



## Class Information

**Day and Time:** Tuesdays 7:30 – 10:00

**Room Number:** E207

## Contact Information

**Instructor Name:** David Brooks

**Instructor Email:** dbrooks@criswell.edu

**Instructor Phone:** 214-818-1324

**Instructor Office Hours:** M 2–3; Tu 10–11 a.m., 2–4 p.m.; Th 10–11 am., 3–4 p.m.; any of these can be via Zoom.

## Course Description and Prerequisites

An advanced study of the books of Job through Malachi, emphasizing their historical context, literary features, purpose, unity, interpretative problems, and the contribution of these books to biblical theology and godly living.

## Course Objectives

*Upon completion of the course you should be able to do the following:*

- A. Describe the historical background, purpose, theme, genres, and overall structure of each book;
- B. Identify the major historical, critical, and hermeneutical issues in the books;
- C. Articulate the features of ancient Near Eastern thought and its relation to the OT;
- D. Analyze a psalm, acknowledging its specific genre;
- E. Present a comprehensive explanation of prophecy in the OT;
- F. Evaluate and articulate the arguments for and against multiple authorship of the book of Isaiah; and
- G. Show the contemporary relevance of the messages of these books.

## Required Textbooks

- A. The Holy Bible.
- B. Merrill, Eugene H., Mark F. Rooker, and Michael A. Grisanti. *The World and the Word: An Introduction to the Old Testament*. Nashville, TN: B&H Academic, 2011. (ISBN: 9780805440317)
- C. Walton, John H. *Ancient Near Eastern Thought and the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2006. (ISBN: 978-0-8010-2750-5)

## Course Requirements and Assignments

- A. **4 exams.** The exams are on Canvas and are based on the class sessions and textbook readings in Merrill, Rooker, and Grisanti. The exams are essay exams. See the Class Calendar below for due dates.

We study the prophets in chronological sequence, not canonical. Note the following sequence:

Exam 1: Poetry, wisdom, Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs

Exam 2: Prophecy, Jonah, Amos, Hosea, Isaiah, Micah

Exam 3: Nahum, Zephaniah, Habakkuk, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Obadiah

Exam 4: Ezekiel, Daniel, Haggai, Joel, Zechariah, Malachi

- B. **Literary Analyses: Psalms.** Write literary analyses of two psalms, using the principles of Hebrew poetry and psalms genres outlined in class. This must be your work and not the result of commentaries. You may consult commentaries and word-study books for an explanation of biblical words.
- C. **Isaiah paper.** In four to six (4 – 6) pages give the main reasons for dividing Isaiah among multiple authors), the major views of the authorship if there were more than one author, and the major defenses of the traditional view that there was just one human author. Discuss how multiple authorship affects your view of inspiration of the Scripture. Use scholarly sources, footnotes, and Turabian format. Consult and follow the *Criswell Manual of Style*. Highlighted volumes in the bibliography at the end of this syllabus are sources that are relevant. They are a mixture of conservative (traditional) and liberal (“critical”). Conservatives are often critical, but those who do not accept the Bible’s presentation of itself even after questioning and investigating the information have largely co-opted the term.
- D. **Prophecy paper.** In four to five (4 – 5) pages discuss the nature of prophecy (e.g. ecstatic or rational, foretelling, forth telling), its major features, proposed forms (e.g. form criticism), and its relevance for our contemporary age. Use scholarly sources, footnotes, and Turabian format. Consult and follow the *Criswell Manual of Style*.
- E. **Textbook reading.** Read pages 361-562 of Merrill, Rooker, and Grisanti, *The World and the Word*.
- F. **Paper choice.** Choose one of the following four topics and write your research and conclusions in a five- to six-page paper:
1. Purpose of Elihu’s speeches in Job 32 – 37
  2. Comparison of the Instruction of Amenemope to Prov 22:17—24:22
  3. Compare and contrast Ecclesiastes with “A Pessimistic Dialogue between Master and Servant”
  4. Compare the literal and figurative interpretations of Ezekiel’s temple in Ezekiel 40-48
- G. **Book chapter summary.** Write a summary of Walton’s book, with one full page to summarize each chapter—but you do not need to write more than one page per chapter. Focus on the main point of the chapter and then his major supports for and implications (if he gives implications) of that main point. For each chapter, give a sentence showing how this chapter relates to the previous one. Keep your work concise and direct. Since any references are to the same book, footnotes are not appropriate. If you quote directly from the book, note the page number in parentheses, for example: (p. 37) or if plural (pp. 37-38).

## Course/Classroom Policies and Information

You are expected to be in class for each session. If you must miss for illness, family illness, work emergency or some other justifiable reason, contact the professor ahead of time. You will be responsible for acquiring the notes for the session from a classmate. See below for general attendance information.

### Class Attendance

Students are responsible for enrolling in courses for which they anticipate being able to attend every class session on the day and time appearing on course schedules, and then making every effort to do so. When unavoidable situations result in absence or tardiness, students are responsible for acquiring any information missed. Instructors are not obliged to allow students to make up missed work. Per their independent discretion, individual instructors may determine how attendance affects students' ability to meet course learning objectives and whether attendance affects course grades.

### Grading Scale

A	93-100	4.0 grade points per semester hour
A-	90-92	3.7 grade points per semester hour
B+	87-89	3.3 grade points per semester hour
B	83-86	3.0 grade points per semester hour
B-	80-82	2.7 grade points per semester hour
C+	77-79	2.3 grade points per semester hour
C	73-76	2.0 grade points per semester hour
C-	70-72	1.7 grade points per semester hour
D+	67-69	1.3 grade points per semester hour
D	63-66	1.0 grade point per semester hour
D-	60-62	0.7 grade points per semester hour
F	0-59	0.0 grade points per semester hour

**Weighted Grading:** *The following are the proportions of your grade for each type of assignment*

- Tests 50%
- Literary analysis 5%
- Isaiah paper 10%
- Prophecy paper 10%
- Textbook reading 5%
- Book summary 10%
- Paper choice 10%
- Total 100%*

### Incomplete Grades

Students requesting a grade of Incomplete (I) must understand that incomplete grades may be given only upon approval of the faculty member involved. An "I" may be assigned only when a student is currently passing a

course and in situations involving extended illness, serious injury, death in the family, or employment or government reassignment, not student neglect.

Students are responsible for contacting their instructors prior to the end of the semester, plus filing the appropriate completed and approved academic request form with the Registrar's Office. The "I" must be removed (by completing the remaining course requirements) no later than 60 calendar days after the close of the term or semester in which the grade was awarded, or the "I" will become an "F."

## **Academic Honesty**

Absolute truth is an essential belief and basis of behavior for those who believe in a God who cannot lie and forbids falsehood. Academic honesty is the application of the principle of truth in the classroom setting. Academic honesty includes the basic premise that all work submitted by students must be their own and any ideas derived or copied from elsewhere must be carefully documented.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to:

- cheating of any kind,
- submitting, without proper approval, work originally prepared by the student for another course,
- plagiarism, which is the submitting of work prepared by someone else as if it were his own, and
- failing to credit sources properly in written work.

## **Institutional Assessment**

Material submitted by students in this course may be used for assessment of the college's academic programs. Since programmatic and institutional assessment is done without reference to specific students, the results of these assessments have no effect on a student's course grade or academic standing at the college. Before submitting a student's work for this type of assessment, the course instructor redacts the work to remove anything that identifies the student.

## **Institutional Email Policy**

All official college email communications to students enrolled in this course will be sent exclusively to students' institutional email accounts. Students are expected to check their student email accounts regularly and to respond in an appropriate and timely manner to all communications from faculty and administrative departments.

Students are permitted to setup automatic forwarding of emails from their student email accounts to one or more personal email accounts. The student is responsible to setup and maintain email forwarding without assistance from college staff. If a student chooses to use this forwarding option, he/she will continue to be responsible for responding appropriately to all communications from faculty and administrative departments of the college. Criswell College bears no responsibility for the use of emails that have been forwarded from student email accounts to other email accounts.

## **Disabilities**

Criswell College recognizes and supports the standards set forth in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, and similar state laws, which are designed to eliminate discrimination against qualified individuals with disabilities. Criswell College is committed to making reasonable

accommodations for qualifying students, faculty, and employees with disabilities as required by applicable laws. For more information, please contact the Student Services Office.

## Intellectual Property Rights

Unless otherwise specifically instructed in writing by the instructor, students must neither materially nor digitally reproduce materials from any course offered by Criswell College for or with the significant possibility of distribution.

## Resources and Supports

Canvas and SONIS: Criswell College uses Canvas as its web-based learning tool and SONIS for student data. Students needing assistance with Canvas should contact the Canvas Help Support line at (844) 358-6140. Tech support is available at this number, twenty-four hours a day. Students needing help with SONIS should contact the Campus Software Manager at [studenttechsupport@criswell.edu](mailto:studenttechsupport@criswell.edu).

Student Services: The Student Services Office exists to foster and encourage success in all areas of life—physical, intellectual, spiritual, social, and emotional. Students are encouraged to reach out for assistance by contacting the office at 214.818.1332 or [studentservices@criswell.edu](mailto:studentservices@criswell.edu). Pastoral and certified counseling services are also available to Criswell students. Appointments are scheduled through the Dean of Students, at [deanofstudents@criswell.edu](mailto:deanofstudents@criswell.edu).

Wallace Library: Students can access academic resources and obtain research assistance by contacting or visiting the Wallace Library, which is located on campus. For more information, email the Wallace Library at [library@criswell.edu](mailto:library@criswell.edu). Offsite login information is available in Canvas in the “Criswell Student Training Course” under “Library Information.”

Tutoring Center: Students are encouraged to consult with tutors to improve and enhance their skills and confidence in any subject matter taught at the college. Tutors have been recommended by the faculty to ensure that the tutor(s) are qualified to serve the student body. Every tutor brings experience and expertise in an effort to provide the proper resources for the subject matter at hand. To consult with a tutor, students can visit the Tutoring Center located on the second floor in room E203, or schedule an appointment by emailing [tutoringcenter@criswell.edu](mailto:tutoringcenter@criswell.edu) or by calling 214.818.1373.

## Course Outline/Calendar

Week	Date	Content	Reading Assignments	Written Assignments
1	Jan 19	Syllabus, timeline, poetry, wisdom, Job		
2	Jan 26	Job	MRG, part 7 intro, chap 39	
3	Feb 2	Psalms	MRG, chap 40	
4	Feb 9	Proverbs	MRG, chap 41	Psalms analyses
5	Feb 16	Ecclesiastes	MRG, chap 42	

Week	Date	Content	Reading Assignments	Written Assignments
6	Feb 23	Song of Songs, prophecy, Jonah	MRG, chap 43, part 6 intro, to chap 31	
7	Mar 2	Amos, Hosea	MRG, chaps 27, 29	<b>Exam 1: Poetry through Song of Songs</b>
8	Mar 9	Isaiah	MRG, chap 23	Isaiah paper
<b>Week of March 15 – 19: Spring Break—no classes meet</b>				
9	Mar 23	Micah, Nahum	MRG, chaps 32, 33	
10	Mar 30	Zephaniah, Habakkuk	MRG, chaps 34, 35	<b>Exam 2: Prophecy through Micah</b>
11	Apr 6	Jeremiah	MRG, chaps 24	
12	Apr 13	Lamentations, Obadiah	MRG, chaps 30, 44	Prophecy paper
13	Apr 20	Ezekiel, Daniel	MRG, chaps 25, 26	<b>Exam 3: Nahum through Obadiah</b>
14	Apr 27	Daniel, Haggai, Joel	MRG, chap 28, 36	Paper choice
15	May 4	Zechariah, Malachi	MRG, chaps 37, 38	Book summary
	<b>May 11</b>			<b>Exam 3: Ezekiel through Malachi, textbook reading</b>

## Selected Bibliography

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Beitzel, Barry. *Moody Atlas of the Bible*. Chicago: Moody, 1985.

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Bullock, C. Hassell. *An Introduction to the Old Testament Poetic Books*. Chicago: Moody, 1979.

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- Rowley, Harold H. *The Growth of the Old Testament*. 1950. Reprint, New York: Harper and Row, 1963.
- Saggs, H. W. F. *The Greatness That Was Babylon*. N. Y.: Hawthorn, 1962.
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## On-Campus Course Syllabus

### ADDENDUM FOR SP-21

#### OTS 601 SP.L1

## Old Testament Survey II: Job – Malachi

In the event that Criswell College has to close the campus to on-campus classes during the SP-21 semester, this addendum specifies how your instructor intends to adjust the course in order to allow students to meet the course objectives.

The course requirements, assignments, calendar, and attendance requirements from the syllabus for this course are unchanged, except that attendance will be via Zoom.

### **Course Requirements and Assignments**

There are no changes to the requirements. All assignments are available to download from Canvas and are to be submitted by uploading to Canvas.

### **Remote Class Sessions: Identity and Participation Verification**

For remote class sessions students may they join by phone if necessary; however, laptop, computer, or tablet are preferred. Turn on your video at the beginning of the class session. However, you may keep your video blacked out, but are expected to respond when called upon.