Course Description:
An introduction to the Hebrew Scriptures, this course will apply historical–critical methods of study to develop a framework for understanding the origins of the texts and the relationship of the texts to one another. Attention will be given to contemporary theories of biblical interpretation. Survey I will cover the materials in the Torah and Prophets (Genesis–Kings).

Meeting Days and Time: Thursday, 4:30-7:30

Office Hours: Monday to Wednesday, 9 am to 4 pm, and Thursday, 9 am to 12 pm (make appointment by emailing Lorraine Browne (lbrowne@hartsem.edu) or via phone (860-509-9553)

Instructor: Uriah Y. Kim
Contact: ukim@hartsem.edu

Course Objectives
1. Through this course students will become familiar with the content of the Torah/Pentateuch (Genesis–Deuteronomy) and the Former Prophets (Joshua – Kings).
2. Students will have greater understanding of the historical and socio–political context in which the Hebrew Bible emerged;
3. Learn to write exegesis papers and examine various methods of interpretation in biblical studies;
4. Engage with various communities around the world that are interpreting the Bible.

Requirements & Grades:
1. Students are expected to attend all class sessions and to participate actively in class. Attendance Policy: Attendance in class is required. If you know you will be unable to attend a class session, please inform the instructor in advance. Missing three sessions will result in an automatic lowering of your final grade by a full letter grade (A to B; A- to B-; B+ to C+; B, B-, or C+ to C; and C to F). Missing four or more sessions will result in automatic failure of the course.

2. Two short exegesis papers:
   • Exegesis paper 1 (Genesis 21), 3 pages, double spaced; due Week 5; 25% toward the final grade
   • Exegesis paper 2 (Judges), 3 pages, double spaced; due Week 10; 25% toward the final grade

3. One long exegesis paper:
   • Exegesis paper 3 (Samuel-Kings), 8 pages, double spaced; due December 18; 50% toward the final grade.
Books


Class Schedule

Week 1 (September 4)  Introductions

Reading Assignments
- Collins, *Introduction*, 1 – 46

Week 2 (September 11)  Genesis and the Documentary Hypothesis

Reading Assignments
- Genesis 1–11
- McKenzie and Haynes, 17 – 34
- *Old Testament Parallels*, 11 – 42

Week 3 (September 18)  Genesis, Part 2

Reading Assignments
- Genesis 12–50
- McKenzie and Haynes, 35 – 57, 58-89
- *Old Testament Parallels*, 47 – 79
- *Global Bible Commentary*, Genesis

Week 4 (September 25)  Moses and the Exodus
Reading Assignments
- Exodus
- Collins, Introduction, 107–137
- Old Testament Parallels, 89 – 98
- Global Bible Commentary, Exodus

Week 5 (October 2)  The Priestly Writings

Exegesis Paper 1 due

Reading Assignments
- Leviticus and Numbers
- Collins, Introduction, 139–158
- Old Testament Parallels, 101 – 133
- Global Bible Commentary, Leviticus and Numbers

Week 6 (October 9)  Deuteronomy

Reading Assignments
- Deuteronomy
- Collins, Introduction, 159–179
- Global Bible Commentary, Deuteronomy

Week 7 (October 16)  DH and Joshua

Reading Assignments:
- Joshua
- Collins, Introduction, 183–202
- Old Testament Parallels, 146 – 156
- Global Bible Commentary, Joshua

Week 8 (October 23)  Judges

Reading Assignments:
- Judges
- Global Bible Commentary, Judges
- Yee, Judges and Method, 1 – 18, 19 – 45
Week 9 (October 30)  Judges, Part 2

Reading Assignments:
- Yee, *Judges and Method*, 46-64, 65-89, 115-137
- Uriah Y. Kim, “Where is the Home for the Man of Luz?” *Interpretation* 65/3 (July 2011): 250-262

Week 10 (November 6)  The Rise of David

Exegesis Paper 2 due

Reading Assignment:
- I Samuel 1
- *Old Testament Parallels*, 165 – 175

Week 11 (November 13)  David, Part 2

Reading Assignment:
- II Samuel 1 – 1 Kings 2
- Collins, *Introduction*, 231-44
- *Global Bible Commentary*, 1-2 Samuel

Week 12 (November 20)  Solomon

Reading Assignment:
- I Kings 1 – 16
Week 13 (December 4)  The Fall of Samaria

Reading Assignment

- I Kings 17 – 2 Kings 17
- Collins, *Introduction*, 261–79

Week 14 (December 11)  The Fall of Jerusalem

Reading Assignment:

- II Kings 18—25
- *Old Testament Parallels*, 176 – 203
- *Global Bible Commentary*, 1-2 Kings

**Exegesis Paper 3 is due on December 18**
Plagiarism Policy

Plagiarism, the failure to give proper credit for the words and ideas of another person, whether published or unpublished, is strictly prohibited. Credit will not be given for written work containing plagiarism, and plagiarism can lead to failure of a course. All written material submitted by students must be their own original work; where the words and ideas of others are used they must be acknowledged. Additionally, if students receive editorial help with their writing they should also acknowledge it appropriately.

Credit will not be given for work containing plagiarism, and plagiarism can lead to failure of a course. Faculty will report all instances of plagiarism to the Academic Dean. The Academic Dean will then collect documented details of the case and advance any recommendations for further action to the Academic Policies Committee. Through this process the situation will be reviewed and any additional penalties that may be warranted (up to and including expulsion from the school) will be determined.

For clarity as to what constitutes plagiarism, the following description is provided:

1. Word for word plagiarism: (a) the submission of another person’s work as one’s own; (b) the submission of a commercially prepared paper; (c) the submission of work from a source which is not acknowledged by a footnote or other specific reference in the paper itself; (d) the submission of any part of another person’s work without proper use of quotation marks.

2. Plagiarism by paraphrase: (a) mere re-arrangement of another person’s works and phrases does not make them your own and also constitutes plagiarism; (b) paraphrasing another person’s words, ideas, and information without acknowledging the original source from which you took them is also plagiarism. See Part II of Kate L. Turabian, A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses and Dissertations, (7th Edition, University of Chicago Press, 2007) for an explanation of the proper ways to acknowledge the work of others and to avoid plagiarism.

3. Reuse of your own work: Coursework submitted for credit in one course cannot be submitted for credit in another course. While technically not plagiarism, this type of infraction will be treated in the same manner as plagiarism and will be subject to the same penalties. If you are using small amounts of material from a previous submitted work, that work should be referenced appropriately. When a student is writing their final program requirement (paper, project or thesis) it may be appropriate, with their advisor’s permission, to include portions of previously submitted material if properly referenced.
HARTFORD SEMINARY GRADING GUIDELINES

A = Assumes that conditions for “B” are met, plus the student demonstrates excellence in several of the following areas:
- All course texts are thoughtfully read.
- Outstanding analysis or creative synthesis of course material.
- Evidence of grasp of the subject as a whole.
- Introduces significant new material into class process.
- Assigned work is unusually idea-rich, organized around a thesis, well-researched, original, creative, inspired, critical, well-reasoned, and stylistically and technically skillful.

B = Solid, engaged work, evidence of goodwill toward course.
- Steady class attendance; follow-up in case of absence.
- Most of the course texts were read.
- Reading and written work completed on time.
- Willingness to examine & explore new or difficult ideas.
- Listens to and encourages other students.
- Careful use of language, clarity of thought, some originality, and fresh research in assignments.
- Strong opening, organized progression, and well-supported conclusions in assignments.
- Effective rhetoric when speaking or leading discussion.
- Correct grammar, syntax, spelling, citation and bibliographic form is used.

C+ = While showing some evidence of effort to deal with subject matter in course, student fails to reach minimum “B” criteria.

C = Falls below “B” standards in numerous ways, eg.:
- Patchy attendance.
- Little evidence that course texts are read.
- Weak participation.
- Lacks basic grasp of course content.
- Lacks interest in classmates.
- Assigned work is incomplete, late, technically flawed, poorly written, or uninspired.

F = Student fails to engage the material of the course or disappears from the class after the withdrawal deadline.

+/− indicates strength or weakness within a letter grade.
Grades must range from A to C and F. No A+’s