Course Description and Outcomes
This course examines God’s Word as expressed through Israel’s prophets, selected Psalms, and selected passages from Wisdom literature.

Students will be able to:
1. Understand the origin, history, and use of these forms of biblical literature among God’s people.
2. Exegete these forms of biblical literature.
3. Apply exegesis to preaching, other pastoral responsibilities, and issues of the present day.

Required Textbooks

Reference Textbooks

Pre-Course Assignments
Due June 1:
• Before reading *You are my People: An Introduction to Prophetic Literature*, compose a 600-800 word essay consisting of the following two sections:
  o How do you understand the role and purpose of a prophet? What has your church tradition taught you about who the prophets are and what prophecy entails?
  o If you could identify a modern-day prophet, who would that prophet be? What is it that makes this person prophetic?
• After reading *You are my People: An Introduction to Prophetic Literature*, compose a 600-800 word book review. Spend 200-300 words summarizing the content of the book and the remaining 400-600 words reflecting on how your reading of the textbook shifted your perspective on prophecy.
Assignments
Due July 25:

• Before reading *The Wisdom Literature*, compose a 500-600 word essay addressing the following prompt: How do you define wisdom? What types of modern (non-biblical) literature would you classify as wisdom literature? What makes this literature wisdom? After you have read *The Wisdom Literature*, how would you answer these questions differently.

• After reading *Spirituality of the Psalms*, compose a 600-800 word book review. Spend 200-300 words summarizing the content of the book and the remaining 400-600 words reflecting on how your reading of the textbook describing how your perspective on the Psalms changed after reading the book.

• You may submit this assignment directly to the professor at: garber dg@mercer.edu.

Course Grading/Weights

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage of Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Who are the Prophets? Essay</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>You are my People</em> Book Review</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What is Wisdom? Essay</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Spirituality of the Psalms</em> Book Review</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Guidelines for Written Assignments

• All papers should be typed, double-spaced, on 8 ½” by 11” paper, unless the instructor has asked for a different format specifically within the pre-course work. Font should be Times New Roman or something similar and no larger than size 12. Margins are to be 1” on all four sides of each page.

• All papers must include a page number and the last name of the student in either the header or footer of every page.

• You should note the question you are answering at the beginning of each new section of materials.

• All papers should provide citations for all quoted material. You may use MLA, Turabain, APA or Chicago Style.

• Punctuation should be consistent; clarity of meaning is the primary purpose of punctuation. Edit and retype material as needed and check spelling in a standard dictionary.

• All papers should attempt to eliminate discriminatory language—for example: racism, ageism, sexism, classism, and prejudicial usage concerning handicapping conditions.

Inclusive Language Covenant

The faculty of Emory Course of Study School has adopted a covenant statement encouraging inclusiveness in the use of language, as follows:

The Inclusive Language Covenant is designed to create a linguistic environment in which all students, staff, and faculty can grow in understanding and appreciating the rich diversity of God’s people. The COS faculty commits itself—through continued discussion, reflection, and exploration—to using language in such a way that we respond to the fullness of God’s presence among us as much by our choice of words as by our care for one another. Recognizing that our experience with inclusive language is an integral part of theological formation, we invite
students and others to share as partners with us in this learning process.

We understand “covenant” more in terms of its biblical and theological meaning than in a legal or contractual context. Covenant signifies the common commitment of a community of faith in response to God’s revelation and in partnership with one another. The values implied in the covenant have morally persuaded us to try to generate patterns of speech and behavior that bond the members of the community in mutual respect. We expect all members of the community to address issues of diversity constructively. The entire Inclusive Language Covenant can be found on the COS website, and you are encouraged to read the whole covenant.

**Directions to Email Pre-Course Assignments**

**SEND TO** – Email your pre-course assignments to: amy.elizabeth.walker@emory.edu

- You are encouraged to email the instructor with questions about the assignments, but do not email your pre-course assignments to them.

**DEADLINE** – Email must be received no later than 11:59p.m. EST on June 1, 2016. Pre-course work received after the deadline will be subject to the late penalty schedule below:

  - Pre-course work received between June 2-30 will receive a two-letter grade deduction.
  - Students who have not turned in pre-course work by June 30 will be dropped from the class.

**EMAIL SUBJEKT LINE** – The subject of your email should be “Pre-Course Work – COS 421”

**THE EMAIL** – Your full name, phone number, and email address should be included at the beginning of your email. Pre-course work must be sent as an attachment and not in the body of the email.

  a. Only Microsoft Word and .pdf documents will be accepted.
  b. All assignments for each course must be in one document, multiple documents are not acceptable. You should send only one attachment with all course assignments; emails sent with multiple documents will not be accepted.

**PLAGIARISM** – The “Plagiarism Policy” and “Plagiarism Defined” paragraphs below (in red) must be included in the body of your email, not within your pre-course work. The inclusion of the policy and definition in the body of the email verifies that you agree to it and your email will represent your signature (which is a requirement). If the email does not include the plagiarism policy and definition it will not be accepted.

  **Plagiarism Policy** - I have read the plagiarism definition below and verify that this assignment represents my own work, except where credit is given.

  **Plagiarism Defined**: “You plagiarize when, intentionally or not, you use someone else’s words or ideas but fail to credit that person, leading your readers to think that those words are yours. In all fields, you plagiarize when you use a source’s words or ideas without citing that source. In most fields, you plagiarize even when you do credit the source but use its exact words without using quotation marks or block indentation” (201-202). Booth, Wayne C. Booth, Gregory G. Colomb, and Joseph M. Williams. The Craft of Research, Second Edition. Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press, 2003.

You will receive a confirmation of receipt within 24 hours of submitting your pre-course work.