Course Profile

Course # and Title: **RHS 302A Instruction for Life: Pentateuch and Wisdom Literature (Online)**
Instructor: **Lydia Hernández-Marcial**
Semester/Year: **Fall 2020**

Course Rationale and Description

This course in the M. Div. (M.A.) program introduces students to the origins, the development, and the interpretation of the Pentateuch (Genesis–Deuteronomy) and Biblical Wisdom Literature (Job, Proverbs, and Ecclesiastes). The course offers introductions into the literary forms, the development of the tradition, and the interpretation of the Pentateuch and Biblical Wisdom Literature.

The course outlines the material of the Pentateuch in four parts:

1. Genesis (Primeval history; Matriarchs and Patriarchs)
2. Exodus-Leviticus-Numbers (themes: Exodus, Sinai, the Covenant, and the Law)
3. Deuteronomy
4. Wisdom Literature (Job, Proverbs, and Ecclesiastes)

As students prepare for ministry, this course seeks to read texts from the Pentateuch and engage with them in a pluralistic world. We will consider how to build on traditional Protestant/Lutheran hermeneutics and other contextual approaches to scripture (e.g., feminist, womanist, queer, Latinx, African American, postcolonial).

Textbook

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Further recommended bibliography will be included in the syllabus.