421 Bible IV:
Prophets, Psalms & Wisdom Literature
(Latter Prophets and Writings)

COURSE OF STUDY SCHOOL
Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary
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This course examines select texts (with their contexts) from the Latter Prophets and the Writings.

Course Objectives
• Recognize the diversity of theological witnesses in this part of the Hebrew Bible, including how genre (form and content, historical setting and function) suggests intent.
• Continue exegetical practice, exploring the meaning of biblical texts for their likely authors in their respective social and historical contexts.
• Continue hermeneutical practice, exploring the range of possible meanings that biblical texts might support for particular populations, in diverse social contexts, in today's world.

A. Books

NOTE: Students should also expect to use whatever introductory Old Testament text had been assigned to them in 221 "Hebrew Bible 1" (currently Michael Coogan's The Old Testament: A Historical & Literary Introduction; formerly Bernhard Anderson's Introducing the Old Testament).

G. Brooke Lester, 2015
B. Writing and formatting your homework

Be sure to have accomplish plagiarism tutorial before beginning written work. When citing material, use in-text parenthetical citations rather than footnotes. Quotations should never be more than a sentence or two long: state the source's ideas and information in your own words, citing appropriately. When citing texts assigned for the course, you may abbreviate the titles by using the first letter of each word in the title. For example, if the source is Brueggemann's Spirituality of the Psalms, then (SP, 34-35). If you refer to books that are not listed on the class reading list, then you must give full bibliographic information.

Answer the assigned prompts completely in your own words, using complete sentences (unless otherwise noted). Do not quote extensively from the texts you read, or from the Bible. Digest the ideas and information, and then put them in your own words, citing frequently and appropriately.

Know how to use the "word count" feature in your word processor or text editor. Assignments will be expressed in "word count" rather than "number of pages." For example, "500 words" rather than "2 pages."

In written work, include a "header" with your name, the course number, and the name of the unit (for example, "Brooke Lester, E421, Latter Prophets: Hosea 2"). Be sure to use the "header" feature in your word processor to accomplish this. (If typing on a manual typewriter, simply include the header at the top of each page.)

Make a photocopy of your written work and bring it with you for your own use during the school.

Course of Study policies regarding late work apply to this course.

C. Assignments

Full details will be available on the course Web site. There are five (5) units, each organized around a biblical text (Hosea 2; Isaiah 53:13-53:12; Psalm 44; Job 9, 19; Daniel 7-8). A typical unit includes the following cycle of assignments:

* A 15-minute free-writing assignment, responding to the biblical text;
* Reading scholarship and viewing a lecture;
* A second 15-minute free-writing assignment;
* "A Thousand Words" identifying and engaging "critical issues" concerning the biblical text and its academic study (this is the written material submitted to the Course of Study office);
* A discussion-forum post, alerting future students to the promises and perils of that unit’s material.
D. Grading System Grading Standards:
A= exceeds expectation for Course of Study,
B= expected quality for COS,
C= passing work but not of expected quality,
D= unacceptable quality,
F = fail.

Your grade will be determined by the quality, clarity and thoughtfulness of your pre-class written assignments, your in-class assignments, and your participation in discussion. The grading breakdown is:

60% Pre-residence activity, including written work, discussion forums, etc.
40% In-residence activity.