

## Associated Canadian Theological Schools BIE 674A: Exposition of the Minor Prophets

### Course Preview<sup>1</sup>

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Professor of Old Testament  
Spring - 2012  
3 credit hours

Prerequisites: Research Strategies (RES 500);  
Biblical Hermeneutics (BIE 505)

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Class Dates: Thursdays  
Class time: 8:30 – 9:50 a.m.  
11:00 a.m. – 12:10 p.m.

### **I. Course Description**

The student will survey the content of each book of the Twelve, or the so-called Minor Prophets, study selected portions in detail, and learn an exegetical method for discerning the essential contributions of these books to the biblical canon and to the Christian Church today. Interaction with commentary and theological literature is included.

### **II. Course Textbooks**

Course Pack: Achtemeier, Elizabeth. *Minor Prophets I*. Understanding the Bible Commentary Series. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2009. 365 pages.

Course Pack: Goldingay, John and Pamela Scalise. *Minor Prophets II*. Understanding the Bible Commentary Series. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2009. 365 pages.

Redditt, Paul L. *Introduction to the Prophets*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2008. 390 pages.

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<sup>1</sup> *NOTE: this is an abbreviated preview, designed to help students plan for upcoming courses. Faculty will make the official course syllabus available to students at the beginning of the semester. (Normally it will be posted on the MyCourses website the week before classes begin.)*

*Textbooks and basic assignment structure will not change between the preview and the final syllabus, but you may see some adjustments in the course outline and assignment details.*

*If you have questions about the course and possible pre-work, please do not hesitate to contact the instructor to ask.*

### **III. Course Assignments**

1. Readings. Students will read each book of the Twelve twice, as well as the three above-mentioned text books, and submit a 1500 word reading report on the three text books, along with a signed Reading Statement. This will be worth 20% of the total grade.
2. Class Presentation and Paper. Students will select a current social, political, or economic issue to research and prepare a 15 minute class presentation on that issue and on what the Twelve might have had to say concerning it, based on a careful investigation of their oracles. They will also write up the results of their work in a 3000 word paper. This assignment will be worth 35% of the total grade.
3. Expository Project. Students will write up a series of expository preaching / teaching units on one of the Twelve (minimum 3000 words). This assignment should show evidence of thorough investigation of the book's context and content; they should be creative and designed to engage a contemporary adult audience; they should delve into both the content of the book and the practical implications of its message; and they should be clearly laid out and well written. This assignment will be worth 45% of the total grade.
4. Class Participation. Students will be evaluated by the professor with respect to their preparedness for, and involvement in, classroom discussions. Unexcused absences will result in overall grade reductions.

### **IV. Tentative Course Outline**

- Jan. 12 Introduction  
 19 Read Redditt, pp. x-xv, 1-18, 195-208.  
 Complete the first reading of the Twelve.  
 26 Read Amos 2<sup>nd</sup>; Achtemeier, "Amos"; Redditt, pp. 209-11, 237-48.
- Feb. 2 Read Hosea 2<sup>nd</sup>; Achtemeier, "Hosea"; Redditt, pp. 211-26.  
 9 Read Jonah 2<sup>nd</sup>; Achtemeier, "Jonah"; Redditt, pp. 249-50, 256-66.  
 16 Read Micah 2<sup>nd</sup>; Achtemeier, "Micah"; Redditt, pp. 266-83.  
 23 Read Zephaniah 2<sup>nd</sup> & Nahum 2<sup>nd</sup>; Goldingay, "Zephaniah," "Nahum"; Redditt, pp. 284-92, 303-14.
- March 1 NO CLASS (Reading Week & Modular Courses)  
 Read Redditt, pp. 19-194.  
 8 Read Habakkuk 2<sup>nd</sup> & Obadiah 2<sup>nd</sup>; Goldingay, "Habakkuk;" Achtemeier, "Obadiah"; Redditt, pp. 292-303, 250-55.  
 15 Read Haggai 2<sup>nd</sup>; Goldingay, "Haggai"; Redditt, pp. 315-21.  
 22 Read Zechariah 2<sup>nd</sup>; Scalise, "Zechariah"; Redditt, pp. 321-44.  
 29 Read Joel 2<sup>nd</sup>; Achtemeier, "Joel"; Redditt, pp. 226-37.
- April 5 Read Malachi 2<sup>nd</sup>; Scalise, "Malachi"; Redditt, pp. 344-83.

Registered students: you can access the course website through the student portal at <https://students.twu.ca> or directly at <https://courses.mytwu.ca/>.