

Old Testament Prophets (Online Course)
OT 3311—Online Course Syllabus
Spring 2020

Dr. R. Mark Shipp
11912 Rosethorn Dr.
Austin, TX 78758
(512) 476-2772
shipp@austingrad.edu

BA Course Goals:

The student will show mastery of the biblical story and familiarity with various genres of biblical literature (law, wisdom, prophecy, poetry, etc.) and basic methods and principles of biblical exegesis.

Course Objectives:

By the end of the semester, the student will demonstrate a broad understanding of the historical background, theology, and character of the prophetic books of the Old Testament. The student should also gain sensitivity to issues in the church today and how the Old Testament prophets still speak to those issues.

Required Texts:

A study Bible, such as the Oxford Annotated Study Bible of the New Revised Standard Version, New English Bible, Harper/Collins Study Bible, Jerusalem Bible, or NIV Study Bible.
Newsome, James. *The Hebrew Prophets*. Louisville: W/JKP, 1984.

Means of Assessment:

Weekly quizzes: There will be several short, weekly quizzes on the readings in the Bible and Newsome and also quizzes on the videos over each prophetic book.

Weekly forums: In addition, you will be graded over the weekly discussion forum that you will participate in. This will involve a topic to which you will write a response and post it on the forum, and also write brief responses to the posts from your classmates.

Mid-term and final: Finally, there will be a mid-term and a final.

Schedule:

Week 1 (1/21–1/26): *Introduction to the course: Basic issues about prophecy in general; the value of the study of prophecy; Pre-Literary Prophecy (prophecy prior to Amos).*

Readings:

Newsome, 1–15.

Numbers 22–24; 1 Sam. 8–10; 2 Sam. 7; 1 Kings 17–2 Kings 9.

Introductory PDFs.

Quizzes:

Quiz on Bardke, **quiz** on Newsome, "Prophecy Before Amos," and **quiz** on "Basic Issues in Prophecy."

Forum on "Basic Issues in Prophecy."

Week 2 (1/27–2/02): *Eighth Century Prophecy: Amos and Hosea*

Readings:

Newsome, 16–43.

Amos

Hosea

"A Harlot's Wages," Shipp (PDF)

Quizzes:

Quizzes on Amos and Hosea videos, **quizzes** on Newsome on Amos and Hosea.

Quiz on Shipp, "A Harlot's Wages."

Forum on Amos and Hosea.

Week 3 (2/03–2/09): *Isaiah 1–39 and Micah.*

Readings:

Newsome, 44–78.
Isaiah 1–12, 28–33
Micah

Quizzes:

Quizzes on videos of "Isaiah 1–39" and Micah; **quizzes** on Newsome, Isaiah 1–39 and Micah.

Forum on Isaiah 9 and 11.

Week 4 (2/10–2/16): *Seventh Century Prophecy: Zephaniah, Nahum, and Habakkuk.*

Readings:

Newsome, 79–100.
Zephaniah
Nahum
Habakkuk

Quizzes:

Quizzes on videos of Zephaniah and Nahum and Habakkuk; **quizzes** on Newsome on Zephaniah, Nahum, and Habakkuk.

Forum on Nahum.

Week 5 (2/17–2/23): *Jeremiah*

Mid-Term Exam (over introduction to the prophets through Habakkuk).

Readings:

Newsome, 101–123.
Jeremiah 1–39

Quizzes:

Quizzes on the Jeremiah video and Newsome on Jeremiah.

Forum on Jeremiah.

Week 6 (2/24–3/01): *Prophets of the Exile: Ezekiel, Obadiah, Isaiah 40–66.*

Readings:

Newsome, 124–138, 139–156, 170–176, 180–183.
Ezekiel 1–24; 33–37; 40–48
Obadiah
Isaiah 40–66

Quizzes:

Quizzes on the videos of Ezekiel and Isaiah 40-66; **quizzes** on Newsome on Ezekiel and Isaiah 40-66.

Forum on Isaiah 40-55.

Week 7 (3/02–3/8): *Prophets of the Judean Restoration: Haggai, Zechariah, Jonah, Joel, and Malachi*

Readings:

Newsome, 157–169, 177–187; 201–205.
Haggai
Zechariah 1–8
Jonah
Joel
Malachi

Quizzes:

Quizzes on the videos of Haggai and Zechariah, Joel and Jonah, and Malachi; **quizzes** on Newsome on these books.

Forum on Jonah.

Week 8 (3/9–3/15): *Beyond Prophecy: Apocalyptic Literature; Final Exam.*

Readings:

Newsome, 201–224.

Daniel

Zechariah 9–14

“Daniel and Apocalyptic Literature” (Shipp, PDF).

“Reading the Prophets” (Shipp, PDF).

Quizzes:

Quiz on the video of Daniel and Apocalyptic Literature; **quiz** on Newsome on Daniel and Zechariah 9–14.

Final Exam (over Jeremiah through Daniel and “Reading the Prophets,” plus a personal response of the relevance of OT prophets to ministry).