All precourse assignments should be emailed to the Course of Study office by May 1, 2015.

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 but not Required Textbooks

Course Requirements
• Timely completion of all pre-course assignments (30%)
• Class attendance, participation and completion of assigned readings (20%)
• Final exam (50%) [The final exam may include questions from the biblical books assigned to read, secondary texts, call discussion and any handouts.]

Precourse Assignments
Assignment 1
Read the required texts completely.

Assignment 2
Brueggemann, in his *Spirituality of the Psalms*, uses the schema “Orientation – Disorientation-New Orientation”. Pick three Psalms, one that represents each of the different stages of the schema – one psalm of orientation, one psalm of disorientation, and one psalm of new
orientation. Discuss each psalm form-critically and how each represents its stage of the schema. [Roughly one double-spaced page for each psalm and no more than four double-spaced pages total.]

**Assignment 3**

Read Clifford, *The Wisdom Literature* (Interpreting Biblical Texts Series), and answer the following questions about wisdom literature using his information and approach:

1. Compare biblical and modern wisdom literature, giving examples of wisdom genres in both cases. [No more than two double-spaced pages.]
2. Pick one of the books of biblical wisdom and discuss; [No more than three double-spaced pages]
   a. Literary structure and purpose
   b. Genre
   c. Social location
   d. Main assumptions and concepts
3. Discuss the interplay of respect for tradition and reverence for experience found in wisdom literature. How were writers of wisdom innovative with the tradition? [No more than one double-spaced page.]

**Assignment 4**

1. Briefly outline Stulman and Kim’s [*You are My People: An Introduction to Prophetic Literature*] description of biblical prophetic literature as “a meaning-making map of hope for ‘causalities’ of war and exile.” [No more than one page double-spaced.]
2. For the book of Jeremiah [No more than four double-spaced pages total.]
   o Describe the crisis of Israel that elicited the prophetic speech of Jeremiah
   o What was Jeremiah’s response to this crisis?
   o What are the theological assumptions of Jeremiah’s prophecy?

**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 your precourse assignments, do not email assignments to the instructors. You are encouraged to email the instructors questions about the assignments.
2. Email must be received no later than 11:59pm on the deadline of May 1st.
   a. Please note that the cut off time is EASTERN STANDARD TIME zone, so email your assignments accordingly.
   b. 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
   a. 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.
   a. Any version of Microsoft Word will be accepted; PDF, Word Perfect, and Mac-Pages documents will not be accepted. If you are using another type of word processing program please convert your document to a version of Microsoft Word before sending.
   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.
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! You will receive a confirmation of receipt within 24 hours or notice to resubmit following the process.