



OTHB9449 OLD TESTAMENT EXEGESIS: ISAIAH
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Division of Biblical Studies
Spring Semester 2019

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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.

Core Value Focus

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary has five core values: Doctrinal Integrity, Spiritual Vitality, Mission Focus, Characteristic Excellence, and Servant Leadership. The core value focus for 2018-19 is *Doctrinal Integrity*: “Knowing that the Bible is the Word of God, we believe it, teach it, proclaim it, and submit to it.”

Curriculum Competencies

All graduates of NOBTS are expected to have at least minimal competency in the areas of: Biblical Exposition, Christian and Theological Heritage, Discipleship Making, Interpersonal Skills, Servant Leadership, Spiritual and Character Formation. The curriculum competency specifically addressed in this course is Biblical Exposition.

Course Description

This seminar is designed for intensive exegetical work in the Book of Isaiah. Attention is given to the issues of the prophetic phenomenon in the ancient Near East, background, history of interpretation, language, theology, and current scholarship related to the book.

Student Learning Outcomes

In order to interpret and communicate the Bible accurately, the student, by the end of the course should:

1. Understand the meaning of book of Isaiah in its original context.
2. Demonstrate advanced skills in conducting exegetical research.
3. Understand the state of research and historical meaning of the material of Isaiah.
4. Appreciate the relevance of exegetical study of Isaiah based on the Hebrew text.
5. Demonstrate skill in using the Hebrew text of Isaiah and applying sound interpretive principles toward solid exegesis of the text.

Course Teaching Methodology

This course will use a combination of pedagogical methods, including the following:

1. The professor will employ the lecture method to introduce the seminar.
2. The student will prepare and present critical reviews of books and articles related to critical issues of Isaiah.
3. The student will prepare and present background studies related to critical issues in Isaiah, such as authorship, historical setting, and theological themes of the book.
4. The student will translate, outline, and analyze an assigned portion of Isaiah.
5. The student will prepare and present a major seminar paper related to Isaiah.
6. The student will serve as the major critic for a fellow student’s major seminar paper, focusing on form, style, and content.
7. The student will serve as a minor critic for all seminar papers of fellow students (excluding the critique of the fellow student in # 5 above), focusing on form, style, and content.
8. The student will complete a final examination.

Textbooks

1. Oswalt, John. *The Book of Isaiah: Chapters 1-39*. In New International Commentary on the Old Testament. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1986.
2. Oswalt, John. *The Book of Isaiah: Chapters 40-66*. In New International Commentary on the Old Testament. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1998.

Course Requirements

The student will:

1. Read and review a share of the books and articles related to critical issues in Isaiah.
2. Translate, outline, and analyze significant portions of the text of Isaiah.
3. Prepare and present background studies related to critical issues in Isaiah.
4. Prepare and present a seminar paper related to issues in Isaiah.
5. Complete a final examination on the contents of the seminar.

Course Evaluation

The student's grade will be computed as follows:

Class participation.	10%
Book/Article Reviews.	15%
Translation, Outline, and Analysis.	15%
Background Studies.	20%
Seminar Paper.	30%
Final Examination.	10%

Course Schedule

January 22 **Introduction to the Course**
Distribution of Assignments
Critical Issues in the Study of Isaiah

January 29 **Critical Book Reviews**

- _____ John H. Hayes and Stuart A. Irvine, *Isaiah, the Eighth-Century Prophet*
_____ Oswald T. Allis, *The Unity of Isaiah: A Study in Prophecy*

February 5 **Critical Book Reviews**

- _____ E. J. Young, *The Book of Isaiah*, 3 vols.
_____ C. R. North, *The Suffering Servant in Deutero-Isaiah*

February 12 **Critical Book Reviews**

- _____ Brevard Childs, *The Struggle to Understand Isaiah as Christian Scripture*
_____ International Theological Commentary: *Isaiah 1-39: The Lord is Savior; Faith in National Crisis*, by S. H. Widyapranawa, and *Isaiah 40-55: Servant Theology and Isaiah 56-66: The New Israel*, by George A. F. Knight

February 19 **Background Studies**

- _____ "Authorship: Single Authorship"
_____ "Authorship: Multiple?"

February 26 **Background Studies**

_____ “Historical Background: Isaiah 1-39”

_____ “Historical Background: Isaiah 40-66”

March 5 **MARDI GRAS - No classes**

March 12 **Background Studies**

_____ “Judah’s Kings and the Assyrians”

_____ “The Servant of the Lord”

March 18-22 SPRING BREAK

March 26 **Translation, Outline, and Analysis**

_____ Isaiah 1-12

_____ Isaiah 13-23

April 2 **Translation, Outline, and Analysis**

_____ Isaiah 24-33

_____ Isaiah 34-39

April 9 **Translation, Outline, and Analysis**

_____ Isa. 40-55

_____ Isa. 56-66

April 11 **Review and Discussion - John Oswalt, *The Book of Isaiah* in NICOT (2 vols.)**

April 16 **Seminar Paper Presentations**

_____ (Major Critic _____)

_____ (Major Critic _____)

April 23 **Seminar Paper Presentations**

_____ (Major Critic _____)

_____ (Major Critic _____)

April 30 **Seminar Paper Presentations**

_____ (Major Critic _____)

_____ (Major Critic _____)

May 7 **Concluding Discussion**

May 14 **FINAL EXAMINATION**

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