

COS 411 – Hebrew Bible II
Summer Intensive 2010

Instructor: David Cleaver-Bartholomew

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Course dates: August 9-13 and 16-20

Course meeting time: 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Course description: This course continues to examine the Word of God as it was expressed through some of Israel's prophets, selected psalms, and passages from the book of Job.

Course objectives:

1. A focus on the biblical message as a whole by integrating this year's study with previous study of the Bible.
2. Greater familiarity with several of the great passages in the designated books.
3. Continuation of exegetical practices.
4. Exploration of the assigned passages as relevant for preaching, mission, and ministry by today's pastor and congregation.

Required books:

1. A modern translation of the Old Testament (for example, NRSV, NJB, NIV, NEB).
2. *A Theological Introduction to the Old Testament 2nd edition* by Bruce C. Birch, Walter Brueggemann, Terence E. Fretheim, and David L. Petersen (Abingdon Press, 2005, ISBN 0-687-06676-X).
3. *Reading the Old Testament: An Introduction* by Lawrence Boadt (Paulist Press, 1984, ISBN 0-0891-2631-1).
4. *Battered Love: Marriage, Sex, and Violence in the Hebrew Prophets* by Renita J. Weems (Augsburg Fortress Press, 1995, ISBN 0-8006-2984-5)

Recommended book:

1. *Understanding the Old Testament 5th edition* by Bernhard W. Anderson with Steven Bishop and Judith H. Newman (Pearson Prentice Hall, 2007, ISBN 0-13-092380-X).

Class requirements:

1. Students will be expected to come to class having read the assignment for the day and prepared to discuss the material (N.B. students may find it helpful to prepare the questions at the end of each chapter in Boadt). **This includes the "Prior to the first class" assignment.**
2. Students will be required to write a review and reflection (7 page limit, double spaced, normal margins) of *Battered Love: Marriage, Sex, and Violence in the Hebrew Prophets* by Renita J. Weems due in class on Aug. 16th. Because of the

amount of material that will be covered once the course begins, **students are strongly advised to read and study *Battered Love* before Aug. 9th.**

3. At the end of the course, each student will give a 10 minute presentation on a biblical passage of his/her choice (yet with the instructor's approval). The length and expectations of the presentation will be discussed during the first class session on Aug. 9th.

Grades will be determined according to the following:

Class participation	50%
Book review	25%
<u>Class presentation</u>	<u>25%</u>
Total	100%

Students will be graded using the following letter grade system (taken from the 2009-2010 Information Handbook):

“A”, **“A-”** - The requirements of the course have been met with exceptional levels of excellence and creativity.

“B+”, **“B”**, **“B-”** - good work.

“C+”, **“C”**, **“C-”** - work meets minimum standards

“D” - substandard but passing work

“F”- All the requirements of the course have not been adequately fulfilled and no credit can be given; failing work

“WD”- Student did not attend course

Grades of B+ or higher may be transferable into other educational programs (e.g., Advanced Course of Study, seminary level work, etc.)

Note—National policy stipulates that a person cannot miss more than 20% (or 3.5 hours) of a course and still receive credit.

Please note that there are no “Incompletes” in Course of Study School of Ohio.

Since pastors constantly need to meet deadlines in their work, and since work due is clearly outlined in syllabi ahead of time, there is no need for any incompletes.

Attendance policy (taken from the 2009-2010 Information Handbook):

National policy (from the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry) states that a student is expected to attend every class session. Unexcused absences may be cause for loss of credit or dismissal from the school. A student missing 20% or more of the classroom work shall not receive credit for the course. In the event of extenuating circumstances which require the student to miss up to 20% of a course, the student should contact the Director of the Course of Study School (MTSO) or Assistant Director (UTS) before the class is scheduled to meet. (Extenuating circumstances include emergency situations, illness, and dire circumstances, for example). Students are encouraged to provide back-up coverage at the local church while the pastor is away. If a class is missed, with prior notification, financial credit will be granted in the form of

applying tuition paid (excluding registration fee and \$25 late withdrawal fee) to a future course. If the second weekend is missed, without prior notification, there will be no refund or financial credit, a late withdrawal fee of \$25 will be assessed, and a grade of "Fail" will be entered on the student's transcript.

Class Assignments:

Prior to the first class students are to have read: Birch et al., chs. 7 and 8; Boadt, ch. 15; 1 Kings 17-22; 2 Kings 1-6.7; 8.1-15; 9.1-13; 13.14-21; and 17-21. They are also to hand in their answers to the questions on p. 4 of this syllabus. Answers are to be typed (preferably in Times New Roman 12 font) and double spaced.

Aug. 9: Introduction to the course, introduction to prophetic literature and non-literary prophets. Assignment: Read Birch et al., ch. 9; Boadt, ch. 16; Isa 1-12, 28-33, 36-39; Hos 1-4; Amos 3-7; Micah 1-6.

Aug. 10: Discussion of pre-exilic prophecy, namely, Amos, Hosea, Isaiah of Jerusalem, and Micah. Assignment: Read Birch et al., ch. 10; Boadt, chs. 17 and 18; Hab; Jer 1-3, 7-8, 18-20, 26-29, 30-33; Zeph).

Aug. 11: Discussion of pre-exilic prophecy continued with Habakkuk, Jeremiah, Nahum, and Zephaniah. Assignment: read Boadt, chs. 19; Ezek 1-11; 16; 18; 33-40; 43.1-5.

Aug. 12: Discussion of exilic prophecy. Assignment: read Boadt, ch. 20; Isa 40-55.

Aug. 13: Discussion of exilic prophecy continued. Assignment: read Birch et al., ch. 12; Boadt, chs. 21 and 22; Haggai, Isa 56-66, Zech 1-8.

Aug. 16: Discussion of post-exilic prophecy. Assignment: read Boadt, ch. 24; Daniel, Joel, Jonah, Malachi, Zech 9-14.

Aug. 17: Discussion of post-exilic prophecy continued. Assignment: read Boadt, ch. 14, psalms 1, 2, 8, 22, 23, 24, 60, 84, 89, 97, 110, and 139.

Aug. 18: Discussion of the book of Psalms. Assignment: read Birch et al., ch. 11; Boadt, ch. 23; Job 1-14, 32-42; begin review of the course and preparation of class presentation.

Aug. 19: Discussion of the Wisdom tradition and the book of Job. Begin class presentations. Assignment: Continue to review and prepare your presentation.

Aug. 20: Continue class presentations and course summary.

Questions to be answered prior to the first day of class

1. Following the death of King Solomon the monarchy divided. Describe the division and give an explanation for it. Also, explain how and why the two kingdoms developed. What were they? Give some characteristics of each.
2. Briefly describe the contents of the books of 1st and 2nd Kings. What are some major characteristics and theological themes?
3. Give a short identification of the following: Omri, Samaria, Ahab, Jezebel, Elijah, Elisha, Jehu, Azariah (aka, Uzziah), and Hezekiah.
4. How are Elijah and Elisha similar to Moses?
5. Describe the biblical understanding and use of the words “prophecy” and “prophet”? Was prophecy unique to ancient Israel?
6. What are the Hebrew, Greek, and English derivations of the word “prophet”?
7. How might one distinguish between the Former Prophets and the Latter Prophets?

ACADEMIC HONOR POLICY

The Course of Study School of Ohio requires that all material submitted by a student in fulfilling academic requirements must be the original work of the student.

Violations of academic honor include any action by a student indicating lack of integrity in academic ethics. Violations include, but are not limited to, cheating and plagiarism.

Cheating includes seeking, acquiring, receiving or passing on information about the content of an examination prior to its authorized release or during its administration. Cheating also includes seeking, using, giving or obtaining unauthorized assistance in any academic assignment or examination.

Plagiarism is the act of presenting the published or unpublished words or ideas of another [including online resources] as if it were one's own work. A writer's work should be regarded as his or her own property. Any person who knowingly (whether intentionally or unintentionally) uses a writer's distinctive work without proper acknowledgement is guilty of plagiarism.

A student found guilty of a violation of the academic honor code, after a review of the case, may be subject to one or more of the following actions:

- (1) warning
- (2) probation
- (3) suspension for the remainder of the course
- (4) dismissal from the Course of Study School of Ohio
- (5) failing grade for the course.

Regardless of the outcome, a letter will be sent to the student's district superintendent and Board of Ordained Ministry.



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COS 411

Hebrew Bible 2

David Cleaver-Bartholomew
Summer Intensive 2010

			Retail Price	Disc.	Cl P
Required Books					
_____	<i>A Theological Introduction to the Old Testament 2nd edition</i>	Birch, et al	44.00	20%	35
_____	<i>Reading the Old Testament: An Introduction</i>	Boadt	19.95	20%	15
_____	<i>Battered Love</i>	Weems	18.00	20%	14
Recommended Book					
_____	<i>Understanding the Old Testament 5th edition</i>	Anderson, et al	101.20	0%	10

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