

Syllabus For
GBIB 608—Eighth Century Prophets
3.0 Credit Hours
Spring 2001

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

A study of the prophetic literature of the eighth century against its historical background. Includes a comparison of the prophets, noting similarities and differences in approach, content, purpose, and style.

Prerequisites or Co requisites: None

II. COURSE GOALS

The purpose of this course is to enable the student to:

- A. Examine the social, political, and cultural factors which influence the message of the Eighth Century Prophets (Amos, Hosea, Isaiah, and Micah).
- B. Compare the message and central themes of each of the prophets.
- C. Examine some of the major theological concepts prevalent in the eighth century (salvation, righteousness, justice, mercy, judgement, holiness, faith, Messiah, Remnant, and Day of the Lord.)
- D. Examine the literary styles and motifs of the prophets.

III. COURSE OBJECTIVES

As a result of successfully completing this course the student will be able to do the following:

- A. Discuss the critical problems of date, authorship and composition of each of the books.
- B. Present the major themes of each prophet, such as the Remnant, destruction and rebirth.
- C. Discuss key theological concepts in each of the books, such as justice, mercy, judgment, faith, and salvation.
- D. Discuss the political situation in Israel and Judah and in the world at large.
- E. Present the Messianic and Servant passages of Isaiah.
- F. Discuss the attitude of Yahweh toward foreign nations.
- G. Outline the literary styles of the prophets.

IV. TEXTBOOKS

Required Textbooks

Vangemeren, Willem. Interpreting the Prophetic Word. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1990.

King, Philip J. Amos, Hosea, Micah—An Archaeological Commentary. Westminster Press, 1988.

V. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

A. University Policies and Procedures

1. Attendance at each class or laboratory is mandatory at Oral Roberts University.
2. Double cuts will be assessed for absences immediately preceding or following holidays.
3. Excessive absences can reduce a student's grade or deny credit for the course.
4. Students taking a late exam because of an unauthorized absence will be charged a late exam fee.
5. Students and faculty at Oral Roberts University adhere to all laws addressing the ethical use of others' materials, whether it is in the form of print, video, multimedia, or computer software.
6. Final exams cannot be given before their scheduled times. Students need to check the final exam schedule before planning return flights or other events at the end of the semester.

B. School of Theology Policies and Procedures

1. **Completion of assignments**

Assignments are due on the dates established in the course calendar, which is published in the syllabus. **Any assignments turned in after the scheduled due date are penalized five percent (5%) of the original value per day including weekends, breaks, and holidays.** All work turned in two weeks after the assignment deadline will be received but will be granted a grade of zero for that assignment. **No work** is accepted after the final date of regular classes.

2. **Incompletes**

- a. An incomplete is given only after the student establishes with the academic committee by written petition that student's work is incomplete for good cause (i.e., lengthy illness, death in the family). **Incompletes are rarely granted.** Only those absences that are incurred within the time period of the extenuating circumstances prompting an incomplete are excused. The student is still accountable for any other absences and will be penalized for them according to the attendance policy.
- b. A Petition for Incomplete Grade with all supporting documentation must be submitted for approval one week prior to the end of normal classes. **The submitting of a petition does not automatically ensure the granting of an incomplete.** The petition must be approved by the academic committee of the School of Theology and Missions. Students are expected to continue all course work until an incomplete is granted.

3. **Examinations**

- a. Early examinations **are not** allowed. Late examinations without grade penalty are administered only when extenuating circumstances are present (such as a death in the family the week before exams or a sudden and major illness the week of exams that is documented by a physician).
- b. A Petition for Late Examination must be submitted to the academic dean's office. A **\$10 fee**, plus proper documentation, must accompany the petition. The academic committee reviews each petition and grade penalties are assessed. (Late exam fee is not a grade penalty).
- c. Students taking late exams should expect alternate versions of the original exams.
- d. **Not being present for the final examination automatically results in failure of the course.**

4. Attendance

The Official Attendance Policy for the School of Theology and Missions is as follows:

- a. If the class meets three times a week, the missing of **6** class sessions results in a grade reduction of **one letter** grade. Missing **8** class sessions results in a grade reduction of **two letter** grades. Missing **12** class sessions will automatically results in a **grade of F**. If a class meets twice a week, the missing of **4** class sessions results in a grade reduction of **one letter** grade. Missing **6** class sessions results in a grade reduction of **two letter** grades. Missing **8** class sessions automatically results in a **grade of F**. If the class meets once a week, then the missing of **3** class sessions results in a grade reduction of **one letter** grade. Missing **4** class sessions results in a grade reduction of **two letter** grades. Missing **5** class sessions automatically results in a **grade of F**.
- b. **The absences allowed prior to a grade reduction are designed to allow for emergencies and illnesses and are not designed for indiscriminate use.**
- c. Administrative excuses are granted only when a student is on official University business and has received approval in advance from the University administration.
- d. Students are expected to be prompt for classes.
- e. Students are expected to remain for the entire class session.
- f. Leaving early without permission constitutes an absence.

C. Course Policies and Procedures

1. Evaluation Procedures
The final grade is given on the basis of the percentage of the total points possible: 90+=A; 80+=B; 70+=C. There will be a midterm exam (30%) and a final exam (30%). There will be two (2) short critical papers (20% each) on specified subjects in the prophets. Class participation will also be taken into consideration.
2. Other Policies and Procedures
 - a. Students and faculty at Oral Roberts University adhere to all laws addressing the ethical use of others' materials, whether it be in the form of print, video, multimedia, or computer software.
 - b. The class will be conducted on a seminar basis. This means that each student will be expected to contribute to the class. The papers are designed to assist the student in coming to grips with the subject of the Eighth Century Prophets, and it is assumed that research done for the paper will also be applicable to the classroom work.
 - c. The reading of the Biblical material is a MUST.

V. CLASS SCHEDULE

<u>Week</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Assignment: Due Dates</u>
1	Meaning of Prophecy	Vangemeran, 18-40; King, 8-161
2	Historical Background	Vangemeran, 41-69
3	Perspective on Prophecy	Vangemeran, 70-99; 400-411
4	Amos: Structure, message, major themes	Vangemeran, 127-137; King, 21-25

5	Hosea: Structure, message, major themes	Vangemeren, 105-120; King, 25-27
6	Micah: Structure, message, major themes	Vangemeren, 150-160; King, 27-28 First paper due
7	MIDTERM EXAM	
8	Isaiah: Authorship and structure	Vangemeren, 247-254; end of 8 th week
9	Isaiah: Message outline and call (6-8)	Vangemeren, 254-289
10	Isaiah: Prophecies regarding foreign nations (13-23)	
11	Isaiah: Prophetic assurances	
12	Isaiah: The servant (49-55); New Zion (60-66)	End of 12 th week 2 nd paper due
13	Summary of Prophetic Motifs	Vangemeren, 212-244
14	Living the Prophetic Word	Vangemeren, 254-390
	FINAL EXAM	

VII. ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

ORAL ROBERTS UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY AND MISSIONS

GBIB 608
Course #

Eighth Century Prophets
Title of Course

Robin Gallahen Branch
Instructor

MISSION

The lifestyle at ORU is rooted in the word “Wholeness.” ORU seeks to educate the whole person, with balanced emphasis placed on the development of the mind, spirit, and body.

GENERAL OUTCOMES

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Spiritual Development | 6. Valuing in Decision-making |
| 2. Physical Development | 7. Social Interaction |
| 3. Communication | 8. Global Perspectives |
| 4. Analysis | 9. Effective Citizenship |
| 5. Problem | 10. Aesthetic Responsiveness |

MAJOR OUTCOMES

Spiritual formation/leadership:

Demonstrates Spirit-filled, biblically-theologically competent and historically informed church leadership.

Critical thinking/analysis/problem solving:

Understands and applies biblical/theological principles in the practice of ministry.

Communication/social interaction/global perspective:

Demonstrates the ability to communicate the Gospel in diverse social/cultural texts.

Value/ethics/decision-making:

Integrates Judeo-Christian values and ethics in personal life and ministry.

COURSE OUTCOMES

A working knowledge of the major themes of the individual eight century prophets.

ASSESSMENT OF COURSE OUTCOMES

Stimuli:

Each paper requires 7-10 sources. Cite every thing that is not common knowledge. Each paper is 5-7 pages long. Format will be described in class. Each paper is due at the beginning of class. Late paper will be docked.

Criteria:

Paper 1	25%
Paper 2	25%
Midterm	25%
Final Exam	25%