

Course Syllabus

**OLD TESTAMENT POETS 6OT5300**

Instructor: Peter Y. Lee  
Professor of Old Testament

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Professor reserves the right to adjust course requirements as the class approaches

- **COURSE DESCRIPTION:** An examination of the literary structure, themes, and history of the Psalms and wisdom literature of the Old Testament.
- **COURSE OBJECTIVES:**
  - Comprehension:
    1. To increase your knowledge of the English Bible in the Old Testament poetical books.
    2. To increase your knowledge of introductory issues in Old Testament poetical books.
    3. To increase your knowledge of the development of redemptive themes in the Old Testament poetical books.
  - Competence:
    1. To sharpen your ability to interpret the Old Testament poets in their historical, theological, and literary contexts.
    2. To sharpen your ability to apply the teaching of the Old Testament poets in your own life and in the life of the local church.
    3. To prepare those who are called to the ministry for licensure and ordination exams at their local presbyteries.
  - Character:
    1. To be a person of growing faith.
    2. To be a person of increasing hope.
    3. To be a person of deepening love.
- **REQUIRED READINGS.** There are approximately 900 pages of required reading (with the exception of the Scriptural books). Students are encouraged to do the readings before the start of class *in the order provided below*. For the Biblical books of the Old Testament poets, students are free to use any English translation of their choice.
  - ✓ Mark D. Futato. *Interpreting the Psalms: An Exegetical Handbook*. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2007.
  - ✓ Richard P. Belcher, Jr. *The Messiah and the Psalms*. Mentor: Christian Focus, 2006.
  - ✓ Tremper Longman. *How to Read Proverbs*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 2002.
  - ✓ Derek Kidner. *The Wisdom of Proverbs, Job and Ecclesiastes*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 1985.
  - ✓ Miles V. Van Pelt, editor. *A Biblical-Theological Introduction to the Old Testament: Gospel Promised*. Wheaton: Crossway, 2016.
  - ✓ Collection of additional essays and articles will be provided on the first day of class.
- **REQUIREMENTS:**
  - **Attendance:** You are required to attend each class. If you know you cannot make it to a class session, notify me in advance.

- **Reading Report:** This will be discussed on the first day of class.
- **Term Paper:** This will be discussed on the first day of class.
- **Song Project and Discussion:** There will be one assignment that students need to prepare for class ahead of time.
- **Exam:** There will be a FINAL EXAM. The exam will cover materials from the class lectures and required readings. The Final Exam will be taken on the last day of class.
- *Due Dates of Assignments:* Dates will be discussed on the first day of class

*The following scale will be used to determine your final grade: A (97-100), A- (94-96), B+ (91-93), B (88-90), B- (86-87), C+ (83-85), C (80-82), C- (78-79), D+ (75-77), D (72-74), D- (70-71), F (below 70).*

- **OFFICE HOURS:**

- I meet with students by appointment. Contact me if you would need to meet. I'd love to get together with you to discuss Scripture, theology, ministry, and life.

### Course Objectives Related to MDiv\* Student Learning Outcomes

Course: OT Poets  
 Professor: Peter Y. Lee  
 Campus: Washington, D. C.  
 Date: April 8, 2019

<b>MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes</b> <i>In order to measure the success of the MDiv curriculum, RTS has defined the following as the intended outcomes of the student learning process. Each course contributes to these overall outcomes. This rubric shows the contribution of this course to the MDiv outcomes.</i> <i>*As the MDiv is the core degree at RTS, the MDiv rubric will be used in this syllabus.</i>		<b>Rubric</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strong</li> <li>• Moderate</li> <li>• Minimal</li> <li>• None</li> </ul>	<b>Mini-Justification</b>
<b>Articulation (oral &amp; written)</b>	Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both oral and written, of essential biblical, theological, historical, and cultural/global information, including details, concepts, and frameworks. Also includes ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.	Strong	Understanding through lectures and reading, articulation through essay exams and a research paper
<b>Scripture</b>	Significant knowledge of the original meaning of Scripture. Also, the concepts for and skill to research further into the original meaning of Scripture and to apply Scripture to a variety of modern circumstances. (Includes appropriate use of original languages and hermeneutics; and integrates theological, historical, and cultural/global perspectives.)	Strong	Focus in the class is on understanding the original meaning, with some emphasis on language and more on hermeneutics, with the goal of understanding modern meaning
<b>Reformed Theology</b>	Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.	Moderate	The class has a good dose of Reformed distinctives, such as the emphasis on creation, fall, redemption, covenants, and kingship.
<b>Sanctification</b>	Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student's sanctification.	Strong	One conscious goal is to see students benefit personally in their faith from their understanding of the psalms and wisdom literature
<b>Worldview</b>	Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God. Includes ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues.	Minimal	Several issues in class deal directly with world view, especially the materials on wisdom and its use in the ancient and modern world.
<b>Winsomely Reformed</b>	Embraces a winsomely Reformed ethos. (Includes an appropriate ecumenical spirit with other Christians, especially Evangelicals; a concern to present the Gospel in a God-honoring manner to non-Christians; and a truth-in-love attitude in disagreements.)	Minimal	Differing views of issues are set forth in an objective, fair, and winsome way
<b>Pastoral Ministry</b>	Ability to minister the Word of God to hearts and lives of both church and unchurched, to include preaching, teaching, leading in worship, leading and shepherding the local congregation, aiding in spiritual maturity, concern for non-Christians.	Moderate	Psalms are useful for coping through various issues in life. Wisdom literature are practical guidelines for godly living.