I. Textbooks and Required Reading

A. Required Reading

Each student will be required to read the books of Joshua, Judges, 1 and 2 Samuel, 1 and 2 Kings, and 1 and 2 Chronicles during the quarter. Previous reading of these books does not count for credit.

B. Textbooks

1. *The Bible*. In this course I will be using the *New Oxford Annotated Bible* (NRSV), 4th edition. This is an excellent study Bible which provides a good introduction to each book of the Bible and also good study notes. Students are not required to use this version of this Bible. Students are required to bring their Bible to class each week. Reading from another student’s Bible is not allowed.


7. Claude F. Mariottini, Class Notes. $10.00.

8. Web page material (Web page and Blog - Available through Moodle).
C. Required Use in Research Paper


*Note*: Although Turabian is required for the preparation of the research paper, students do not have to buy this book. Guidelines on using Turabian will be distributed in class.

II. Course Description

1. This course will introduce students to the methods and results of biblical criticism and how they affect biblical studies.

2. This course will also survey the history of Israel, from the time of the nation’s entrance into Canaan until the restoration of the nation after the Babylonian exile.

3. The course will focus on the historical, political, religious, and social events that shaped Israelite society and provided the impetus for the preaching of the prophets.

III. Course Objectives

1. This course will help students to gain an overview of the history of Israel from the time of the conquest to the restoration of the nation after the exile.

2. This course will help students gain a better knowledge of the history and literature of the Old Testament. This knowledge will provide the tools to help students do better exegesis of the Old Testament.

3. This course will help students understand the political, religious, and the social factors that contributed to the formation of the Old Testament.

IV. Course Requirements

1. Students are expected to attend all meetings of the course, unless hindered by circumstances beyond their control.

2. Each student will be allowed to miss 20% of the classes. Anyone who misses more than 2 classes will fail the course.

3. There will be no final exam the end of the quarter. Instead, students will prepare 2 short papers. Each paper will be worth 1/3 of the final grade. Students will write a paper on a biblical person and a special topic. The assignment will be given during the first day of class. Students who desire to begin writing the papers before the first day of class must contact the professor for assignments.
4. Each student will be required to write two 7-8 pages paper during the quarter. Each paper will be worth 1/3 of the grade. The paper shall be 7-8 pages (minimum) in length and will be due on Tuesday, February 10, 2015 and on Tuesday, March 17, 2015.

5. Students must present a 3-page review of the book *Texts of Terror*. The report will be due in class on Tuesday, January 27, 2015. The value of the review will be worth the same as one of the quizzes. Late book reviews will be penalized. Write a 3-page summary of the book following the guidelines to be distributed in class. Students may want to begin reading the book and writing the review before the first day of class. Students who want to begin reading the book before the beginning of the quarter must send me an email requesting the guidelines for the book review.

6. Students are expected to make preparation for each course meeting by reading the pages assigned in the required reading. Students should read the assignment for January 7 before coming to class on the first day of the quarter.

7. The reading of the biblical books will be graded as the value of one quiz.

8. **Extra Credit**: The article on “Women in the Old Testament” will be discussed in class on Tuesday, January 27, 2015. Students who desire to receive extra credit in the course can submit a two-page review of the article for extra credit. The review must be sent by email before class on Tuesday, January 27, 2015.

9. A quiz will be given each week over the required reading and their average will be equal to 1/3 of the grade. **There will be no make up for the weekly quizzes.**

10. Overdue work must be turned in. Late papers will be penalized one letter grade.

V. Technology Use in the Classroom

Unless it is directly tied to note-taking or research for the class, students are expected to refrain from cell phone or laptop use during class.

VI. Course Evaluation

Students must complete an online course evaluation using the seminary Moodle system at [http://moodle.edu](http://moodle.edu) in order to receive a final grade for the course. The evaluation will be open for one week, the last week of the term. If you need assistance connecting to Moodle or accessing the evaluation, please send an email to moodlehelp@seminary.edu.

VII. Grading

A. The total amount of points to be given in class is 300.

B. Each research paper will be worth 1/3 of the grade
C. The quizzes will be averaged and its total will be worth 1/3 of the grade.

D. The grade for reading the biblical books will be equivalent to one of the quizzes.

E. No incomplete will be granted for this class. An incomplete may be granted (at the discretion of the professor) in case of a dire emergency.

F. Grading scale:

\[
\begin{align*}
A &= 100-95 \\
A- &= 94-90 \\
B+ &= 89-87 \\
B &= 86-83 \\
B- &= 82-80 \\
C+ &= 79-77 \\
C &= 76-73 \\
C- &= 72-70 \\
D+ &= 69-67 \\
D &= 66-63 \\
D- &= 62-60 \\
F &= 59 \text{ and below}
\end{align*}
\]

VIII. Office Hours

I am available to students who wish to discuss any problem related to class work, test, research paper, or any other matter related to personal problems or seminary work. This quarter my office hours are:

- **Monday**: 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
- **Tuesday**: 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

It is very important that you call my office and make an appointment before you come to see me. If you cannot come in at these times, please call and make an appointment to see me at another time. You can also contact me at any time by email: cmariottini@faculty.seminary.edu.

IX. Weekly Schedule

1. **January 13**: Introduction to the Deuteronomic History

   Bright, 144-182

   The Settlement Period
   Flanders, 222-256
   Mariottini, “The Levite and His Concubine,” 43-46
   Mariottini, “The Sacrifice of Jephthah’s Daughter,” 47-49
   Mariottini, “The Fate of Jephthah’s Daughter,” 50-53
Mariottini, “The Virginity of Jephthah’s Daughter,” 54-56

2. January 20  The Rise of the Monarchy

   Samuel and Saul
   Flanders, 257-273, Bright, 184-195
   Mariottini, “Who Went Back to the City,” 57-58
   Mariottini, “Was Ruth Barren,” 59-61
   Mariottini, “King Saul: Little in His Own Eyes,” 62-63
   Mariottini, “How Old Was Saul,” 64-66

3. January 27  The United Monarchy

   David
   Flanders, 273-284, Bright, 195-211
   Mariottini, “David and Melchizedek,” 67-69
   Mariottini, “David’s Sons Were Priests,” 70-71
   Mariottini, “Him that Pisseth against the Wall,” 72-77

   Solomon
   Flanders, 284-293, Bright, 211-228

   Book Review is due today
   Extra Credit report is due today

4. February 3  The Division of the Kingdom

   Flanders, 294-307, Bright, 229-240
   Mariottini, “Whose Cloak Did Ahijah Tear?” 78-81

5. February 10  The Omrides and Elijah

   Flanders, 307-321; 322-338; Bright, 240-266

   Research Paper # 1 is due today

6. February 17  The Fall of Samaria

   Flanders, 339-354; Bright, 269-278

7. February 24  Hezekiah
Flanders, 355-379, Bright, 278-309

8. March 3 Josiah
Flanders, 380-386, Bright, 310-324
Mariottini, “The Challenges of Parenthood,” 82-84

9. March 10 Fall of Jerusalem and the Exile
Fall of Jerusalem
Flanders, 386-405, Bright, 324-339

10. March 17 Exile and Restoration
Flanders, 406-429; 430-450; Bright, 343-372
Research Paper # 2 is due today

X. Research Paper Topics

The topics for the research papers will be sent by email to students enrolled in the course. Please, check your student email for notification about the research paper.

XII. Classroom Expectations

POLICIES FOR ALL MASTERS CLASSES

NOTE: All communications from the seminary will go to your seminary email account. Contact ithelpdesk@seminary.edu if you need help forwarding your seminary email address to your personal email address.

As a seminary community we hold integrity/hospitality as core values. Individuals are able to do their best work and thinking when their peers are fully present and engaged. We expect each person to both participate in class and carefully listen to others with the belief that everyone’s contribution is equally important. Therefore, the following policies have been established in order to provide clarity in regard to attendance expectations and relationships in the classroom.

Diploma/Certificate Student Course Requirements
The amount of work required of Diploma/Certificate students will be at the discretion of the professor. Students will be responsible for contacting the professor about what assignments are required.
Class Attendance Policy
It is expected that students will attend and participate in all class sessions. Failure to attend at least 80% of class sessions is grounds for automatic failure. A professor may set other attendance expectations. Students are always expected to communicate with a professor in advance if they will be absent. Attendance expectations are higher for online and intensive courses (see syllabus for specific requirements).

Class Tardiness Policy
The third time a student is late to the start of class, it will be counted as a class absence. It is also expected that students will return from a break by the time specified by the professor.

Late Work Policy
If a student cannot complete the work for a course by the due date listed on the syllabus, they must submit a “Request for a Grade of Incomplete” form to the Registrar by 4:30 of the last day of the term. The form must be signed by the instructor and Dean of Students. The professor may set stipulations and grade reductions. In the absence of a formal request form, the student will receive a grade based upon work completed by the last day of the term.

Turabian Format
All papers, including footnotes and bibliography, must be submitted in the correct format according to Kate L. Turabian, A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations, 8th ed., 2013.

Plagiarism
Plagiarism is the act of passing off as one’s own the words or ideas of someone else without providing proper acknowledgement or documentation. See the “Academic Honesty Policy” in the Seminary Catalog for more information on plagiarism and how to avoid it.

Electronic Format
Unless otherwise specified by the professor, all work submitted electronically must be in a Word document format (.doc, .docx).

Technology Use in the Classroom
Unless it is directly tied to note-taking or research for the class, students are expected to refrain from using cell phones, laptops, or other electronic devices during class.

Course Evaluation in Moodle
Students must complete an online course evaluation using the seminary Moodle system at http://moodle.seminary.edu in order to receive a final grade for the course. The evaluation will be open for one week starting the last day of the term. If you need assistance connecting to Moodle or accessing the evaluation, please send an email to moodlehelp@seminary.edu.