (40%)
- Student paper (**3000 words, due: August 13**) 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. (40%)
- Class Participation. Students will be expected to complete the assigned readings, attend lectures, participate in classroom discussions. There will be a question on the final exam about the amount of reading you completed. (20%)

Reading Schedule (These divisions are meant to be used as a guide to reading. **The first 6 readings should be completed by July 6.**)

	Bible Reading	Chisholm	D&L	Bible Chapters	Reading pp.
1.	Isaiah 1-23	13-64	301-320	23	73
2.	Isaiah 24-39	65-92	¹	16	28
3.	Isaiah 40-55	93-125	²	16	90
4.	Isaiah 56-66	126-152	³	11	62
5.	Jeremiah 1-25	153-186	321-341	25	55
6.	Jeremiah 26-52, Lam.	187-230	342-353	32	56
7.	Ezekiel 1-24	231-264	354-370	24	51
8.	Ezekiel 25-48	265-290		24	26
9.	Daniel	291-334	371-396	12	70
10.	Hosea	335-367	397-408	14	45
11.	Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah	368-402	409-448	16	75
12.	Micah, Nahum, Hab., Zeph.	403-450	449-476	16	75
13.	Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi	451-501	477-502	20	77
Total				249	783

¹ Broyles, "Traditions, Intertextuality, and Canon" and Pratt, "Historical Contingencies and Biblical Predictions."

² *BTIOT*, 247-303

³ Watts, "Isaiah in the New Testament." *BTIOT*, 305-339.


REFORMED THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
SYSTEM

Course: OT5350 Isaiah to Malachi
 Professor: Scott Redd
 Campus: RTS Houston
 Date: Summer 2021

<u>MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes</u>		<u>Rubric</u>	<u>Mini-Justification</u>
<p><i>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.</i></p> <p><i>*As the MDiv is the core degree at RTS, the MDiv rubric will be used in this syllabus.</i></p>		<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	Knowledge of the prophetic books and theology therein will be presented and articulated in class discussion and written assignments.
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	The course is primarily concerned with the prophetic books of the OT. Research will be approached as a means to interpretation and exhortation.
Reformed Theology	Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.	Strong	Reformed notions of the biblical interpretation and the prophetic office and function will be thoroughly examined in this class
Sanctification	Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student's sanctification.	Moderate	Rigorous, prayerful engagement with the biblical text for the purpose of learning, spiritual growth and maturity is encouraged.
Desire for Worldview	Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God.	Moderate	Study of the OT prophets will hone students' perspective on the world and their role in it.
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	Study of the prophetic books provides an avenue through which faithful scholars communicate the teaching of Scripture in a way that is less bound by native culture.
Preach	Ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.	Strong	Capacity to work with the prophetic genre of the OT will enhance a student's ability to interpret and preach from Scripture.
Worship	Knowledgeable of historic and modern Christian-worship forms; and ability to construct and skill to lead a worship service.	Minimal	The topic of worship is limited to its presence in the text of the prophetic books, and the role of Scripture as a means of grace.
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	Again, knowledge of the prophetic books enhances knowledge of Scripture in general and ability to shepherd scripturally.
Church/World	Ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues.	Moderate	Knowledge of the prophetic books will help students develop categories for church / world involvement.