

**OTSR9301: Colloquium in Old Testament  
Old Testament Introduction, Pentateuch, and Text  
Dr. R. Dennis Cole**

**Spring 2014**

**NOBTS Mission Statement**

The mission of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary is to equip leaders to fulfill the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.

**Course Purpose, Core Value Focus, and Curriculum Competencies**

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary has five core values: Doctrinal Integrity, Spiritual Vitality, Mission Focus, Characteristic Excellence, and Servant Leadership. This course addresses Doctrinal Integrity, the focus core value for this year, in that it enhances the student's ability to interpret the Bible accurately. Characteristic Excellence is addressed in that the student should exhibit excellence in the ability to interpret Scripture. Servant Leadership is modeled in classroom demeanor. This course primarily addresses the competency of Biblical Exposition by preparing the student to interpret and communicate the Bible accurately. The 2013-14 emphasis on Doctrinal Integrity will be addressed through careful examination of Biblical principles in interpretation, highlighting aspects of biblical authority and infallibility, and maintaining a focus on the Scriptural aspects of the Baptist Faith and Message (2000).

**Course Description**

This Ph.D. reading colloquium consists of book reviews and discussion sessions covering the fields of Old Testament Introduction and Pentateuchal Studies. The colloquium will include discussion of entire books as well as shorter selections from related works by the colloquium members in addition to works the members have reviewed individually.

**Student Outcomes: Goals & Objectives**

The members in the colloquium will grasp the larger scope of Old Testament studies in the areas covered by the readings. With this grasp of the various fields, members will be prepared better for teaching and researching in the field of Old Testament.

**Textbooks**

The texts for the colloquium are listed in the schedule below. Colloquium members should note the meeting assignments with regard to which books will be covered at which stage of the semester.

**Requirements**

The colloquium members will:

1. Read the required texts as stipulated in the schedule below. For one book each meeting, a brief review will be prepared, with the review consisting of the following elements: bibliographic data, statement of purpose, summary of development, and critique. In addition, 3 reviews of the book in academic journals should be included. (5-6 pages, single-spaced).

2. Participate actively in the discussions of the readings.
3. Attend every meeting. Because of the nature of the course, no absences are allowed. If emergency situations dictate an absence, the member will schedule a make-up session with the professor. Work is still due the day scheduled even if the member is absent. A member missing two sessions will have to repeat the colloquium.

## **SEMINAR SCHEDULE**

### **FEB 10 OLD TESTAMENT INTRODUCTION**

Childs, Brevard. *Introduction to the Old Testament as Scripture*. Fortress, 1979.

Dillard, Raymond B. and Tremper Longman, III. *An Introduction to the Old Testament*. Zondervan, 1994.

Baker, David W. and Bill T. Arnold, eds. *The Face of Old Testament Studies: A Survey of Contemporary Approaches*. Baker, 1999.

\*McKenzie, Steven L. and M. Patrick Graham, eds. *The Hebrew Bible Today: An Introduction to Critical Issues*. Westminster John Knox, 1998.

### **MAR 10 TEXT AND CANON**

Barrera, Julio Trebolle. *The Jewish and Christian Bible: An Introduction to the History of the Bible*. Trans. Wilfred G. E. Watson. Brill/Eerdmans, 1998.

Tov, Emmanuel. *Textual Criticism of the Hebrew Bible*. 3<sup>rd</sup> edition.

Young, Ian, ed. *Biblical Hebrew: Studies in Chronology and Typology*. JSOTSS 369. T & T Clark, 2003. Selections: 1-6, 24-103, 164-214.

Beckwith, Roger. *The Old Testament Canon of the New Testament Church and its Background in Early Judaism*. Eerdmans, 1985.

### **APR 14 HEBREW & PENTATEUCH**

Wendland, E., and E. A. Nida. "Lexicography and Bible Translating," and van Wyk, W. C. "The Present State of OT Lexicography." In J. P. Louw, ed. *Lexicography and Translation*. Cape Town: Bible Society of South Africa, 1985: 1-52, 82-96.

Cotterell, Peter, and Max Turner. *Linguistics & Biblical Interpretation*. InterVarsity, 1989.

Whybray, R.N. *The Making of the Pentateuch*. JSOT Supp. 53. Sheffield: JSOT, 1987.  
Alexander, T. D. *From Paradise to the Promised Land: An Introduction to the Pentateuch*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Baker, 2002.

## **DEC 12 PENTATEUCH**

Sailhammer, John. *The Pentateuch as Narrative: A Biblical Theological Commentary*.

Wenham, Gordon J. "Introduction," and "Unclean Animals." In *The Book of Leviticus*. NICOT: pp. 3-37, 161-85.

Anson Rainey, "Sacrifices and Offerings" in ZPEB, V: 194-211. Averbek, Richard E. "Clean and Unclean," "Leviticus, Theology of," and "Offerings and Sacrifices." Pages 477-86, 907-923, and 996-1022 in vol. 4 of *New International Dictionary of Old Testament Theology & Exegesis*.

Wellhausen, Julius. *Prolegomena to the History of Ancient Israel*. Meridian, 1957.

### **Division of Biblical Studies OTSR9301 Supervised Reading Colloquium: Old Testament Introduction, Pentateuch, and Text & Canon**

#### **Introduction to the Old Testament**

Baker, David W. and Bill T. Arnold, eds. *The Face of Old Testament Studies: A Survey of Contemporary Approaches*. Baker, 1999.

Childs, Brevard. *Introduction to the Old Testament as Scripture*. Fortress, 1979.

Dillard, Raymond B. and Tremper Longman, III. *An Introduction to the Old Testament*. Zondervan, 1994.

Harrison, R. K. *Introduction to the Old Testament*. Eerdmans, 1969. Selections: 1175-1278

McKenzie, Steven L. and M. Patrick Graham, eds. *The Hebrew Bible Today: An Introduction to Critical Issues*. Westminster John Knox, 1998.

Reference: *Hebrew Bible: History of Interpretation*. Abingdon, 2004.

#### **Text and Canon**

Barrera, Julio Trebolle. *The Jewish and Christian Bible: An Introduction to the History of the Bible*. Trans. Wilfred G. E. Watson. Brill/Eerdmans, 1998.

Beckwith, Roger. *The Old Testament Canon of the New Testament Church and its Background in Early Judaism*. Eerdmans, 1985.

Jobes, Karen H. and Moises Silva. *Invitation to the Septuagint*. Baker, 2000.

Tov, Emmanuel. *Textual Criticism of the Hebrew Bible*. 2<sup>nd</sup> Rev. ed. Fortress, 2001.

Mulder, Martin Jan, ed. *Mikra: Text, Translation, Reading and Interpretation of the Hebrew Bible in Ancient Judaism and Early Christianity*. Hendrickson, 2004. Selections: 1-136

### **Hebrew Language: Grammar, Syntax, Translation**

Alter, Robert. "To the Reader." In *Genesis: Translation and Commentary*. Norton, 1996.

Cotterell, Peter, and Max Turner. *Linguistics & Biblical Interpretation*. InterVarsity, 1989.

Fox, Everett. "Translator's Preface." In The Schocken Bible, Vol. 1: *The Five Books of Moses*. Schocken, 1995.

Jouon, Paul. *A Grammar of Biblical Hebrew*. Vols. I and II. Subsidia Biblica 14/I-II. Translated and Revised by T. Muroaoka. Reprint of first edition, with corrections. Rome: Editrice Pontificio Istituto Biblico, 1993.

Wendland, E., and E. A. Nida. "Lexicography and Bible Translating," and van Wyk, W. C. "The Present State of OT Lexicography." In J. P. Louw, ed. *Lexicography and Translation*. Roggebaai, Cape Town: Bible Society of South Africa, 1985: 1-52, 82-96.

Young, Ian, ed. *Biblical Hebrew: Studies in Chronology and Typology*. JSOTSS 369. T & T Clark, 2003. Selections: 1-6, 24-103, 164-214.

Reference: Hendel, Ronald S. *The Text of Genesis I-II: Textual Studies and Critical Edition*. Oxford, 1998.

Reference: Horsnell, Malcolm J. A. *A Review and Reference Grammar for Biblical Hebrew*. Hamilton, Ontario: McMaster University Press, 1999.

Reference: Kautzsch, Emil Friedrich, ed. *Gesenius Hebrew Grammar*. 2nd English ed. Revised in acc. with the 28th German ed. (1909) by Arthur Ernest Cowley. Clarendon, 1970.

Reference: Waltke, Bruce. K. and M. O'Connor. *An Introduction to Biblical Hebrew Syntax*. Eisenbrauns, 1990.

Hebrew Texts For Translation & Analysis: Genesis 12-25; 1 Kings 1-20; Isaiah 40-48; Jeremiah 1-24; Psalms 90-106; Proverbs 1-9

## **Pentateuch**

Alexander, T. D. *From Paradise to the Promised Land: An Introduction to the Pentateuch*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2002.

Averbeck, Richard E. "Clean and Unclean," "Leviticus, Theology of," and "Offerings and Sacrifices." Pages 477-86, 907-923, and 996-1022 in vol. 4 of *New International Dictionary of Old Testament Theology & Exegesis*.

Fretheim, Terence E. *The Pentateuch*. Interpreting Biblical Texts. Abingdon, 1996.

Hartley, John E. "Excursus: Ritual Purity." In *Leviticus*. WBC. Vol. 4. Word, 1992: 140-47.

Rainey, Anson. "Sacrifices and Offerings." Pages 194-211 in vol. V of *Zondervan Pictorial Encyclopedia of the Bible*.

Sailhamer, John H. *The Pentateuch as Narrative*. Zondervan, 1992.

Wenham, Gordon J. "Introduction," and "Unclean Animals." In *The Book of Leviticus*. NICOT. Eerdmans, 1979: 3-37, 161-85.

Whybray, R.N. *The Making of the Pentateuch*. JSOT Supp. 53. JOST, 1987.

Reference: Alexander, T. Desmond and David W. Baker. *Dictionary of the Old Testament: Pentateuch*. IVP, 2003.