COURSE DESCRIPTION

The professor will present a theology of the Pentateuch. Because four of the six major divine–human covenants of the Bible have their institution reported in the Pentateuch, the course and its theology will naturally make those covenants a major focus. Because scholarship of the Pentateuch has played a major role in the history of biblical studies, the course will also devote some attention to that scholarship and its history as well. Our study will take up such matters as covenant schemes for the Bible as a whole, the Fall and its aftermath, and the Mosaic covenant and the Conquest, including the ethos and morality of the Conquest. Since covenants are expressions of God's nature, we hope to see more of that nature as a result of our study—a study that aims to be a spiritual as well as an intellectual enterprise.

DATES

Sep 11  Preliminary remarks
Sep 12  Lecture 1  Adamic covenant
Sep 12  Lecture 2  Adamic covenant, cont.

Oct 9  Test on Lectures 1 & 2
       Lecture 3  The Fall and its Aftermath
Oct 10 Lecture 4  Scholarship on the Pentateuch
Oct 10 Lecture 5  Noahic covenant

Nov 6  Test on Lectures 3, 4 & 5
       Lecture 6  Abrahamic covenant
Nov 7  Lecture 7  Mosaic covenant
Nov 7  Lecture 8  Covenant and Conquest
REQUIRED WORK

1  **Two tests.** Each test will cover only the material presented in the lectures given prior to the test; neither test will cover the required readings. Each test counts 10% of the final grade.

2  **Reading report.** The reading report at the end of this syllabus is to be completed and attached to the final paper. The reading report counts 10% of the final grade.

3  **Final paper.** The final paper should be a discussion of one of the major divine–human covenants that form the subject matter of the course. The paper should be 15 pages long, double spaced, with either footnotes or endnotes. The paper counts 70% of the final grade. It is due on 20 November.

**NB**  Students who wish to know their professor better, and who wish to add 3 points extra credit to their final grade for the course, can read the following (now available in the seminary book store):


I make this offer at one student’s suggestion, so, feel free to take advantage of it.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Kline, Meredith, *Kingdom Prologue*  
(Overland Park: Two Age Press, 2000)

Livingston, G, Herbert, *The Pentateuch in its Cultural Environment*  
(Baker, 1974, 1989)

Niehaus, Jeffrey J., *Ancient Near Eastern Themes in Biblical Theology*  
(Grand Rapids: Kregel, 2008))

________________, *Biblical Theology: the Common Grace Covenants*  
(Wooster: Weaver, 2014)
READING REPORT  OT 501  Student Name __________________________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Work</th>
<th>Pages Required</th>
<th>Pages Read</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kline, <em>Kingdom Prologue</em></td>
<td>382</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Livingston, <em>The Pentateuch etc.</em></td>
<td>296</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Niehaus, <em>ANE Themes etc.</em></td>
<td>174</td>
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<tr>
<td>______ , <em>Biblical Theology, Vol. 1</em></td>
<td>264</td>
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Student affirmation:

“I have read *Preludes: An Autobiography in Verse*, for 3 points extra credit.”

Signed:

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