



**THE  
SOUTHERN BAPTIST  
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**

## **20220: Intro to Old Testament II Sample Syllabus**

**School of Theology, NRT 146**

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### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

An introduction to wisdom literature and the prophetic books of the Old Testament in the English Bible, Job through Malachi, including an examination of critical, historical, hermeneutical, and theological issues.

### **Course Objectives:**

1. Describe the content of these twenty-two books of the Old Testament.
2. Understand issues related to authorship, date of composition, style, theology, and historical setting of the wisdom and prophetic literature of the Old Testament.
3. Discuss the idea of Jesus as God's Messiah in the Old Testament.
4. To gain a general understanding of the world of the Old Testament and to develop skill in the interpretation of Hebrew literature and the appropriate use of secondary literature in the process of interpretation.
5. To be introduced to modern critical approaches to the study of biblical texts, such as source, form, literary, and rhetorical criticism.

### **Required Textbooks:**

Hill, Andrew E. and John H. Walton, *A Survey of the Old Testament*. 3rd Edition, Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2009.

J. Daniel Hays, *The Message of the Prophets: A Survey of the Prophetic and Apocalyptic Books of the Old Testament* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2010).

Craig Bartholomew and Ryan O’Dowd, *Old Testament Wisdom Literature: A Theological Introduction* (Downers Grove: IVP Academic, 2011).

### LEARNING ASSESSMENT

1. *Quizzes and Examinations.* Ten quizzes will be given during the semester at the beginning of Class Meetings. These quizzes are designed to test basic comprehension of the readings in the primary and secondary texts.
2. *Written Assignments*
  1. Review article. Students will write a critical review of contemporary issues in Redaction Criticism in the Prophetic Corpus.
  2. ANE Comparisons. Students will compare and contrast the biblical text with various assigned ancient Near Eastern texts (e.g. Wisdom Literature, Prophecy, etc.)
  3. Exegetical paper. Students will write a 15-page exegetical paper on a select passage of Scripture.

### GRADING SCALE

|    |        |    |       |    |       |    |       |   |     |
|----|--------|----|-------|----|-------|----|-------|---|-----|
| A  | 100-95 | B+ | 87-89 | C+ | 77-79 | D+ | 67-69 | F | 59- |
| A- | 95-90  | B  | 84-86 | C  | 74-76 | D  | 64-66 |   |     |
|    |        | B- | 80-83 | C- | 70-73 | D- | 60-63 |   |     |

| Week | Lecture Topics                              |
|------|---|
| 1    | Introduction, Is Wisdom Literature a Genre? |
| 2    | Introduction to Job                         |
| 3    | Introduction to the Proverbs                |
| 4    | Proverbs cont.                              |
| 5    | Introduction to the Psalms                  |
| 6    | Psalms cont.                                |
| 7    | Ecclesiastes and Song of Songs              |

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|----|--|
| 8  | Introduction to Biblical Prophecy      |
| 9  | Isaiah                                 |
| 10 | Isaiah cont.                           |
| 11 | Jeremiah                               |
| 12 | Lamentations and Ezekiel               |
| 13 | Daniel                                 |
| 14 | Introduction to the Book of the Twelve |
| 15 | Hosea                                  |
| 16 | Joel and Amos                          |
| 17 | Obadiah, Jonah, Micah                  |
| 18 | Israel and the Nations in the Prophets |
| 19 | Nahum, Habakkuk, and Zephaniah         |
| 20 | Haggai, Zechariah, and Malachi         |

### **DISABLED STUDENTS**

Students with special needs or disabilities should contact the professor as soon as possible to discuss these issues.

### **DISCLAIMER**

This syllabus is provisional. The Professor retains the right to change any requirement for the class or for individual(s) as necessary. Grades are discretionary. Professor retains the right to give an oral exam over the phone or an exam in person to determine if the student is truly doing the work. Attitude is a very important matter for students going into the ministry. A grade may be greatly affected by a poor attitude toward another student or professor. Students are requested to refrain from bringing food or drink (except water) into the classroom in respect of institutional policy.