BN3015W  Migration and the Bible

Offered: 2017: Semester 2

This unit will explore the various dimensions of forced and unforced migration in the Biblical traditions, such as journeying, exodus, exile and return, sojourning, new exodus, and diaspora. After examining their origin in the Jewish Scriptures, the focus will be on how the migration stories are recalled and reinterpreted in the New Testament traditions in various ways. Students will analyse how such motifs are alluded to, reimagined, and fulfilled in a selected range of New Testament texts from the Gospels, Acts and the Epistles.

Upon successful completion of this unit, it is expected that students will be able to:

1. Apply appropriate exegetical methods to selected biblical texts;
2. Demonstrate the hermeneutical skills necessary for working thematically across both Testaments;
3. Identify key biblical texts and traditions of significance for the issues faced by migrant peoples;
4. Describe and analyse the various approaches to understanding the use of Old Testament traditions and texts in the New Testament.
5. Articulate a coherent account of the hermeneutical significance of Biblical understandings of migration for contemporary discussions.

Prerequisites: 30 points in Field B

Class Time: Three hours per week

Assessment:
- Critical reviews of readings (1,500 words) (20%)
- Seminar/tutorial paper (1,500 words) (30%)
- Exegetical essay (3,000 words) (50%)

Faculty: Oh-Young Kwon, Keith Dyer

Recommended Reading:
* = set texts recommended for purchase

Bailey, Randall C., Tat-Siong Benny Liew, and Fernando F. Segovia. *They were all together in one place: Toward Minority Biblical Criticism*. Atlanta: SBL Press, 2009.


