All precourse assignments should be emailed to the Course of Study office by May 1, 2014.

Course Description
This course interprets the developing institutions and traditions of Israel and examines the varying ways in which the Hebrew people understood critical events of their history as acts of God. Attention is given to the earliest covenants, the Exodus, the rise of the monarchy, and other events up to the eighth-century prophets.

Course Objectives
- Formation of a historical overview of the life and faith of ancient Israel
- Exegesis of selected passages that illustrate crucial turning points in the history of Israel
- Correlation of exegesis with its utilization in preaching and other pastoral functions
- Reflection upon ways in which God has been at work in the lives of people in these biblical materials
- Ongoing development of an exegetical methodology
- Application of these studies to the concerns and issues of the present day

Required Textbooks
- A Bible. The New Revised Standard Bible is recommended, and is the one the instructor will use in class. You may use a different version if you prefer. We shall use the Bible in class every day with the possible exception of the first.

 Recommend but Not Required Textbook

Required Reading
- Understanding the Old Testament, pp. 1-256 and either chapter 16 or chapter 17
- The handouts given in class
Precourse Assignment Paper
Write (A) a summary (no more than four pages) and (B) an evaluation (no fewer than three pages) of either chapter 16 or chapter 17 in Anderson, Bishop, and Newman’s book. The brief summary should select out the portions of the chapter which you consider to be most important for an understanding of the topic. The evaluation should point out the new insights or new challenges the chapter gave you. If you had any disagreement with the text or if you found some of it confusing, you should state that also. And finally, indicate how the chapter will help you in your sermon preparation and in leading your congregation in Bible studies.

The paper should be thoroughly footnoted (you may want to read/review the statement on plagiarism found on the Emory COS website or resources found on Blackboard regarding citations). Please make sure (1) that your paper is written in complete sentences containing correct grammar, punctuation, and spelling and (2) that it is turned in on time. Late papers will be graded down according to Emory’s standards and COS policy.

Class Procedure
Class procedure normally will be lecture and discussion with an occasional class activity. Class discussion is an important aspect of learning, and I encourage you to discuss. Be aware, however, that it is beneficial only if it illustrates, advances, or corrects the point at hand.

The Test
A test will be given on the Tuesday, July 30. Test questions may come from the Bible, the textbook, the handouts given out in class, and the material covered in class. As you take the test, you may consult the Bible, the textbook, the handouts, and the notes you took in class.

Required Written Assignments and Grading
- The Precourse Paper 40% of course grade
- The Test 60% of course grade

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 precourse 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 Precourse Assignments
Please read all the directions below before emailing your assignments to the COS Office, any emails received that do not follow the directions below will not be accepted. You will receive an email confirmation of receipt and if your email is not submitted correctly an email indicating you will need to resend your assignments.

1. Email only michelle.levan@emory.edu, do not email instructors precourse assignments.
2. Email must be received no later than 11:59pm on the deadline of May 1st.
   1. Please note that the cut off time is EASTERN STANDARD TIME zone, so email your assignments accordingly.
   2. Any precourse work received after May 1st at 11:59pm will be subject to a late penalty.
      • Precourse work received between May 2 – June 1 is 1 letter grade deduction.
      • Precourse work received between June 2 – June 20 is 2 letter grade deductions.
      • You will be drop from any course for which precourse work has not been received after June 20th. No precourse work will be accepted at check-in.
3. The course number and the phrase “precourse work” should be the subject of your email: Example - Precourse Work 113
   1. You will need to send a separate email for each course you are registered to attend.
4. Precourse work must be sent as an attached document and not in the body of the email.
   1. Any version of Microsoft Word will be accepted; PDF and Mac-Pages documents will not be accepted.
   2. 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.
5. Your FULL name, phone number and email, should all be clearly included at the beginning of your email. See Example
6. Plagiarism Policy and Plagiarism Defined
   The plagiarism Policy and Defined paragraphs below must be included in the body of your email (both are below), not within your precourse 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. Your email, with the plagiarism policy and definition will be printed and used as the cover sheet for your precourse assignments, because it has the verification of date and time received, and your agreement to the plagiarism policy and definition.
   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.
7. If you do not follow the procedure your precourse work WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED!