

Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago
Course Profile

Semester: Spring, 2008

Course: B-313A Israel's Prophets

Instructor: Ralph W. Klein

STATEMENT OF GOALS:

1. To develop skills in the interpretation of the Old Testament.
2. To survey the literature and theology of Israel's prophetic movement and to inquire what might be meant by "prophetic ministry" today.
3. To survey Israel's history from the ninth century to the Hellenistic period.
4. To increase respect for the Scriptures and to deepen love for the God whom they confess.
5. To lay the groundwork for a life-long study of the prophetic literature.

OUTLINE AND CONTENT OF THE COURSE

- Introduction to the Prophetic Movement (prophets in other ancient Near Eastern countries; the nature of prophecy; the non-literary prophets; the literary genres used by the prophets)
- The Former Prophets: Joshua, Judges, Samuel, Kings
- Intensive study of Amos, Hosea, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and Second Isaiah
- The end of the Prophetic Movement and the dawn of apocalyptic.

Note: This course will be supported by a website on the LSTC portal and frequent use will also be made of the instructor's scholarly website (OT-Studies.com <http://www.ot-studies.com>). Students need to have access to a computer; those without their own computer may use the resources of the Language Resource and Writing Center.

WORK TO BE REQUIRED IN THE COURSE:

Reading of required texts and other assigned readings

An exegetical paper on a prophetic pericope

Completion of study guides distributed by the instructor

Weekly exegetical discussion of a passage from the prophets on the basis of the Hebrew text (MA students without knowledge of Hebrew are also welcome in the course)

Mid-term and final examinations; online quizzes

TENTATIVE BIBLIOGRAPHY

Coogan, Michael D. *The Old Testament: A Historical and Literary Introduction to the Hebrew Scriptures*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2006.

Seitz, Christopher R. *Prophecy and Hermeneutics. Toward a New Introduction to the Prophets*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2007.

Other books and articles as indicated on the study guides