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

Sep 14  Introduction: Avoidable errors - case studies
Sep 22  Adamic Covenant
  Student Presentation: Williamson  Ch 2
  Student Presentation: Niehaus  “Covenant, an Idea”
  Student Presentation: Kline  Ch 1-5
Sep 28  Adamic/Noahic Covenant
  Student Presentation: Williamson  Ch 3
  Student presentation: Hahn  Ch 4
  Student Presentation: Dumbrell  Ch 2
Oct  5  NO CLASS - PROFESSOR AWAY
Oct 12  READING WEEK  Biblical Theology: Issues, Methods, and Themes
Oct 19  Abrahamic Covenant
  Student Presentation: Williamson  Ch 4
  Student Presentation: Hahn  Ch 5
  Student Presentation: Niehaus  “God’s Covenant with Abraham”
Oct 26  Mosaic Covenant
  Student Presentation: Williamson  Ch 5
  Student Presentation: Hahn  Ch 3
Nov  2  Mosaic Covenant and New Covenant - Law and Gospel
  Student Presentation: Thielman  Ch 2
Nov  9  NO CLASS - PROFESSOR AWAY
Nov 16  READING WEEK
Nov 23  THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY
Nov 30  Davidic Covenant
  Student Presentation: Williamson  Ch 6
  Student Presentation: Hahn  Ch 7
Dec  7  New Covenant
  Student Presentation: Ladd  Ch 4-5
  Student Presentation: Hahn  Ch 8-9
Dec 14  Conclusion - open discussion
  Student Presentation  Niehaus  “Covenant and Narrative”
III Course requirements

1 Student presentation. Each student will give a half hour presentation on the topics indicated in the schedule above. The presentation may involve the use of visual media. Handouts are recommended. The presentation counts 30% of the course grade.

2 Reading Weeks. Please note that there are assigned readings for each reading week. The student must submit in writing a statement that he/she has completed the reading assigned for each reading week. Submission due at the first class following each reading week, respectively: one hard copy page, no electronic submissions.

3 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 4 p.m. 20 Dec. (January grads 8 a.m. 19 Dec.)

4 Reading Report. Each student must read the assigned texts (but not Turabian, which is just a handbook). Please enter the amount you have read on the reading report at the end of this syllabus, and submit it with your final paper. Reading reports submitted late will receive fractional credit (including the possibility of no credit) at the professor's discretion.

IV Required Textbooks

Kline, Meredith, God, Heaven and Har Magedon (Eugene: Wipf and Stock, 2006)
Niehaus, Jeffrey, Ancient Near Eastern Themes in Biblical Theology (Kregel, 2008)
V Other Required Readings

Niehaus, Jeffrey, “Covenant and Narrative, God and Time” JETS 53 (2010), 535-559 CAMS
Niehaus, Jeffrey, “God’s Covenant with Abraham” 1-64 CAMS

VI Recommended Textbooks

### READING REPORT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Name</th>
<th>Assigned</th>
<th>Read</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hahn, <em>Kinship by Covenant</em></td>
<td>1-338</td>
<td>............</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kline, <em>God, Heaven and Har Magedon</em></td>
<td>3-293</td>
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<td>Williamson, <em>Sealed with an Oath</em></td>
<td>1-210</td>
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<td>Hafemann, “The Covenant Relationship”</td>
<td>20-65</td>
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<td>Niehaus, <em>Ancient Near Eastern Themes</em></td>
<td>8-181</td>
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<td>Niehaus, “An Argument...”</td>
<td>259-73</td>
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<td>Niehaus, “God's Covenant with Abraham”</td>
<td>1-64</td>
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**GRAND TOTAL**

| 1981 | ............ |