

Reformed Theological Seminary Orlando

**Isaiah to Malachi OT5350**

Course Syllabus

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**This is a HYBRID COURSE that will incorporate e-learning components prior to the on-campus class dates. Course activities start the week of November 27th.** In-person class meets MONDAY-FRIDAY 1pm-5pm, January 8<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> on the RTS/Orlando campus.

**Summary: Students should think of the class as consisting in three parts.**

**Part 1: Six weeks of work required prior to in person instruction**

**Part 2: One week in person instruction (Jan 8-12)**

**Part 3: Four Weeks after in person instruction to Complete Reading, Final Paper, and Final Exam**

- **COURSE DESCRIPTION:** An expository study of the message and times of the prophets that emphasizes the themes day of the Lord, judgment, restoration, promise and fulfillment, Messiah, kingdom, and the new people of God (from course catalogue)
  1. *Attendance and Late assignments.* **Attendance and prepared participation are required.** If class is not attended, the student's final grade can be affected. Late assignments are reduced one letter grade per day.
  2. *Special Needs.* In order to ensure full class participation, any student with a disabling condition requiring special accommodations (e.g. tape recorders, special adaptive equipment) is strongly encouraged to contact the instructor at the beginning of the course. Lecture recordings are not permitted unless approved by the instructor.
  3. *Disclaimer.* This syllabus is intended to reflect accurately the learning objectives, instructional format and other information necessary for students to appraise the course. However, the instructor reserves the right to modify any portion of this syllabus as may become necessary.

- **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

- Comprehension:
  1. To increase your knowledge of the English Bible of the prophetic literature.
  2. To increase your knowledge of the form, function and message of the prophetic office.
  3. To increase your knowledge of the development of redemptive themes as they progress in the prophetic books.
- Competence
  1. To sharpen your ability to interpret the prophetic books in their historical, literary, and historical contexts.
  2. To sharpen your ability to apply the teaching of the prophetic books 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 church assemblies and examination boards.
- 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.

- **OFFICE HOURS:** I enjoy meeting with students, so I will be available as much as possible before and after classes. For personal meetings, contact me directly to set up an appointment.

- **REQUIRED READINGS**

- *Primary Reading (Due Jan 8)*
  - ☐ Isaiah – Malachi – Students should read each book prior to instruction in a translation of their choice. **N.B. Listening to the Bible does not count for this assignment**
- *Secondary Reading: (Due Feb 9)*
  - ☐ Miles V. Van Pelt, editor. *A Biblical-Theological Introduction to the Old Testament: Gospel Promised*. Wheaton: Crossway, 2016. Sections on Isaiah to The Twelve, including “Lamentations” by Peter Y. Lee, “Appendix A: The Seventy Weeks of Daniel 9” and “Appendix B: The Role of Heavenly Beings in Daniel” by Dr. Richard P. Belcher
  - ☐ Robert B. Chisholm. *Handbook on the Prophets*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2002
  - ☐ Geerhardus Vos. *Biblical Theology: Old and New Testaments*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1948. Part II

- ❑ Meredith G. Kline. *Images of the Spirit*. Self-published, 1986. Chapters 3 and 4
- ❑ D. Brent Sandy. *Plowshares and Pruning Hooks: Rethinking the Language of Biblical Prophecy and Apocalyptic*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2002.
- Collection of Articles
  - ❑ Richard Pratt, “Historical Contingencies and Biblical Predictions”
  - ❑ John J. Collins, “Introduction: Towards the Morphology of a Genre”
  - ❑ G. P. Hugenberg, “The Servant of the Lord in the ‘Servant Songs of Isaiah’”
  - ❑ Heleen Sancisi-Weerdenburg, “Darius I and the Persian Empire”
  - ❑ Huffmon, Herbert B., “The Covenant Lawsuit in the Prophets,” *JBL* 78 (1959), 285-95
  - ❑ Peter Y. Lee, “Deut 30:1-14 and the Relocation of the Apodosis” (unpublished)

- **REQUIREMENTS**

- *Attendance*. Due to the intensive format of this course, students are required to attend class lectures. If you know you cannot make it to a class session, notify the professor in advance.
- *Primary Reading*. Read all Biblical books of Isaiah to Malachi in your preferred translation. This reading constitutes **10%** of the final grade.
- *Secondary Reading*. Read all the textbooks; this reading constitutes **5%** of the final grade. See the “Reading Report” Form below.
- *Remote Lectures and Discussion Posts/Replies*. Listen to Lectures (see schedule below). In Canvas, make four posts to the discussion boards of at least 250 words. Additionally, make at least three replies to other students’ posts with at least 100 words. These posts constitute **15%** of the final grade.
- *Final paper*. Write an exegetical or theological paper (2500 words). This paper will constitute **35%** of the term grade. Students who have taken Hebrew must write an exegetical paper. Paper requirements will be discussed in person during hybrid week.
- *Final Exam*. Students will take a final exam that covers the lecture material and readings. This exam will constitute **35%** of the final grade.

- *Policy to turn in assignments:* All assignments above are to be emailed to the professor at the specified due date ([plee@rts.edu](mailto:plee@rts.edu)).
- *Due Dates of Assignments:*

✓ Primary Reading	Beginning of In-person instruction (Jan 8)
✓ Secondary Reading	Due Feb 9 (Friday)
✓ Discussion Posts/Replies	Throughout Nov-Jan
✓ Final Paper	Due Feb 9 (Friday)
✓ Final Exam	Due Feb 9 (Friday)
- **TOTAL GRADE:** The final grade for the course will be the total of each of the required assignments listed above (RTS grading scale)
  - Primary Reading: 10% of total grade
  - Secondary Reading: 5% of total grade
  - Discussion Posts/Replies 15% of total grade
  - Final Paper: 35% of total grade
  - Final Exam: 35% of total grade

The following scale will be used to determine your final grade for the course:

*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).*

## RESEARCH PAPER

Students will write one research paper from one of the options provided below. This will be turned into the instructor via email by **Feb 9, 2024**.

### ☐ **Options #1:** Hebrew Exegetical Paper.

- ✓ If you have had Biblical Hebrew, you are **required** to do this research paper assignment.
- ✓ In this paper, you need to state clearly the *thesis of the paper* and organize the paper using literary, linguistic, historical-cultural, and/or theological arguments to defend it. The bulk of your paper is to be a *verse-by-verse* exposition that shows how your passage is connected to your thesis. You are also to show the historical-redemptive themes in the passage. Minimal to no materials should focus on introductory matters (date, authorship, etc.), unless it is absolutely warranted.
- ✓ Provide your English translation of the text as the first page of your paper. Provide notes to your translation regarding textual emendations, text critical analysis, and variant readings.
- ✓ You are required to provide a bibliography as the last page of your paper and must cite at least 8 academic or scholarly references for the paper (internet sites, blogs, notes from study bibles, and sermons are not to be used).
- ✓ Passages to choose from:
  - **Isaiah 11:1-10**
  - **Zechariah 14:1-9**

### ☐ **Option #2:** Biblical Theological analysis of the theme of the “Day of the Lord” in the Prophets.

- ✓ You are required to provide a bibliography as the last page of your paper and must cite at least 8 references for the paper.

Grading Criteria: A successful paper will conform to the following standards.

- **Thesis:** The thesis is well stated without any ambiguity and reflects accurately the message/theology of the passage/theme in question. **10 points.**
- **Organization:** The paper is well organized and thoughtful in its presentation. The structure of the paper flows from the thesis and the paragraphs interconnect seamlessly where the author's development of thought can be clearly seen. **20 points.**
- **Content: 40 points (5 for each bulletin point below)**
  1. *Comprehension:* The paper shows a command of the subject matter and an academic and scholarly level of analysis that is insightful and fresh.
  2. *Argumentation:* The arguments used to defend and/or describe the thesis were persuasive.
  3. *Relevance:* The paper shows an understanding of the current issues with the theme/paper in question.
  4. *Bible:* The paper interacts with the relevant Biblical materials (in the original language) and demonstrates a thorough comprehension of the theme/passage in its grammatical-historical context (**10 points**)
  5. *Originality:* Although originality is desired, a new contribution is not always a necessary ingredient in a successful academic paper.
  6. *Resources:* The paper interacts with a variety (ancient and modern, commentaries, monographs, journal articles) of relevant and useful resources, which are used to enhance the thesis of the paper – not substitute for it.
  7. *Integrity:* There is no question about plagiarism or any other dishonest or academically questionable activity.
- **Style:** The writing style is *cogent* (logical), *clear* (easy to understand), and *concise* (stating thoughts without redundancy, or treading into irrelevant materials). **10 points.**
- **Proof-read:** There are no spelling errors or run on sentences. **10 points.**
- **Logistics:** The paper meets the minimum page requirement, minimum resources in bibliography. The pages are numbered. Formatting of the paper follows the guidelines found in either *The Chicago Manual of Style* (15th ed.; Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2003) or *The SBL Handbook of Style* (Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 1999). **10 points.**

## LECTURE/ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE

Provided below is a TENTATIVE schedule of lectures and dates for student interactions on Canvas.

### 1. BEFORE In-Person Lectures and Assignments

*Students will listen to the following recorded lectures by Dr. Dick Belcher BEFORE the In-person instruction on Jan 8-12 ([Isaiah to Malachi - Reformed Theological Seminary \(subsplash.com\)](https://subsplash.com/reformtheosem/learn-about-rtss/mi/+f7556be)). Please follow the lecture schedule. Do not forget the online interactions on Canvas.*

- **Week 1:** November 27 – December 1
  - ✓ **Listen to Lecture Divination:** <https://subsplash.com/reformtheosem/learn-about-rtss/mi/+f7556be>
  - ✓ **Listen to Lecture Proclamation:** <https://subsplash.com/reformtheosem/learn-about-rtss/mi/+ce2863f>
  - ✓ **Listen to Lecture Interpretation 1:** <https://subsplash.com/reformtheosem/learn-about-rtss/mi/+81ac53f>
  - ✓ **Listen to Lecture Interpretation 2:** <https://subsplash.com/reformtheosem/learn-about-rtss/mi/+19b1ebf>
- **Week 2:** December 4 – 8
  - ✓ **Listen to Lecture Isaiah 1-6:** <https://subsplash.com/reformtheosem/learn-about-rtss/mi/+b8f42b1>
  - ✓ **Listen to Lecture Isaiah 7-39:** <https://subsplash.com/reformtheosem/learn-about-rtss/mi/+ec72c52>
  - ✓ **Listen to Lecture Isaiah 40-66 Part 1:** <https://subsplash.com/reformtheosem/learn-about-rtss/ms/+39145a6?page=2>
  - ✓ **Listen to Lecture Isaiah 40-66 Part 2:** <https://subsplash.com/reformtheosem/learn-about-rtss/mi/+9674532>
  - ✓ **Discussion Post:**
    - Discussion Post 1: Students will post on the first discussion board in relation to Isaiah Lectures (Three Replies to Discussion Post 1 Due the Following Week)
- **Week 3:** December 11 – 15
  - ✓ **Listen to Lecture Jeremiah Part 1:** <https://subsplash.com/reformtheosem/learn-about-rtss/mi/+f63e0f7>
  - ✓ **Listen to Lecture Jeremiah Part 2:** <https://subsplash.com/reformtheosem/learn-about-rtss/mi/+0ca9f0d>

- ✓ **Listen to Lecture Jeremiah Part 3:**  
<https://subsplash.com/reformtheosem/learn-about-rts/mi/+3d2a660>
- ✓ **Discussion Posts:**
  - Three Replies to Discussion Post 1
  - Discussion Post 2: Students will post on the first discussion board in relation to Jeremiah Lectures (Three Replies to Discussion Post 2 Due the Following Week)
- **Week 4: December 18 – 22**
  - ✓ **Listen to Lecture Ezekiel 1-32 Part 1:**  
<https://subsplash.com/reformtheosem/learn-about-rts/mi/+bb19c71>
  - ✓ **Listen to Lecture Ezekiel 1-32 Part 2:**  
<https://subsplash.com/reformtheosem/learn-about-rts/mi/+0c99453>
  - ✓ **Listen to Lecture Ezekiel 33-48:** <https://subsplash.com/reformtheosem/learn-about-rts/mi/+e62538f>
  - ✓ **Discussion Posts:**
    - Three Replies to Discussion Post 2
    - Discussion Post 3: Students will post on the first discussion board in relation to Ezekiel Lectures (Three Replies to Discussion Post 3 Due the Following Week)
- **Week 5: December 25 – 29**
  - ✓ **Listen to Lecture Amos:** [Amos - Reformed Theological Seminary \(subsplash.com\)](#)
  - ✓ **Listen to Lecture Jonah:** [Jonah - Reformed Theological Seminary \(subsplash.com\)](#)
  - ✓ **Listen to Lecture Zephaniah:** [Zephaniah - Reformed Theological Seminary \(subsplash.com\)](#)
  - ✓ **Listen to Lecture Nahum:** [Nahum - Reformed Theological Seminary \(subsplash.com\)](#)
  - ✓ **Listen to Lecture Obadiah:** [Obadiah - Reformed Theological Seminary \(subsplash.com\)](#)
  - ✓ **Listen to Lecture Joel Part 1:** [Joel - Part 1 - Reformed Theological Seminary \(subsplash.com\)](#)
  - ✓ **Listen to Lecture Joel Part 2:** [Joel - Part 2 - Reformed Theological Seminary \(subsplash.com\)](#)
  - ✓ **Listen to Lecture Haggai:** [Haggai - Reformed Theological Seminary \(subsplash.com\)](#)
  - ✓ **Listen to Lecture Zechariah Part 1:** [Zechariah - Part 1 - Reformed Theological Seminary \(subsplash.com\)](#)
  - ✓ **Listen to Lecture Zechariah Part 2:** [Zechariah - Part 2 - Reformed Theological Seminary \(subsplash.com\)](#)
  - ✓ **Listen to Lecture Malachi:** [Malachi - Reformed Theological Seminary \(subsplash.com\)](#)



- ✓ **Discussion Posts:**
  - Three Replies to Discussion Post 3
  - Discussion Post 4: Students will post on the first discussion board in relation to Minor Prophets Lectures (Three Replies to Discussion Post 4 Due the Following Week)
- **Week 6:** January 1 – 5
  - ✓ **Complete Primary Source Reading: Give Percentage on Canvas (due January 8 @ 11:59pm EST)**
  - ✓ **Discussion Post:**
    - Three Replies to Discussion Post 4
- 2. **Hybrid Week:** January 8 – 12 – Class Meets Monday – Friday 1-5 pm – In Person Lectures will be on the Book of Hosea and Daniel
- 3. **Post Class Work:** January 15 – February 9
  - **Complete Secondary Source Reading: Give Percentage Complete on Canvas due @ 11:59pm EST on February 9<sup>th</sup>.**
  - **Final paper due @ 11:59pm EST on February 9<sup>th</sup>.**
  - **Final exam due @ 11:59pm EST on February 9<sup>th</sup>.**

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

Course: Isaiah – Malachi (02OT5350)

Professor: Dr. Peter Y. Lee

Campus: RTS Orlando

Date: Winter 2024

<b><u>MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes</u></b>		<b><u>Rubric</u></b> - Strong - Moderate - Minimal - None	<b><u>Mini-Justification</u></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.	Strong	Academic paper stresses articulation by engaging with primary sources and secondary literature.
<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	1. The prophets studied in their original contexts. 2. Interpretive strategies stressed throughout. 3. Engagement with original languages.
<b>Reformed Theology</b>	Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards	Moderate	Historic Reformed faith and theological implications of the text stressed throughout.
<b>Sanctification</b>	Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student's sanctification.	Moderate	1. The Biblical text is an ordinary means by which God communicates grace. 2. Text will be applied throughout.
<b>Desire for Worldview</b>	Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God.	Moderate	Desire to conform worldview to the biblical text
<b>Winsomely Reformed</b>	Embraces a winsomely Reformed ethos. (Includes	Strong	Academic integrity and warm piety expected

	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.)		when engaging the ideas of others.
<b>Pastoral Ministry</b>	Ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.	Moderate	The course attempts to give the student knowledge of the biblical text and to prepare the student to engage secondary literature with discernment.