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 (or reintroduced for some) 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 may be built into the schedule in order to meet this objective. In other words, good methodology should naturally lead to good application of biblical truths to our lives. Application, therefore, will be given a prominent place in class discussions.

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 and Recommended:**
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*. Proportionately, there should be a balance in your paper. Do not overdo one area so that another area is woefully weak or neglected. More information in class on these details. Please use footnotes rather than endnotes. Sample exegesis papers are available for reference and detailed guidelines will be offered. Due Friday, December 14th @ NOON to my office.

4. Three Course Quizzes (**45% of grade**)
   a. Hebrew translation and parsing from the set texts in Exodus with **limited or no 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).

**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 **read not 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 reading preparation. If possible read all of Brotzman. If time permits get ahead by reading Exodus (2x) in English per the requirement on this schedule that is due for September 24, class #3.

A TIP: It is imperative you read Exodus from the Sourceview Bible that is on reserve in the library. If you do not have access to this source for some reason beyond your control, do this requirement from an English translation that you are NOT familiar with.

Pre-class comp exam preparation. Prepare for comp. exam by starting to translate from assigned texts for class #3 (Exodus 1-2), our first class where a prepared translation is expected. Not always, but often I use something from those two chapters for the comp. exam that will be given in the first class!

Weekly assignment schedule. Each week’s assignment is carefully noted. When doing the assignments please follow the suggested order as I have intentionally structured things for your maximum benefit. Do not be tempted to compromise. When it says to read in English (2x) and then to translate the Hebrew just do what it says. When you have finished your Bible readings for this class you will have read Exodus four times in English and translated @11 chapters!

Class #1/September 10
Lecture Material:
Intro to class
Comp exam
Understanding the Hebrew Text
Understanding the Hebrew Language

**Homework for next class:**
Read Alter (consult reserve items for comparison)
Read Petter study guide (2x) carefully and thoughtfully

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**Class #2/September 17**
**Lecture Material:**
Understanding Hebrew Narrative
Understanding Exegetical Method

**Homework for next class:**
Read Exodus in English 2x using *Sourceview* Bible edition on reserve
Prepared translation of Ex 1-2 (focus pericope 2:23-25)
Read Intro to Exodus in ASB on reserve pgs. 85-154

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**Class #3/September 24**
**Lecture Material:**
Big Picture of Exodus
Exodus 1 & 2 “A God who Remembers”
Method moments
Creating a Sermon Series for the book
Creating a Sermon from Ex. 2

**Homework for next class:**
Read in Eng. Ex 1-3 (2x)
Prepared trans. of Ex 3 (focus pericope 3:13-17)
Read Motyer, The Revelation of the Divine Name

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**Class #4/October 1**
**Lecture Material:**
Exodus 3 & 4 “Who is this God who Remembers?”
Method moments

**Homework for next class:**
Read in Eng. Ex 5:1-7:13 (2x)
Prepared trans. of Ex 6:1-8; 7:1-7; prepare for test
Read Motyer, The Revelation of the Divine Name

**Class #5: Reading Week #1 (October 8-12)**
Prepare for Test #1 on October 15th
Review session: TBA

**Class #6/October 15**
*Test #1 (Hebrew of Exodus 1-3 and all material to date)*
**Lecture Material:**
Exodus 5:1-7:13 “A God who Rescues for Relationship”
Method moments

**Homework for next class:**
Read in Eng. Ex 7:14-13:1-22 (2x)

**Class #7/October 22**
**Lecture Material:**
Exodus 7:14-13:1-22 “A God who is Powerful”
Passover
Method moments

**Homework for next class:**
Read in Eng. Ex 14:1-24:18 (2x)
Prepared trans. of Ex 19:1-9; 24:3-18

**Class #8/October 29**
**Lecture Material:**
Exodus 14-24
“A God who Saves”
“The Incomparable God!”
The Mosaic Covenant
Method moments

**Homework for next class:**
Read in Eng. Ex 25-31 (2x)
Prepared trans. of Ex 25:1-22

**Class #9/November 5**
*Test #2 (Hebrew of Exodus 6:2-9; 7:1-7; 12:1-13, 26-27; 19:1-9; 24:3-18 and all material to date)*

**Lecture Material:**
Exodus 25-31 “A God who Desires to Dwell with People”
Method moments

**Homework for next class:**
Read in Eng. Ex 32-34 (2x)
Prepared trans. of Ex 32:1-6; 14-20; 34:1-10

**Class #10: Reading Week #2 (November 12-16)**
Review Session with TA TBA

**Class #11/November 19**
**Lecture Material:**
Exodus 32-34 “A God who Forgives Stiff-necked People”
Method moments
Sermon Creation

**Homework for next class:**
Read in Eng. Ex 35-40 (2x)
Prepared trans. of 40:34-38
*Any outstanding readings*

**Class #12/November 26**
Test #3 (Hebrew of Exodus 25:1-22; 32:1-6; 14-20; 34:1-10; and all material to date)

Lecture Material:
Exodus 35-40 “A God who Dwells with and Guides Stiff-necked People”
Method moments
Sermon Creation

Class #13/December 3

**READING REPORT DUE**
Review of method
Discuss papers
Sermon Creation

Class #14/December 10th
Papers due on Friday
Discuss papers