Provisional Syllabus for OT 627 Exegesis of Exodus  
Fall 2011  
Thursday 1:15-4:15 p.m.  
Dr. Donna Petter  
dpetter@gcts.edu  
Office #127 x 4117  
Office Hours: TBA

Introduction:

The book of Exodus fulfills a vital role in biblical theology. Yahweh rescues people for relationship! In delivering the Hebrews from slavery and providing a place of worship, Yahweh reveals his power, his will, and his character to Israel. Imagine how the Old Testament would read if you extract this book from the storyline. Exodus is a linch pin in the story of redemptive history. As such it lays the foundation for the terms of the relationship governing the people of God in the New Testament.

I. Course Objectives:

1. The primary objective of the course is to train students to observe and interpret Hebrew narrative in order to teach and preach effectively. Exegetical methodology will be introduced and practiced using various texts in Exodus. The outcome of this objective will be realized through required readings and the exegesis paper.

Although methodology is the focus, this class is more than a mere methods class. It will be devotional. I want you to experience the Bible and the Old Testament with a view to the latter. Times of worship and prayer will be built into the schedule in order to meet this objective.

2. To move students to an introductory level of Intermediate Hebrew Grammar. This will entail reading and translating @ TEN chapters in Exodus. The outcome of this objective will be realized in three course quizzes (see schedule below for texts and dates)

3. To emphasize the independent yet dependent nature of interpreting the text. The outcome of this objective will be realized in exegetical exercises, lectures, and the final exegesis paper.
II. Required Texts:
BHS on *Exodus and Leviticus* (consult book center)

On Reserve:
Ryken, L. *Words of Delight* (pgs. 11-156)
Wurthwein, E. *The Text of the Old Testament* (Intro thru pg. 44)
Walsh, J. *Style & Structure in Biblical Hebrew Narrative* (pgs. 117-190)
Goldfajn, T. *Word Order and Time in Biblical Hebrew Narrative* (for review)
Stuart, D. *Exodus*.
NIV Archaeological Study Bible (Intro on pgs. 85-154)
Motyer, J. A. *The Revelation of the Divine Name*

III. Course Requirements and Evaluation

1. *Initial* Hebrew competency exam: All students must pass a basic Hebrew language exam in order to continue in the course (pg 88 GCTS Catalog). The exam will be given the first week of classes. In order to receive a passing grade and stay in the class, you must have 70 points or more out of 100.

2. *Continued* Hebrew competency: “At both the OT 600 and OT 700 levels, competence in Hebrew must be demonstrated by the student in all aspects of the course in order for a passing grade to be assigned, regardless of how the course grade is otherwise computed”(pg 88 GCTS Catalog). A detailed exegesis of this catalog statement will be given in class!

3. Exegesis Paper on Exodus 34:5-7 (45% of grade)
The paper should not exceed 30 pages. It should be 12 pt font and double spaced. Form and style should conform to the standard provided in the *SBL Handbook of Style*. Please use footnotes rather than endnotes. Sample exegesis papers are available for reference and
detailed guidelines will be offered. Due Monday, November 14\textsuperscript{th} @ 8:30 a.m. at my office.

4. Three Course Quizzes (45% of grade)
   a. Hebrew translation and parsing from the set texts in Exodus with limited use of the lexicon for each quiz.
   b. Short answers that primarily concern exegetical methodology (but information from required readings and class material is also fair game).

\textit{PLEASE NOTE:} There is NO FINAL for this course. Each quiz will be assessed and the cumulative score out of 45% will be given.

5. Class participation, AND attendance, AND required/reserved readings (10\% of grade) Students are expected to translate according to the class schedule. As a result you will be called upon to contribute to class discussions. Class participation and attendance is, therefore, required. Seminary policy states that a letter grade penalty is assessed for an absence of more than 3 hours.

Likewise, the weekly reading assignments (required and reserve) for each class are NOT OPTIONAL. At the end of the term I will give you a reading report for submission with your exegesis paper. In order to receive full credit the required texts and select chapters from reserve material must be \textit{read} not \textit{skimmed} in their entirety. Partial credit is not available.

6. All late work will receive a letter grade per week penalty.
Weekly Class Content and Assignment Schedule

**NOTE:** I reserve the right to modify elements of this schedule and syllabus should I deem it necessary to meet course objectives.

**Pre-class preparation.** Read all of Brotzman. Prepare for comp. exam by starting to translate from assigned texts (Exodus 1-2).

**Class #1/September 15**
Intro to class
Comp exam
Understanding the Hebrew Text
Understanding the Hebrew Language

**Homework:**
Read Alter (consult reserve items for comparison
Read Petter study guide
Start reading Stuart

**Class #2/September 22**
Understanding Hebrew Narrative
Understanding Exegetical Method

**Homework:**
Read Exodus in English 1x
Finish reading Stuart
Prepared translation of Ex 1-2 (focus pericope 2:23-25)
Read Intro to Exodus in
ASB on reserve pgs. 85-154

Class #3/September 29
Big Picture of Exodus
Exodus 1 & 2 “A God who Remembers”

Homework:
Read in Eng. Ex 1-3
Prepared trans. of Ex 3
(focus pericope 3:13-17)
Read Motyer, The Revelation
of the Divine Name

Class #4/October 6
Exodus 3 & 4 “Who is this God who Remembers?”

Homework:
Read in Eng. Ex 5:1-7:13
Prepared trans. of Ex 6:1-8;
7:1-7; prepare for test

Class #5: Reading Week #1 (October 10-14)
Prepare for Test #1 on October 20th
Review session: TBA
Class #6/October 20
Test #1 (Hebrew of Exodus 1-3 and all material to date)
Exodus 5:1-7:13 “A God who Rescues for Relationship”

Homework:
Read in Eng. Ex 7:14-12:32

Class #7/October 27
Exodus 7:14-12:32 “A God who is Powerful”

Homework:
Prepared trans. of Ex 19:1-9; 24:3-18

Class #8/November 3
Exodus 14-24
“A God who Saves”
“The Incomparable God!”
The Mosaic Covenant

Homework:
Read in Eng. Ex 25-31
Prepared trans. of Ex 25:1-22
Class #9: Reading Week #2 (November 7-11)

**NOTE:** Remember that exegesis papers are due the Monday after reading week on November 14th at my office no later than 8:30 a.m.

Class #10/November 17

*Test #2 (Hebrew of Exodus 12:21-28; 19:1-9; 24:3-18 and all material to date)*

Exodus 25-31 “A God who Desires to Dwell with People”

**Homework:**
Read in Eng. Ex 32-34
Prepared trans. of Ex 32:1-6; 14-20; 34:1-10

Thanksgiving/November 24

Class #11/December 1

Exodus 32-34 “A God who Forgives Stiff-necked People”

**Homework:**
Read in Eng. Ex 35-40
Prepared trans. of 40:34-38
*Any outstanding readings*

Class #12/December 8

*Test #3 (Hebrew of Exodus 25:1-22; 32:1-6; 14-20; 34:1-10; 40:34-38 and all material to date)*

Exodus 35-40 “A God who Dwells with and Guides Stiff-necked People”
Class #13/December 15th

**READING REPORT DUE**
Review of method
“From Text to Sermon”: An illustration