

BA3015W Preaching and Teaching the Old Testament

Offered: 2018: Semester 1
[Unit offered alternatively as DL3015W]

This unit will explore the practices of preaching and teaching the Hebrew Bible / Old Testament in a range of community contexts. Attention will be given to the challenge of balancing historical considerations in biblical studies with the uses of scripture in the church, especially in freshly enabling the practice of faith. The uses of the Hebrew Bible in Christian traditions of worship, social engagement, and the arts, will also be considered.

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

1. Effectively communicate complex exegesis of biblical texts, with particular attention to the genres of the Hebrew Bible;
2. Demonstrate critical theological engagement with the intersection between exegesis and a variety of reading communities today;
3. Analyse the appropriation of biblical material in the arts;
4. Demonstrate theological understanding of the implications of sharing scripture with Judaism;
5. Use scripture responsibly when considering a public issue in the context of preaching.

Prerequisites: 30 points in Hebrew Bible

Class Time: Three hours per week

Assessment:	Critical analysis of set readings (1,500 words)	(30%)
	Sermon text (1,500 words)	(30%)
	Essay (2,000 words)	(40%)

Faculty: Mark Brett

Recommended Reading:

* = set texts recommended for purchase

- Brueggemann, W *The Word Militant: Preaching a Decentering Word*. Minneapolis: Augsburg, 2010
- Davis, EF *Wondrous Depth: Preaching the Old Testament*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2005
- Davis, EF *Getting Involved with God: Rediscovering the Old Testament*. Lanham: Cowley, 2001
- Exum, JC *Retellings: The Bible in Literature, Art and Film*. Leiden: Brill, 2007
- Fewell, DN *The Children of Israel: Reading the Bible for the Sake of our Children*. Nashville: Abingdon, 2003
- Martin, D *Pedagogy of the Bible: An Analysis and Proposal*. Louisville: Westminster, 2008
- Mathewson, SD *The Art of Preaching Old Testament Narrative*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2002
- Smith-Christopher, D *The Old Testament: Our Call to Faith and Justice*. Notre Dame: Ave Maria Press, 2005
- Wallace, HN *Words to God, Word from God: The Psalms in the Prayer and Preaching of the Church*. Aldershot: Ashgate, 2005
- West, G *The Academy of the Poor: Towards a Dialogical Reading of the Bible*. Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press, 1999
- Wilkerson, B (ed.) *Multicultural Religious Education*. Birmingham: Religious Education Press, 1997