

Syllabus

BIL-402: Major Prophets

Written By: Dr. David B. Schreiner



Course Description

The office and function of Hebrew prophecy is noted and the books of Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and Daniel are studied in the light of their own times and the Canon.

Credit Hours: 3

Prerequisite Courses: BIL-202 or BIL-203

Prerequisite Skills and Knowledge: Familiarity with the Inductive Bible Study (IBS) method found in the courses in this curriculum.

Course Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, you should be able to:

1. Describe the dynamics of the socio-political contexts of Assyrian, Babylonian, Persian, and Hellenistic period.
2. Analyze the most salient features of each book in the Major Prophets corpus.
3. Describe the (sociological and theological) function of the prophet.
4. Analyze the (Canonical) coherence of each book as well as the corpus as a whole.
5. Explain the dynamics of prophetic literary forms, including the function of the apocalyptic genre.
6. Apply various components of the IBS methodology to the content of the Major Prophets.
7. Explain how the ministry of each prophet is contextualized by his socio-political context.

Course Textbook

Chisholm Jr., Robert B. *Handbook on the Prophets*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2002.

Articles provided through OCLS

A Bible. *Each student is allowed to pick the translation with which they are most comfortable, but access to multiple translations is expected.*

Course Technology

You will need access to the internet in order to perform studies at www.blueletterbible.com or www.biblegateway.com.

Grading Scale

Grade	Quality Points Per Credit	Percentage	Score
A	4.0	95%-100%	950-1000
A-	3.7	92%-94.9%	920-949
B+	3.3	89%-91.9%	890-919
B	3.0	85%-8.9%	850-889

B-	2.7	82%–84.9%	820–849
C+	2.3	79%–81.9%	790–819
C	2.0	75%–78.9%	750–789
C-	1.7	72%–74.9%	720–749
D+	1.3	69%–71.9%	690–719
D	1.0	65%–68.9%	650–689
F	0.0	0%–64.9%	0–649

Grading Policies

Your grading policy for your course is dependent on your school and program. Your grading policies can be found in the IWU Catalog.

Letter Grade Equivalencies

Grade	Description of Work
A	Clearly stands out as excellent performance. Has unusually sharp insights into material and initiates thoughtful questions. Sees many sides of an issue. Articulates well and writes logically and clearly. Integrates ideas previously learned from this and other disciplines. Anticipates next steps in progression of ideas. Example "A" work should be of such nature that it could be put on reserve for all cohort members to review and emulate. The "A" cohort member is, in fact, an example for others to follow.
B	Demonstrates a solid comprehension of the subject matter and always accomplishes all course requirements. Serves as an active participant and listener. Communicates orally and in writing at an acceptable level for the degree program. Work shows intuition and creativity. Example "B" work indicates good quality of performance and is given in recognition for solid work; a "B" should be considered a good grade and awarded to those who submit assignments of quality less than the exemplary work described above.
C	Quality and quantity of work in and out of class is average. Has marginal comprehension, communication skills, or initiative. Requirements of the assignments are addressed at least minimally.
D	Quality and quantity of work is below average. Has minimal comprehension, communication skills, or initiative. Requirements of the assignments are addressed at below acceptable levels.
F	Quality and quantity of work is unacceptable and does not qualify the student to progress to a more advanced level of work.

Course Workshop Summary

Workshop	Discussion*	Assignment*	Total Points per Workshop
Workshop One	3/90	1/55	4/145
Workshop Two	2/60	2/115	4/175
Workshop Three	2/60	2/115	4/175
Workshop Four	2/60	2/120	4/180
Workshop Five	3/90	1/65	4/155
Workshop Six	3/60	1/110	3/170

End of Course Survey		1/10 extra credit	1/10 extra credit
TOTAL	15/420	9/580	1000

* Number of Activities/Sum Point Totals

Workshop One Outline

Title	Due Dates	Time	Points
1.1 Discussion: Discussing the Institution	Initial post due by the end of the 4th day of the workshop; two responses due by the end of the workshop.	4 hours	30
1.2 Discussion: Discussing Prophecy in Light of History	Initial post due by the end of the 4th day of the workshop; two responses due by the end of the workshop.	3 hours	30
1.3 Discussion: Discussing the Interpretive Principles of the Prophets	Initial post due by the end of the 4th day of the workshop; two responses due by the end of the workshop.	2 hours	30
1.4 Israelite Prophecy in Context	Due by the end of the workshop.	5 hours	55
1.5 Requesting Articles from OCLS	Due by the end of the workshop.	--	--
Totals		14 hours*	145

Workshop Two Outline

Title	Due Dates	Time	Points
2.1 Discussion: Discussing Isaiah	Initial post due by the end of the 4th day of the workshop; two responses due by the end of the workshop.	2:30 hours	30
2.2 Assignment: Ahaz vs. Hezekiah	Initial post due by the end of the 4th day of the workshop; two responses due by the end of the workshop.	5 hours	50
2.3 Discussion: Understanding the Syro-Ephraimite War	Initial post due by the end of the 4th day of the workshop; two responses due by the end of the workshop Due by the end of the workshop.	2:30 hours	30
2.4 Assignment: Detailed Observation: Isaiah 7:10-17	Due by the end of the workshop.	4 hours	65
Totals		14 hours*	175

Workshop Three Outline

Title	Due Dates	Time	Points
3.1 Discussion: Discussing Jeremiah	Initial post due by the end of the 4th day of the workshop; two responses due by the end of the workshop.	2:30 hours	30
3.2 Discussion: Discussing Prophetic Conflict	Initial post due by the end of the 4th day of the workshop; two responses due by the end of the workshop.	2:30 hours	30

3.3 Assignment: Correlating the "My Servant" Motif	Due by the end of the workshop.	4 hours	60
3.4 Assignment: Understanding the New Covenant Motif	Due by the end of the workshop.	6 hours	55
Totals		15 hours*	175

Workshop Four Outline

Title	Due Dates	Time	Points
4.1 Discussion: Discussing Ezekiel	Initial post due by the end of the fourth day of the workshop; two responses due by the end of the workshop.	2:30 hours	30
4.2 Discussion: Discussing the Rhetoric of the Prophets	Initial post due by the end of the fourth day of the workshop; two responses due by the end of the workshop.	2:30 hours	30
4.3 Assignment: Understanding the Temple's Role in Ezekiel	Due by the end of the workshop.	5 hours	60
4.4 Assignment: "So that you may know..."	Due by the end of the workshop.	5 hours	60
Totals		15 hours*	180

Workshop Five Outline

Title	Due Dates	Time	Points
5.1 Discussion: Discussing Daniel	Initial post due by the end of the fourth day of the workshop; two responses due by the end of the workshop.	2:30 hours	30
5.2 Discussion: Discussing Apocalyptic	Initial post due by the end of the fourth day of the workshop; two responses due by the end of the workshop.	2:30 hours	30
5.3 Assignment: A Survey of Daniel	Due by the end of the workshop.	10 hours	65
5.4 Discussion: Linguistic Issues of Isaiah 7:14	Due by the end of the workshop.	1:30 hours	30
5.5 Exercise: Research	Due by the end of the workshop.	--	--
Totals		16:30 hours*	155

Workshop Six Outline

Title	Due Dates	Time	Points
6.1 Discussion: Old Testament Prophets in the New Testament	Initial post due by the end of the fourth day of the workshop; two responses due by the end of the workshop.	2:30 hours	30
6.2 Discussion: Synthesizing Perceptions of God	Initial post due by the end of the fourth day of the workshop; two responses due by the end of the workshop.	2:30 hours	30

6.3 Assignment: Isaiah 7:14	Due by the end of the workshop.	10 hours	110
6.4 End of Course Survey	Due by the end of the workshop.	30 minutes	10 extra credit
Totals		15:30 hours*	175

Course Assignments

TOTALS	90 hours*	1000
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* These timings are based on estimations of average times to complete each assignment. Actual assignment completion times will vary.

Course Development Resources

Bauer, David R., and Robert A. Traina. *Inductive Bible Study: A Comprehensive Guide to the Practice of Hermeneutics*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2011.

Blenkinsopp, Joseph. *A History of Prophecy in Israel*. Rev. and ed. Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 1996.

Boda, Mark J. and J. Gordon McConville, *Dictionary of the Old Testament: Prophets*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2012.

Childs, Brevard. "The Canonical Shape of the Prophetic Literature." *Interpretation* 32 (1978): 46-55.

Chisholm Jr., Robert B. *Handbook on the Prophets*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2002.

Hess, Richard. *Israelite Religions: An Archeological and Biblical Survey*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2007.

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

Malamat, Abraham. "Prophecy at Mari." Pages 50-73 in *The Place is Too Small for Us: The Israelite Prophets in Recent Scholarship*. Edited by Robert P. Gordon. Source for Biblical and Theological Study 5. Winona Lake, IN: Eisenbrauns, 1995.

Miller, J. Maxwell, and John H. Hayes. *A History of Ancient Israel and Judah*. 2d ed. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2006.

Weinfeld, Moshe. "Ancient Near Eastern Patterns in Prophetic Literature." *Vetus Testamentum* 27 (1977): 178-95.

Expectations, Policies, and Important Student Information

School/Division	Link
DeVoe School of Business Division of Liberal Arts School of Services and Leadership	View School/Division Expectations, Policies, and Student Information
School of Educational Leadership	View School/Division Expectations, Policies, and Student Information
Wesley Seminary @ IWU	View School/Division Expectations, Policies, and Student Information
Nursing - Undergraduate	View School/Division Expectations, Policies, and Student Information
Nursing - Graduate	View School/Division Expectations, Policies, and Student Information