

ASSIGNMENT-SYLLABUS for

Course # OT715 **Title:** Poetic Books

FAITH THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Program: B.Th., M.Div.

Professor's name: Rev. Lamont T. Conyers

Professor's e-mail: lconyers@live.com

Semester (Spring or Fall), year: Spring 2013

Dates of semester: February 8th to May 10th

Day & times of class: Friday 6:30 - 9:15 PM



TRACS Standards: "Individual courses, seminars, within graduate programs must evidence a process for the evaluation of stated objectives and/or student outcomes and competencies through objectives which can be assessed and evaluated through student performances/learning experiences at critical periods."

I. Name and Description of the Course from the Catalog

A study of the key elements of Hebrew poetry, the argument of the book of Job, key Psalms as they relate to their literary genre, the book of Proverbs as it relates to skillful living, the message of Ecclesiastes, an interpretation of the Song of Solomon, and the book of Lamentations.

II. The General Curriculum Objectives Addressed in this Course

As part of the Faith Theological Seminary curriculum this course is designed to assist the student to achieve the following objectives of this curriculum:

- A. Understand the basic nature and expression of Hebrew poetry in its setting;
- B. Have an understanding of the basic message of Job, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon, Lamentations, and the key Psalms studied;
- C. Acquire a basic knowledge of the figures of speech employed in the poetic books;
- D. Have an understanding of the historical background for each book; and gain an appreciation of the richness of the theology and practicality contained in the Poetic Books.

II. The Specific Objectives of this Course

Specific Objectives	Related Curriculum Objectives
After successful completion of this course the student will be able to . . .	(from "II" above)
A. Understand and Interpret Poetical Literature	A
B. Know the historical setting of the Poetical Literature	B, D
C. The application and Theology of the Poetical to Life and Ministry	D

III. Demonstration of Learning

Course assignments, guidelines for completion, due date, and rubric used for assessing student learning for each assignment	Related Course Objectives (from "III")	Percent of Course Grade
1. Course Readings	A	50%
2. Mid Term Test	B	10%
3. Presentation of a Book or Teaching from the Poetical Books	C	40%

V. Information Resources and Technology Needed for this Course

- A. Information technology suggested for the student to use in this course:
1. Logos Bible, Bible Works and Scholar's Library software **(Optional)**
 2. Any resource from the John Norris Library at Faith Theological Seminary
- B. Texts and/or other learning resources required/suggested for this course:
1. *Handbook on the Wisdom Books and the Psalms* by Daniel J. Estes, Baker Books 2005 **(Required)**
 2. Class Notes and articles are in folder that can be accessed when students register for the course. **(Required)**

VI. Additional Course Policies and Procedures

- A. Class Attendance: It is expected that the student will be present on time for all classes.
1. Lateness: [FTS policy: see catalog]
 2. Absences: [FTS policy]
- B. Class participation is an essential part of the learning process
- C. All late assignments are graded "F" but must be completed within one week of the due date. Assignments not completed may result in failure of the course.
- D. Tests and Exams [this can be modified to suit professor's course]
1. Tests
 - All tests will start promptly at the beginning of class. The time allotted for completion of the test is 165 minutes.
 - All tests must be taken on the day scheduled.
 - Any test not taken will be graded as a failure - 0%.
 - Cheating on tests will not be tolerated. Cheating will result in an automatic 0% on the test, and a report will be sent to the Academic Dean.

2. Mid Term and Final Exams

- All exams will start promptly at the beginning of class. The time allotted for completion of the Exam is 165 minutes.
- Exams must be taken on the day scheduled. They cannot be made up.
- Any Exam not taken will be graded as a failure - 0%
- Cheating on exams will not be tolerated. Cheating will result in an automatic 0% on the exam, and a report will be sent to the Academic Dean.

E. Calculation of course grade is in accordance with section IV (above).

F. Please feel free to contact me personally through e-mail at: Iconyers@live.com.

VII. Additional texts and/or learning resources for the student's further reference:

Alden, Robert L. Job. New American Commentary. Nashville: Broadman, 1993.

_____. Proverbs: A Commentary on an Ancient Book of Timeless Advice. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1983.

_____. Psalms. 3 vols. Everyman's Bible Commentary. Chicago: Moody Press, 1974–76.

Allen, Leslie C. Psalms 101–150. Word Biblical Commentary. Waco, TX: Word, 1983.

Alter, Robert. The Art of Biblical Poetry. New York: Basic Books, 1985.

_____. "Psalms." In The Literary Guide to the Bible. Edited by Robert Alter and Frank Kermode. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1987.

Andersen, Francis I. Job: An Introduction and Commentary. Tyndale Old Testament Commentaries. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1976.

Anderson, A. A. The Books of Psalms. Reprint ed. 2 vols. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1980.

Anderson, Bernhard W. Out of the Depths: The Psalms Speak for Us Today. Revised and expanded edition. Philadelphia: Westminster, 1983.

Anderson, R. Dean, Jr. "The Division and Order of the Psalms." Westminster Theological Journal 56 (Fall 1994): 219–41.

Archer, Gleason L., Jr. A Survey of Old Testament Introduction. Rev. ed. Chicago: Moody Press, 1974.

Barentsen, Jack. "Restoration and Its Blessing: A Theological Analysis of Psalms 51 and 32." Grace Theological Journal 5 (Fall 1984): 247–69.

Barker, Kenneth L. "Praise." In Cracking Old Testament Codes. Edited by D. Brent Sandy and Ronald

L. Giese, Jr. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 1995.

Barton, George Aaron. *The Book of Ecclesiastes. The International Critical Commentary.* Edited by S. R. Driver et al. Edinburgh: T. and T. Clark, 1908.

Beckwith, Roger T. "The Early History of the Psalter." *Tyndale Bulletin* 46 (May 1995): 1–29.

Berlin, Adele. *The Dynamics of Biblical Parallelism.* Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1985.

Berry, Donald K. *An Introduction to Wisdom and Poetry of the Old Testament.* Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 1995.

Bratcher, Robert G. and William D. Reyrburn. *A Translator's Handbook on the Book of Psalms. Helps for Translators.* New York: United Bible Societies, 1991.

Briggs, Charles Augustes and Emilie Grace. *The Book of Psalms. 2 vols. The International Critical Commentary.* Edited by S. R. Driver et al. Edinburgh: T. and T. Clark, 1906.

Bullinger, E. W. *Figures of Speech Used in the Bible.* Reprint ed. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1968.

Bullock, C. Hassell. *Encountering the Book of Psalms: A Literary and Theological Introduction.* Grand Rapids: Baker, 2001.

_____. *An Introduction to the Old Testament Poetic Books: The Wisdom and Songs of Israel.* Rev. Ed. Chicago: Moody Press, 1988.

_____. *An Introduction to the Old Testament Prophetic Books.* Chicago: Moody Press, 1986.

Buzzell, Sid S. "Proverbs." In *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: Old Testament.* Edited by John F. Walvoord and Roy B. Zuck. Wheaton, IL: SP Publication, Victor Books, 1985.

Caneday, Ardel B. "Qoheleth: Enigmatic Pessimist or Godly Sage?" *Grace Theological Journal* 7 (Spring 1986): 21–56.

Carr, G. Lloyd. *The Song of Solomon: An Introduction and Commentary.* Tyndale Old Testament Commentaries. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1984.

_____. "Song of Songs." In *A Complete Literary Guide to the Bible.* Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1993.

Chisholm, Robert B., Jr. "A Theology of Jeremiah and Lamentations." In *A Biblical Theology of the Old Testament.* Edited by Roy B. Zuck, Eugene H. Merrill, and Darrell L. Bock. Chicago: Moody Press, 1991.

_____. "A Theology of the Psalms." In *A Biblical Theology of the Old Testament.* Edited by Roy B. Zuck, Eugene H. Merrill, and Darrell L. Bock. Chicago: Moody Press, 1991.

Clines, David J. A. *Job 1–20. Word Biblical Commentary.* Waco, TX: Word, 1989.

_____. Job 21–37. Word Biblical Commentary. Waco, TX: Word, 2007.

Craigie, Peter C. Psalms 1–50. Word Biblical Commentary. Waco, TX: Word, 1983.

Dahood, Mitchell. Psalms. 3 vols. Anchor Bible. Garden City, NY: Doubleday, 1965–70.

Day, John N. “The Imprecatory Psalms and Christian Ethics.” *Bibliotheca Sacra* 159 (April–June 2002): 166–86.

_____. Psalms. Old Testament Guides. Sheffield, England: Sheffield Academic Press, 1992.

Dearman, J. Andrew. Jeremiah, Lamentations. NIV Application Commentary. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2002.

Deere, Jack S. “The Meaning of the Song of Songs: An Historical and Exegetical Inquiry.” Th.D. dissertation, Dallas Theological Seminary, 1984.

_____. “Songs of Songs.” In *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: Old Testament*. Edited by John F. Walvoord and Roy B. Zuck. Wheaton, IL: SP Publications, Victor Books, 1985.

Delitzsch, F. Job. 2 vols. in 1. Translated by Francis Bolton. In *Commentary on the Old Testament*, vol. 4. Reprint ed. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1973.

_____. Psalms. 3 vols. in 1. Translated by Francis Bolton. In *Commentary on the Old Testament*, vol. 5. Reprint ed. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1973.

_____. Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon. 3 vols. in 1. Translated by M. G. Easton. In *Commentary on the Old Testament*, vol. 6. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1973.

Dhorme, Edouard. *A Commentary on the Book of Job*. Reprint ed. Nashville: Nelson, 1984.

Dorsey, David A. *The Literary Structure of the Old Testament: A Commentary on Genesis–Malachi*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1999.

Dyer, Charles H. “Lamentations.” In *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: Old Testament*. Edited by John F. Walvoord and Roy B. Zuck. Wheaton, IL: SP Publications, Victor Books, 1985.

Eaton, J. H. *Kingship and the Psalms*. *Studies in Biblical Theology*, second series, 32. Naperville, IL: Alec R. Allenson, 1970.

Eaton, Michael A. *Ecclesiastes: An Introduction and Commentary*. Tyndale Old Testament Commentaries. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1983.

Eissfeldt, Otto. *The Old Testament: An Introduction*. Translated by Peter R. Ackroyd. New York: Harper and Row, 1965.

Ellis, E. Earle. *Paul’s Use of the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1957.

Ellison, H. L. "Lamentations." In vol. 6 of *The Expositor's Bible Commentary*. Edited by Frank E. Gaebelein. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1986.

Estes, Daniel J. *Handbook on the Wisdom Books and Psalms*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2005.

Falk, Marcia. *Love Lyrics from the Bible: A Translation and Literary Study of the Song of Songs*. Sheffield, England: Almond Press, 1982.

Fee, Gordon D. and Douglas Stuart. *How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth: A Guide to Understanding the Bible*. 2nd. ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1993.

Fields, Weston W. "Ecclesiastes: Koheleth's Quest for Life's Meaning." Unpublished Th.M. thesis, Grace Theological Seminary, 1975.

_____. "Solomon's Most Excellent Song: A Linguistic, Hermeneutical, Historical and Philological Disquisition on the Hebrew Love Poetry of the Song of Solomon." Unpublished Th.D. dissertation, Grace Theological Seminary, 1979.

France, R. T. *Jesus and the Old Testament: His Application of Old Testament Passages to Himself and His Mission*. Reprint of 1971 Tyndale House ed.; Grand Rapids: Baker, 1982.

Fredericks, Daniel C. *Coping with Transience*. Sheffield: JSOT Press, 1993.

_____. *Qohelet's Language: Re-evaluating its Nature and Date*. *Ancient Near Eastern Texts and Studies*, vol. 3. Lewiston, NY: Mellen, 1988.

Fredricks, Gary. "Rethinking the Role of the Holy Spirit in the Lives of Old Testament Believers." *Trinity Journal* 9 (Spring 1988): 81–104.

Garland, David D. *Job*. Bible Study Commentary. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1971.

Garrett, Duane A. *Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs*. Nashville: Broadman, 1993.

Garrett, Duane, and Paul R. House. *Song of Songs/Lamentations*. Word Biblical Commentary. Waco, TX: Word, 2004.

Geisler, Norman L. *A Popular Survey of the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1977.

Gladson, Jerry A. "Job." In *A Complete Literary Guide to the Bible*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1993.

Glenn, Donald R. "Ecclesiastes." In *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: Old Testament*. Edited by John F. Walvoord and Roy B. Zuck. Wheaton, IL: SP Publications, Victor Books, 1985.

Glickman, S. Craig. *A Song for Lovers*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1976.

Goldberg, Louis. *Ecclesiastes*. Bible Study Commentary. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1983.

Goldingay, John. *Psalms 1–41*. Baker Commentary on the Old Testament Wisdom and Psalms. Grand

Rapids: Baker, 2006.

_____. Psalms 42–89. Baker Commentary on the Old Testament Wisdom and Psalms. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2007.

Gordis, Robert. The Book of Job: Commentary, New Translation, and Special Studies. Moreshet Series, vol. 2. New York: Jewish Theological Seminary of America, 1978.

_____. Koheleth—The Man and His World. 3rd ed. New York: Schocken Books, 1968.

_____. The Song of Songs and Lamentations: A Study, Modern Translation and Commentary. Rev. ed. New York: Ktav Publishing House, 1974.

Greenberg, Moshe. “Job.” In The Literary Guide to the Bible. Edited by Robert Alter and Frank Kermode. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1987.

Grisanti, Michael A. “Inspiration, Inerrancy, and the OT Canon: The Place of Textual Updating in an Inerrant View of Scripture.” *Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society* 44 (December 2001): 577–98.

Grogan, Geoffrey W. Prayer, Praise and Prophecy. Ross-shire, Great Britain: Christian Focus Publications, 2001.

Habel, Norman C. The Book of Job: A Commentary. The Old Testament Library. Philadelphia: Westminster, 1985.

Harman, Allan M. Commentary on the Psalms. A Mentor Commentary. Ross-shire, Great Britain: Christian Focus Publications, 1998.

_____. “The Continuity of the Covenant Curses in the Imprecations of the Psalter.” *Reformed Theological Review* 54 (May–August 1995): 65–72.

Harrison, R. K. Introduction to the Old Testament. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1969.

_____. Jeremiah and Lamentations: An Introduction and Commentary. Tyndale Old Testament Commentaries. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1973.

Hartley, John E. The Book of Job. New International Commentary on the Old Testament. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1988.

Hess, Richard S. Song of Songs. Baker Commentary on the Old Testament Wisdom and Psalms. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2005.

Hill, Andrew E. “Non-Proverbial Wisdom.” In *Cracking Old Testament Codes*. Edited by D. Brent Sandy and Ronald L. Giese, Jr. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 1995.

Hill, Andrew E. and John H. Walton. A Survey of the Old Testament. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1991.
Hillers, Delbert R. Lamentations. 2nd Ed. Anchor Bible. Garden City, NY: Doubleday, 1992.

Hildebrandt, Ted A. "Proverb." In *Cracking Old Testament Codes*. Edited by D. Brent Sandy and Ronald L. Giese, Jr. Nashville: Broadman and Holman, 1995.

Howard, David M., Jr. "The Case for Kingship in the Old Testament Narrative Books and the Psalms." *Trinity Journal* 9 (Spring 1988): 19–35.

Hubbard, David A. *Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon. The Communicator's Commentary*. Dallas: Word, 1991.

_____. *Proverbs. The Communicator's Commentary*. Dallas: Word, 1989. Huey, F. B., Jr. *Jeremiah, Lamentations. New American Commentary*. Nashville: Broadman, 1993.

International Standard Bible Encyclopedia. Rev. Ed. S.V. "Lamentations," by S. K. Soderlund.

Janzen, J. Gerald. *Job. Interpretation*. Philadelphia: John Knox, 1985.

Jensen, Irving L. *Jeremiah and Lamentations. Everyman's Bible Commentary*. Chicago: Moody Press, 1974.

Johnson, John E. "An Analysis of Proverbs 1:1–7." *Bibliotheca Sacra* 144 (October – December 1987):

VIII. FTS Plagiarism policy

Seminary Statement on Academic Dishonesty and Plagiarism: Plagiarism means representing any work (including "original" ideas and opinions) as your own that is not your own. All information, quotes, and paraphrasing from all sources must be properly documented. All work submitted for this course must be your own and written exclusively for this course. Academic dishonesty is defined as an intentional act of deception in which a student seeks to claim credit for the work or effort of another person, or uses unauthorized material or fabricated information in any academic work. It includes, but is not limited to:

- A. Cheating – giving or receiving answers on assigned material, using materials or aids forbidden by the instructor, alteration of academic records, unauthorized possession of examinations, the falsification of admissions, registration or other related college materials, or any other intentional use or attempted use of unauthorized materials, information, or study aid.
- B. Plagiarism – the offering of someone else's work, words, or idea as one's own or using material from another source without acknowledgement. Exclusive use of internet web sites for research content is discouraged. All references must be cited, **NO** paraphrased information. It is best to use the library databases/books for all research.
- C. Interference – interfering without permission with the work of another student either by obtaining, changing or destroying the work of another student.
- D. Buying or selling of term papers, homework, examinations, laboratory assignments, computer programs, etc.
- E. Falsifying of one's own or another's records.

F. Knowingly assisting someone who engages in A-E above.

Committing plagiarism may result in the following consequences

- A. Faculty may impose the following disciplinary actions within the context of a course,
 1. lowering of a grade or failure for a particular assignment.
 2. lowering of a grade, failure and/or dismissal from the course.

- B. The Division Dean or Campus Administrator responsible for the student’s curriculum may impose harsher measures within the context of the seminary such as:
 1. disciplinary probation may include a limitation on credits, mandatory repeat of a course, etc.
 2. suspension from a curriculum.

IX. Tentative Class Schedule (also includes assignment due dates)

DATES	CLASS	ASSIGNMENTS
02/08	Introduction to Old Poetry	
02/15	The Use of Figurative Language in the Poetical Books	
02/22	Introduction to the Book of Job	Read Estes
03/01	The Book of Job Continued	Estes Continued
03/08	Introduction to the Book of Psalms	
03/15	Psalms Continued	
03/22	Introduction to the Book of Proverbs	Read Estes
04/05	Introduction to the Book of the Ecclesiastes	Estes
04/12	Introduction to the Song of Songs	Estes
04/19	Introduction to the Book of Lamentations	Estes
04/26	Student Presentations	
05/03	Student Presentations	
05/10	Student Presentations	

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