Exodus
OT 6302ia
Syllabus, Spring 2016

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Office Hours: Mon., 11:00–12:00 A.M.; Tues., Wed., Thurs. 1:00-3:00 P.M.

MATS Course Goal:
The student will interpret passages of the Old Testament in light of their literary, historical, and theological contexts.

Course Objectives:
1) The student will acquire an in-depth knowledge of Exodus in its literary, historical, and theological setting.
2) The student will acquire knowledge of and be able to discuss and debate the methods and arguments of the three commentators listed in “required texts” below.
3) The student will learn how to write an exegesis paper on a passage from Exodus, using appropriate library and technological resources.
4) The student will learn how to go from “text to sermon” in practical, ministerial application of the research done on the exegesis paper.

Required Texts:
All students are encouraged to make use of all relevant helps in their pursuit of the understanding of the text of Holy Scripture. The following are intended to orient you, but you will wish to consult other books and articles, particularly for your papers.

_The New Oxford Annotated Bible of the New Revised Standard Version_, or another good study Bible.
Occasional articles.

Recommended Texts:
Gorman, Michael. _Elements of Biblical Exegesis: A Basic Guide for Students and Ministers_.
Means of Assessment:
Regular class attendance and participation is required.
1-2 hour mid-term exam.
2-3 hour final exam or project.
One 5-7 page, typed exegesis paper on one passage in Exodus, plus oral report of rough draft.
One 5 page sermon or Bible study based on the exegesis passage above.

Preparation of Papers:

Exegesis Paper:

We will be doing a close reading and exegesis of Exodus. The course will entail “hands on” experience with exegesis of the English text. Those who have had Hebrew or Greek, of course, are encouraged to use those abilities and tools in their exegesis.

Exegesis papers must use the proper research style as laid out in K. Turabian, *A Manual for Writers* (latest edition). Exegesis papers should pay careful attention to the literary context (extended and immediate), use of important terminology, and historical setting. You may wish to structure your paper along these lines. Most importantly, students are expected to use *Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance*, *Whitaker’s NRSV Concordance*, and/or a Hebrew concordance in order to determine the author’s use of words and phrases. For historical background, you will find John Bright's *A History of Israel* (4th edition) particularly helpful. Commentaries and other resources will be suggested throughout the semester (see select bibliography attached). While I am most interested in your own exegesis of the texts, you should be aware of and make use of important commentaries, dictionaries, word books, introductions, etc. Your final exegesis paper should have at least three sources (articles, books, commentaries, etc.) which you found via the ATLA database in the library.

You will find a written guide for the preparation of exegesis papers on the Austingrad.edu web site under “faculty resources,” which you are expected to utilize in the preparation of your exegesis papers.

The oral reports will involve your paraphrasing a rough draft of your exegesis paper. Student reports should take 10 minutes, followed by a period of discussion about your paper.

Sermon or Bible Study:

The sermon will be based upon the results of your exegesis paper. The sermon itself is not an exegesis, but uses the results of exegesis to make practical application in the life of the church. I will have comments to make about the form of the sermon later in the course.
Select Bibliography on Exodus: see attached sheet.

Lecture Schedule and Schedule for Oral Presentations:

*Jan.* 19: Introduction; Syllabus (I will be in Portland, Oregon).
*Jan.* 26: Introduction; Exodus in the Pentateuch; chapter 1.
*Feb.* 2: Chapters 1–2 ________________________________.
*Feb.* 8: Chapters 3–4 ________________________________.
*Feb.* 16: Chapter 4 ________________________________.
*Feb.* 23: Chapter 5 ________________________________.
*March* 1: Chapter 6 ________________________________.
*March* 8: Chapter 7 ________________________________.

*March* 15: **Spring Break (Israel archaeological study tour)**.

*March* 22: Chapters 8–9 and **Mid-term Exam** ________________.
*March* 29: Chapters 10–11 ________________________________.
*April* 5: Chapters 12–13 ________________________________.
*April* 12: Chapters 14–15 ________________________________.
*April* 19: Chapters 16–18 ________________________________.
*April* 26: Chapters 19–24 ________________________________.
*May* 3: Chapters 25–34 ________________________________.

*(exegesis paper and sermon due this week)*

*May* 10: **Final Exam or Project**.

All final exegesis papers and sermons will be due no later than the week of May 3.