

PROPHETS

George R. Boudreau, O.P.

BIB-D513-01

3 Credits

Prerequisite: BIB-D502 (or the Equivalent)

An online hybrid study of the origin and development of ancient prophecy in Israel within the context of ancient Near Eastern history. While all of Israel's prophets will be mentioned, special attention will be given to the books of the following Classical (i.e. Writing) Prophets and their theologies: Amos, Hosea, the three Isaiahs, Micah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel. A close reading of selected texts from Israel's Classical Prophets will round out the course.

Objectives:

1. To know the general content of ancient Middle Eastern prophetic literature, along with the geography and history of Israel and the Middle East from ca. 800 to ca. 100 BCE.
2. To know the general content of Israel's prophetic literature as contained in the "Former Prophets," but especially the "Latter Prophets" ("Classical Prophets," "Writing Prophets") found in the Hebrew Scriptures.
3. To analyze the background, message, and theology of Amos, Hosea, Proto-Isaiah, Micah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Deutero-Isaiah, and Trito-Isaiah.
4. To analyze the exegetical, hermeneutical, and preaching aspects of specific passages from Israel's prophetic literature by way of commentaries, Church Lectionary, Catechism of the Catholic Church, and commonly accepted Christological and Ecclesiological foreshadowings gleaned by Christians who read this literature today.
5. To explore the "prophetic" in today's world, especially from the perspective of liberation theology.
6. To compare the theologies of the implied authors mentioned in # 3 with both the theologies of the post-exilic real authors of these prophetic books and our present-day theologies.

Procedure: A 15-week online / hybrid Interactive adult learning model with Intensive: October 25 - 27.

Evaluations: Completion of weekly assignments, active weekly online presence and participation; a mid-term exam; a major prophetic paper in two specified parts; and an oral presentation of the paper.

Required Texts:

McKenna, Megan. *Prophets: Words of Fire*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis, 2001.

Miller, John W. *Meet the Prophets: A Beginner's Guide to the Books of the Biblical Prophets*. New York: Paulist Press, 1987.

Supplemental reading and commentary packets will be available on CD at the beginning of the semester.