

BSCM4313 EIGHTH CENTURY PROPHETS OF ISRAEL: HOSEA AND AMOS

**New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
South Florida Extension Center**

Fall 2013

Monday: 8:00 pm-10:00 pm

Dr. Joseph J. Finn

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PURPOSE STATEMENTS

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary exists to prepare God-called men and women to vocational service in Baptist churches and in other Christian ministries throughout the world through programs of spiritual development, theological studies and practical preparation for ministry.

The Leavell College exists to fulfill the purpose of the institution by providing quality theological and practical education at the pre-baccalaureate and baccalaureate levels to prepare students for service in churches and to qualify students to continue their studies at the graduate level.

PURPOSE OF THE COURSE

The purpose of this course is to provide for the student's quality theological education in the discipline of Biblical studies.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is designed to acquaint the student with pertinent information about the Prophecies of Hosea and Amos. After an examination of the introductory materials, an exegesis of selected passages serves as the core of the course.

STUDENT OBJECTIVES

By the end of the course the student will be able to:

1. Understand the historical background of Hosea and Amos and use this background for a proper interpretation of the text.
2. Understand the major themes of Hosea and Amos.
3. Internalize the truths of Hosea and Amos.
4. Interpret the text of Hosea and Amos.
5. Apply the principles of interpretation learned to other texts.
6. Acquire a deeper appreciation for the Old Testament text in general.
7. Apply the truths to life situations today.

Text Books:

The primary text for the course will be the Biblical text in the *New American Standard Bible* or the *New King James Version*. Required commentaries are: *Everyone's Bible Commentary: Hosea and Amos*, by H. Ronald Vandermeay and Gary G. Cohen, Moody Press, 1981. Also, *People's Bible Commentary: Hosea/Joel/Amos* by Paul Eickman, Concordia Publishing House. ISBN:0-8100-1182-4

Course Requirements:

1. Students will be required to read the assigned passage for each day in the Biblical text and the commentary. Students will be given access to the professor's notes and will be required to read the notes on the assigned passages prior to the class. Class time will be used for discussion of the material. ***Accountability for reading in the Biblical text, the commentaries and the notes will be a reading log kept by the students and a signed statement at the end of the class affirming that the material was indeed read.***
2. School policies concerning absences and tardiness will be strictly enforced. Any student missing more than one-fourth of the classroom hours (9 hours), will automatically receive a grade of "F" for the course. Every three

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occasions of arriving late for class or leaving early from class will be counted as one absence. Roll will be taken at the beginning of each period. It is the responsibility of the student to contact the professor if he/she is tardy and roll has already been taken.

3. Two examinations will be given during the semester, a Mid-term and a Final exam. These tests will cover both materials discussed in class and material taken from the readings. These tests will consist of objective sections (matching, true/false and multiple answer questions) and subjective sections (identification and essay questions). Each exam will only cover material from that particular section, including the Final exam. Any student who misses the Mid-term exam is expected to schedule a make-up exam within one week of the missed exam. Any Mid-term exam not made up within two weeks of the original exam date will be given the grade of zero. The sectional exams will count for 30% of the semester grade.
4. **Book Review:** Each student will write and submit one critical review of a book relevant to the course material. The review should be 4 to 7 double-spaced typewritten pages in length. Form should follow Turabian, 6th Edition. Each review should contain the following information:
 - 1) A bibliographical entry for the book.
 - 2) A brief biographical sketch of the author.
 - 3) A brief summary (five or six paragraphs) of the book's contents.
 - 4) A statement of the author's purpose and extent to which the purpose was realized.
 - 5) A statement regarding the uniqueness of the book.
 - 6) A description of the author's style.
 - 7) A description of the author's biases
 - 8) A concluding evaluation.

The review will be turned in **at the beginning of class on December 2**. The review will be graded on clear organization, spelling, form and grammar as well as content and interaction with the book.

5. **Biographical Essay:** Each student will write and submit a 4-7 page biographical essay on a historical figure from eighth century prophets. The essay must reference at least six sources. All essays should have a **title page, footnotes/endnotes and bibliography**. The essay should be double-spaced and follow Turabian, 6th Edition for style. They will be graded

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on clear organization, spelling, form and grammar as well as content. Essays will be turned in at the beginning of class on November 18th. ***The bibliography will be graded on quality and variety.***

6. Each student is responsible for reading the assigned sections of the texts before each class period. There will be a reading quiz at the beginning of each class period. Reading quizzes will compose 10% of the semester grade.
7. All students are responsible for being in the classroom on time; reading the assigned materials; and participating in the class discussions. ***Therefore, each student will receive a class participation grade based on the following criteria: class attendance and tardiness; contribution to class discussions; and completion of the reading assignments.*** A statement indicating the completion of the reading assignments will be submitted by each student at the time of the Final examination.
8. **The Final grade for the class will consist of the following:**

a. Mid-Term Exam	30%
b. Final Exam	30%
c. Biographical Essay	15%
d. Book Review	15%
e. Reading Quizzes	10%
<i>Final Grade</i>	<i>100%</i>

Class Schedule:

- Aug. 19th** Introduction to the course. **Following the introduction to the course, each student will be assigned a one or two page essay on the eighth century prophets of Israel.** The essay should be a reflection by the student on the text. No research or other commentaries are needed. Simply reflect on the text and write down what you think is the significance of the passage. The essay may be done on Monday or at any time during the week. The essays will be discussed and turned in at the meeting of the class on Sept. 2nd.

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- Aug. 26th** Introduction to Amos; Cohen-Chapters (6-7);
Eickman-Introduction to Amos
- Sept. 2nd** **LABOR DAY NO CLASSES**
Cohen-Chapter (8-9)
Eickman-Judgment of Nations
- Sept. 9th** Cohen-Chapters (10-11)
Eickman-Further Messages of Judgment and Israel
- Sept. 16th** Cohen-Chapters (12-13)
Eickman-Five Visions and Messages for Israel; **Quiz**
- Sept. 23rd** Cohen-Chapters (14-15)
Eickman-Discussions of readings of A Promise of
Blessings In The Last Days
- Sept. 30th** Review for Mid Term-Discussion of readings;
Dr. Cohen and Dr. Eickman
- Oct. 7th** **Mid-Term Examination**
- Oct. 14th** **Fall Break; NO CLASSES**
- Oct. 21st** Introduction to Hosea; Cohen-Chapter 1
Eickman-Introduction to Hosea
- Oct. 28th** Cohen-Chapter 2
Eickman-The Prophet's Marriage
- Nov. 4th** Cohen-Chapter 3
Eickman-The Prophet's Message; **Quiz**
- Nov. 11th** Cohen-Chapter 4
Eickman-Review/discussion
- Nov. 18th** Cohen-Chapter 5
Biographical Essay Due; Oral Presentations
- Nov. 25th** **Thanksgiving Break**

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**Dec. 2nd Book Review Due; Oral Presentations
Final Test Review**

Dec. 9th Final Exam

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Feinberg, Charles L. *The Minor Prophets*, Chicago, Ill.: Moody Press, 1976.

Gaebelein, Arno C. *The Annotated Bible*. 1917. Reprint. Neptune, New Jersey: Loizeaux Brothers, 1971.

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McGee, Vernon J. *The Prophets: Amos and Obadiah, Thru-The-Bible Commentary Series*. Nashville, Tenn.: Thomas Nelson, Inc., 1991.

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Ryrie, Charles C. *The Ryrie Study Bible*. Chicago: Moody, 1978.

Tatford, Frederick, A. *The Minor Prophets*. Minneapolis, Minn.: Klock & Klock, n.d.

Thompson, William M. *The Land and the Book*. 3 Vols. New York: Harper & Bros., 1880.

Unger, Merrill F. *Unger's Commentary on the Old Testament*, Vol. 2. Chicago, Ill.: Moody Press, 1982.