

OLD TESTAMENT LITERATURE: SOCIETY AND ETHICS

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The classes will be devoted to the following topics:

Class one (Jan 14): General Introduction, Methodology

Class two (Jan 28): Background and Sources of the Pentateuch

Class three (Feb 4): Exodus and Covenant

Class four (Feb 11): Israel and the Land

Class five (Mar 3): The Monarchy

Class six (Mar 17): Prophecy--Amos and Hosea

Class seven (Mar 31): Prophets--Isaiah and Second Isaiah

Class eight (Apr 14): Restoration and Wisdom Writings

Class nine (Apr 28): Apocalyptic and Conclusions

Required readings for the course:

Anthony R. Ceresko, *Introduction to the Old Testament: A Liberation Perspective*, revised and updated edition.

New Revised Standard Version of the Bible, or *The New Oxford Annotated Bible with the Apocrypha*, revised edition, or another modern translation of the Bible.

Course requirements:

Assigned readings for each class. Preparation to lead discussion as assigned for each class.
Class attendance and participation. (20% of grade; grade reduced at second absence)

Research paper on social ethics theme (e.g., role of law, political authority, war and peace, relation of worship and ethics, human freedom, poverty and oppression, problem of evil, etc.) or a selected segment of biblical text (10-15 pages for graduate students; 7-10 ten pages for undergraduates). Due March 31. (40% of grade)

Reflection paper on what one considers to be some of the important teachings of the biblical material and their relevance and application to today's society (10-15 pages for graduate students and 7-10 pages for undergraduates). April 28. (40% of grade) As time allows, we may discuss these papers in the last class.

If you believe you have a disability, then you should contact the Academic Resource Center (arc@georgetown.edu) for further information. The Center is located in the Leavey Center, Suite 335. The Academic Resource Center is the campus office responsible for reviewing documentation provided by students with disabilities and for determining reasonable accommodations in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and University policies."

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Reading Assignments: (*Readings should be done BEFORE the assigned class dates.*)

Class one (Jan 14): General Introduction, Methodology

Ceresko, pp. 3-25

Class two (Jan 28): Background and Sources

Ceresko, pp. 29-78

Genesis 1-18; 20; 26; 35

Class three (Feb 4): Exodus and Covenant

Ceresko, pp. 79-93

Exodus 1-14; 19-24

Class four (Feb 11): Israel and the Land

Ceresko, pp. 97-119

Joshua 1-2; 6; 9-11; 24

Judges 1-2; 6-9

Class five (Mar 3): The Monarchy

Ceresko, pp. 123-136; 148-163

Deut. 5-11

1 Samuel 9-12

2 Samuel 5-8

1 Kings 3; 8-12

Class six (Mar 17): Prophecy: Amos and Hosea

Ceresko, pp. 181-208

Amos 2-4; 6-9

Hosea 1-6; 9; 11-14

Class seven (Mar 31): Prophets: Isaiah and Second Isaiah

Ceresko, pp. 209-223; 257-270

2 Kings 16-20

Isaiah 1-12; 28-32; 40-45; 49-55

Class eight (Apr 14): Restoration and Wisdom Writings

Ceresko, pp. 271-282; 304-330

Nehemiah 14; 8-10

Job 3-4; 19; 27; 31; 38-40

Ecclesiastes 1-3; 9; 12

Class nine (Apr 28): Apocalyptic and Conclusions

Ceresko, pp. 331-350

Daniel 1-3; 6-7; 10-12

SUGGESTED BIBLICAL TEXTS FOR STUDY :

The plagues of Egypt

Passover: history and ritual

The Ten Commandments

A law codes of Israel

The creation stories

The flood stories

Holy War in Joshua and Judges

From confederacy to monarchy

Texts from individual prophets: Amos, Hosea, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, or

Second Isaiah

A prominent themes in the Psalms

A wisdom book: Job or Ecclesiastes

Apocalyptic writing in Daniel

Helpful websites:

<http://www.usml.edu/library/linkss.htm>

http://www.wabashcenter.wabash.edu/Internet/bible_gen.htm