

BT707 Advanced OT Synthesis II: Prophets

Course: BT707 Advanced OT Synthesis II: Prophets
Credits: Three Credits
Semester: Spring 2026 Session 1
Dates: January 13 – March 7, 2026
Time: Tuesdays 6:00–9:00 pm Central Time
Place: Microsoft Teams
Professor: Dr. Kyle Dunham
Email: kyle.dunham@calvary.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course examines the historical backgrounds, arguments, biblical theology, and interpretive issues in the Prophets section of the Hebrew Bible. Students will study the history of Israel in its Ancient Near Eastern context and see how God blessed and judged the nation of Israel based on their obedience or disobedience to the Mosaic covenant. Students will study the Messianic prophecies in these books and do exegetical studies in the Hebrew text of these Old Testament books.

This is a blended class, meaning that both campus and online students take this class together. Campus students attend the classes in person, online students attend the classes via the online classroom. All interaction and assignments for campus and online students are done in the online classroom.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The student who successfully completes this course should . . .

1. Gain proficiency in biblical Hebrew and develop exegetical skills in reading and studying the Hebrew text of the Prophets section of the Hebrew Bible (PLO 1; A 5, 6, 7)
2. Delineate the literary structures, major themes, and theology of the OT books in the Prophets section of the Hebrew Bible (PLO 2; A 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7)
3. Explain the meaning and significance of the biblical covenants for Israel (Abrahamic, Mosaic, Davidic and New covenants) in the Prophets section of the Hebrew Bible (PLO 1, 2, 4; A 5, 6, 7)

4. Develop an understanding of the messianic and eschatological teaching in the Old Testament Prophetic Books (PLO 1, 2, 3, 4; A 3, 6, 7)

5. Apply teachings from the Old Testament Prophetic Books to life and ministry (PLO 3 A 7)

COURSE TEXTBOOKS

The Bible is a required textbook in every course at Calvary University. To facilitate academic level study, students are required to use for assignments and research an English translation or version of the Bible based on formal equivalence (*meaning that the translation is generally word-for-word from the original languages*), including any of the following: New American Standard (NASB, English Standard Version (ESV), New King James (NKJV), or King James (KJV). Other translations and versions based on dynamic equivalence (*paraphrases, and thought-for-thought translations like NLT and NIV*) may be used as supplemental sources. Please ask the professor if you have questions about a particular translation or version.

Dorsey, David. *The Literary Structure of the Old Testament: A Commentary on Genesis-Malachi*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1999. ISBN: 978-0801027934 Amazon: \$35.67

Kostenberger, Andreas and Gregory Goswell. *Biblical Theology: A Canonical, Thematic and Ethical Approach*. Wheaton, Illinois: Crossway, 2023. ISBN: 978-1-4335-6969-2. Amazon: \$56.13

Rydelnik, Michael and Edwin Blum, eds. *The Moody Handbook of Messianic Prophecy: Studies and Expositions of the Messiah in the Old Testament*. Chicago, IL: Moody Publishers, 2019. ISBN: 978-0-8024-0963-8; Amazon: \$29.71

REQUIRED: ORIGINAL LANGUAGE BIBLE STUDY SOFTWARE (Accordance or Logos)

Students are required to have digital resources to engage Biblical study in the original languages, including but not limited to *Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia (BHS)*, *Nestle Aland 28 (NA28)* – both including critical apparatus; *Septuaginta (LXX)*, a *Greek Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature (BDAG)* by Bauer, Danker, Arndt, and Gingrich; *Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament (HALOT)* by Koehler and Baumgartner.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

Assignment 1 – Read Dorsey, *The Literary Structure of the Old Testament* (pages 7-102). Judges (p.105-120), Samuel (p.129-136), Kings (p.137-144), Isaiah (p.217-235), Jeremiah (p.236-245), Ezekiel (p.253-258), The Twelve Minor Prophets (p.265-326). Write a biblical and theological critique of Dorsey's view of the books of the Prophets. (6-8 double spaced pages following Turabian style). Do you agree or disagree with his structural analysis approach to these books? Why or why not? Post your book review in Assignment 1 in Canvas **(100 points)**

Assignment 2 – Read chapter 4 – The Prophets in *Biblical Theology* (pages 159-276) and type a summary/critique of the Prophets section of this book. The book review should be 6-8 pages (double spaced) and should follow Turabian style format. Post your book review in Assignment 2 in Canvas **(100 points)**.

Assignment 3 – Read the Prophets section in the textbook *The Moody Handbook of Messianic Prophecy* (pages 361-436; pages 785-1114; 1153-1338) and then write a book review of 6-8 pages (double spaced and following Turabian style) and answer this question: How is the Prophets section of the Hebrew Bible a messianic work? Post your book review in Assignment 3 in Canvas **(100 points)**

Assignment 4 – Write and type a detailed exegetical outline for one of these OT Prophetic books: Isaiah, Jeremiah, or Ezekiel. The exegetical outline must include main points and sub points with chapter and verse references after each outline point **(100 points)**

Assignment 5 – Read the Hebrew text and write an exegetical commentary on one of the following chapters in the Hebrew Bible: 2 Samuel 7; Isaiah 6, Isaiah 53, Jeremiah 31, Zechariah 14, Malachi 3. The commentary must explain the meaning of the verses in context in the chapter with insights on key Hebrew words and the syntax of the Hebrew text **(200 points)**

Assignment 6 – Teach a Hebrew OT text from the Torah using Powerpoint. Each PhD student will teach on a Hebrew text from the Torah selected by the professor. The presentation must use Powerpoint and last about 30 minutes. Ten minutes will then be given for question and answer. Post your Powerpoint slides as a PDF file in Assignment 5 in Canvas **(100 points)**

Assignment 7 – Write a Hebrew OT Exegesis Paper (25-30 double spaced pages following Turabian style) on a text from the Torah in the Hebrew Bible selected by the student and approved by the professor. The exegesis paper must include the Hebrew text, your translation, context, an exegetical commentary on the verses, biblical theology and applications to life. The Hebrew OT exegesis paper should also include a bibliography of sources consulted. The Ph.D. student will present the results of their research in a Powerpoint presentation in the last class. Post your paper as a PDF file in Assignment 6 in Canvas **(300 points)**

POINTS AND FINAL GRADE

960-1000 points	A
940-959 points	A-
920-939 points	B+
880-919 points	B
860-879 points	B-
0-859 points	F

SCHEDULE

Week 1	Introduction to the Prophets Section of the Hebrew Bible
Week 2	Joshua and Judges (Hebrew text: Joshua 1:1-9)
Week 3	1 and 2 Samuel (Hebrew text: 2 Samuel 7:8-17)
Week 4	1 and 2 Kings (Hebrew text:
Week 5	Isaiah (Hebrew text: Isaiah 53)
Week 6	Jeremiah and Ezekiel (Hebrew text: Jeremiah 31:31-40)
Week 7	The Twelve – Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi (Hebrew text: Zechariah 14:1-9)
Week 8	Ph.D. Student Research Paper Presentations

HELP FOR STUDENTS

Students with disabilities have the responsibility of informing the Accommodations Support Coordinator (aso@calvary.edu) of any disabling condition that may require support.

The Clark Academic Center (learning@calvary.edu) is dedicated to providing free academic assistance for Calvary University students. Student tutors aid with all facets of the writing process, tutor in various subject areas, prepare students for exams and facilitate tests. Please take advantage of this service.

EXPECTATIONS OF ALL STUDENTS

Attend class in Microsoft Teams. Each PhD student is expected to be at every class on time. Make class attendance a priority.

Do not plagiarize. Plagiarism is defined as copying any content without identifying the source. This also includes taking another person's or AI entity's ideas or constructs and presenting them as your own. The use of AI generated content in student work is prohibited (even if cited) as it does not represent original work created by the student and is an unreliable aggregate of ideas from other sources. Plagiarism of any kind will not be tolerated. Any assignment that includes plagiarism will receive a zero (F) grade and the student will be reported to the Ph.D. director.

Use Turabian style for all research papers. All class papers must follow the Turabian style according to *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses and Dissertations*, 8th edition and the Calvary Style Guide, 2019 edition.

SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Arnold, Bill T. and H. G. M. Williamson, eds. *Dictionary of the Old Testament: Historical Books*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2005.
- Barker, Joel. *Joel*. Zondervan Exegetical Commentary on the Old Testament. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2020.
- Block, Daniel. *Obadiah*. Second edition. Zondervan Exegetical Commentary on the Old Testament. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2017.
- Boda, Mark J. and J. Gordon McConville, eds. *Dictionary of the Old Testament: Prophets*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2012.
- Boda, Mark J and Mary Conway. *Judges*. Zondervan Exegetical Commentary on the Old Testament. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2022.
- Bullock, C. Hassell. *An Introduction to the Old Testament Prophetic Books*. Chicago: Moody Press, 1986.
- DeRouchie, Jason. *Zephaniah*. Zondervan Exegetical Commentary on the Old Testament. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2025.
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- Fruchtenbaum, Arnold. *Daniel*. Ariel's Bible Commentary. Ariel Ministries, 2023.
- Fruchtenbaum, Arnold. *Isaiah*. Ariel's Bible Commentary. Ariel Ministries, 2021.
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- Gelston, Anthony. *Biblia Hebraica Quinta: The Twelve Minor Prophets*, vol. 13. Stuttgart: Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft, 2010.
- Howard Jr., David M. *An Introduction to the Old Testament Historical Books*. Chicago: Moody Publishers, 1993.
- Hoyt, JoAnna M. *Amos, Jonah and Micah*. Evangelical Exegetical Commentary. Lexham Press, 2019.
- Hwang, Jerry. *Hosea*. Zondervan Exegetical Commentary on the Old Testament. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2021.

Merrill, Eugene H. *Kingdom of Priests: A History of Old Testament Israel*. Second edition. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2008.

Schnittjer, Gary Edward. *Old Testament Use of Old Testament: A Book-by-Book Guide*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2021.

Timmer, Daniel. *Nahum*. Zondervan Exegetical Commentary on the Old Testament. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2017.

Tucker Jr., W. Dennis. *Malachi*. Zondervan Exegetical Commentary on the Old Testament Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2024.

Turner, Kenneth. *Habakkuk*. Zondervan Exegetical Commentary on the Old Testament. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2023.

Youngblood, Kevin. *Jonah*. Second edition. Zondervan Exegetical Commentary on the Old Testament. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2019.