

NT/OT 795 SEMINAR IN BIBLICAL THEOLOGY
Spring, 2012
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I Course Description

A seminar focusing on the theological message of the Bible with a survey of critical issues in contemporary scholarship and instruction on research methods and writing. Required of all Th.M. students with a concentration in the Biblical Studies Division (NT, OT, Biblical Theology). This course seeks to prepare the Th.M. student for advanced work in biblical exegesis and theology.

II Class schedule

Feb 17	Introduction: Avoidable errors - case studies		
Feb 18	Adamic Covenant		
	Student Presentation:	Williamson	Ch 2
	Student Presentation:	Niehaus	"Covenant, an Idea"
Feb 18	Adamic Covenant cont.		
	Student Presentation	Kline	Ch 1-5

Mar 16	Noahic Covenant		
	Student Presentation:	Williamson	Ch 3
	Student presentation:	Hahn	Ch 4
	Student Presentation	Dumbrell	Ch 2
May 17	Abrahamic Covenant		
	Student Presentation:	Williamson	Ch 4
	Student Presentation:	Hahn	Ch 5
	Student Presentation	Niehaus	"Covenant and Narrative"
Mar 17	Mosaic Covenant		
	Student Presentation:	Williamson	Ch 5
	Student Presentation:	Hahn	Ch 3

Apr 20	Davidic Covenant		
	Student Presentation:	Williamson	Ch 6
	Student Presentation:	Hahn	Ch 7
Apr 21	New Covenant		
	Student Presentation:	Williamson	Ch 7
	Student Presentation:	Hahn	Ch 8
	Student presentation	Hahn	Ch 9
Apr 21	Conclusion - open discussion		
	Student Presentation	Ladd	Ch 4-5
	Student Presentation	Thielman	Ch 2
	Student Presentation	Niehaus	<i>ANETBT</i> Ch 2-7
	Student presentation	Niehaus	"Covenant and Narrative..."

III Course requirements

- 1 **Student presentation.** Each student will give a twenty minute presentation on topics indicated in the schedule above. The presentation may involve the use of visual media. Handouts are required. The presentation counts 30% of the course grade.
- 2 **Final paper.** The final paper must offer a comprehensive understanding of the divine-human biblical covenants (i.e., the covenants discussed during the course sessions). It must be 20 pages long. Footnotes or endnotes are acceptable. The final paper counts 60% of the course grade. Due 30 April.
- 4 **Reading Report.** Each student must read the assigned texts . Please enter the amount you have read on the reading report at the end of this syllabus, and submit it with your final paper. The reading report counts 10% of the final grade.
Reading reports submitted late will receive fractional credit (including the possibility of no credit) at the professor's discretion.

IV Required Textbooks

- Hahn, Scott. *Kinship by Covenant: A Canonical Approach to the Fulfillment of God's Saving Promises* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2009).
- Kline, Meredith, *God, Heaven and Har Magedon* (Eugene: Wipf and Stock, 2006)
- Niehaus, Jeffrey, *Ancient Near Eastern Themes in Biblical Theology* (Kregel, 2008)
- Ladd, George E., *A Theology of the New Testament* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1974)
- Thielman, Frank, *The Law and the New Testament* (New York: Crossroad, 1999)
- Williamson, Paul R. *Sealed with an Oath: Covenant in God's Unfolding Purpose*. New Studies in Biblical Theology (Downers Grove: Apollos/InterVarsity, 2007).

V Other Required Readings

- Hafemann, Scott. "The Covenant Relationship" in *Central Themes in Biblical Theology: Mapping Unity in Diversity*, edited by Scott Hafemann and Paul House (Grand Rapids: Baker; Leicester: InterVarsity, 2007), 20-65.
- Niehaus, Jeffrey. "An Argument against Theologically Constructed Covenants." *JETS* 50 (2007): 259-73. **CAMS**
- Niehaus, Jeffrey. "Covenant: An Idea in the Mind of God." *JETS* 52 (2009): 225-46. **CAMS**
- Niehaus, Jeffrey, "Covenant and Narrative, God and Time" *JETS* 53 (2010), 535-559 **CAMS**

VI Recommended Textbooks

Alexander, Patrick H., John F. Kutsko, James D. Ernest, Shirley A. Decker-Lucke, and the Society of Biblical Literature. *The SBL Handbook of Style* (Peabody.: Hendrickson; 1999).

Hafemann, Scott, and Paul House, eds. *Central Themes in Biblical Theology: Mapping Unity in Diversity* (Grand Rapids: Baker; Leicester: InterVarsity, 2007).

Scobie, Charles H. H. *The Ways of Our God: An Approach to Biblical Theology* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2003).

Stuhlmacher, Peter. *How To Do Biblical Theology*. Princeton Theological Monograph Series, 38 (Allison Park: Pickwick, 1995).

READING REPORT

Student Name _____	Assigned	Read
Hahn, <i>Kinship by Covenant</i>	1-338	.....
Kline, <i>God, Heaven and Har Magedon</i>	3-293	.....
Ladd, <i>A Theology of the New Testament</i>	13-632	.....
Williamson, <i>Sealed with an Oath</i>	1-210	.....
Hafemann, "The Covenant Relationship"	20-65	.....
Niehaus, <i>Ancient Near Eastern Themes</i>	8-181	.....
Niehaus, "An Argument..."	259-73	.....
Niehaus, "Covenant: An Idea..."	225-46	.....
Niehaus, "Covenant and Narrative..."	535-559	.....
Thielman, <i>The Law and the New Testament</i>	1-184	.....
GRAND TOTAL	<u>1918</u>	.....

Syllabus Addendum

Academic Standards

Cheating and plagiarism are considered serious breaches of personal and academic integrity. Cheating involves, but is not necessarily limited to, the use of unauthorized sources of information during an examination or the submission of the same (or substantially same) work for credit in two or more courses without the knowledge and consent of the instructors. Plagiarism involves the use of another person's distinctive ideas or words, whether published or unpublished, and representing them as one's own instead of giving proper credit to the source. Plagiarism can also involve over dependence on other source material for the scope and substance of one's writing. Such breaches in academic standards often result in a failing grade as well as other corrective measures. For more information, please consult the Student Handbook.

ADA Policy

The seminary complies with the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act. A student with a qualifying and authenticated disability who is in need of accommodations, should petition the seminary in accordance with the stated guidelines in the Student Handbook.

Cancellation of Class

In the event the seminary has to cancel a class meeting (impending storm, professor illness, etc.), the Registration Office will send out an email (via the GCTS email account) notification to all students registered in the respective course. If the cancellation occurs the day of the scheduled meeting, the Registration Office will also attempt to contact students via their primary phone contact on record. The professor will contact the students (via GCTS account) regarding make-up. If a weekend class is cancelled, the class will be made up during the scheduled Make-Up weekend (see the academic calendar for the designated dates). For more info, consult your Student Handbook.

Extension Policy

Arrangements for submission of late work at a date on or before the "last day to submit written work", as noted on the seminary's *Academic Calendar*, are made between the student and professor. Formal petition to the Registration Office is not required at this time. This includes arrangements for the rescheduling of final exams.

However, course work (reading and written) to be submitted after the publicized calendar due date, must be approved by the Registration Office. An extension form, available online, must be submitted to the Registration Office prior to the "last day to submit written work." Requests received after this date will either be denied or incur additional penalty. For a full discussion of this policy, please consult the Student Handbook.

Grades

Grades are posted on-line within twenty-four hours of receipt from the professor. Students are expected to check their CAMS student portal in order to access posted grades. Those individuals, who need an official grade report issued to a third party,

should put their request in writing to the Registration Office. Faculty have six weeks from the course work due date to submit a final grade.

Returned Work

Submitted course work will be returned to the student provided s/he provides a self addressed and postage paid envelope with his/her final work. Work submitted without the appropriate envelope will be destroyed once the grade has been assessed and issued.