

BA9007W Jeremiah

Offered: 2018: Intensive - February

This unit aims to examine the book of Jeremiah with particular reference to the historical background assumed, and surveying modern approaches to studies in Jeremiah with reference to the theories of the growth and composition of the book we now have. Critical and exegetical tools will be used to study selected passages in the light of modern schools of study. Particular attention will be paid to theological themes within the book (including justice and righteousness, loyal love, knowledge of God, divine suffering) and ecological themes, including consideration of the relevance of these themes within current 'prophetic voices'.

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

1. Outline key aspects of the prophetic movement in Israel in the 6th and 5th centuries BCE.
2. Demonstrate a critical awareness of and critique a range of scholarly approaches to studying the text of Jeremiah.
3. Exegete selected texts from Jeremiah, employing a range of appropriate exegetical methodologies.
4. Effectively use the tools for biblical interpretation: lexicons, dictionaries, commentaries, journals, monographs and primary sources.
5. Articulate key aspects of the social, economic and religious issues underlying these texts.
6. Describe the major theological themes in Jeremiah and discuss them in relation to the socio-political climate of 6th and 5th centuries BCE Israel.
7. Reflect theologically on the place of the 'prophetic voice' in our current context in a critically rigorous, sustained and self-directed manner, in light of Jeremiah's responses to the issues faced by his community.

Prerequisites: BA8001W or equivalent

Class Time: Twelve sessions of 3 hours each over 6 days

Assessment:	Critical review of readings (1000 words)	(15%)
	One 2,000 word exegetical paper	(35%)
	One 3,000 word essay	(50%)

Faculty: Val Billingham

Recommended Reading:

* = set texts recommended for purchase

Anderson, Bernard W., *Contours of Old Testament Theology*. Minneapolis: Fortress, 1999.

Blenkinsopp, Joseph, *A History of Prophecy in Israel. From the Settlement in the Land to the Hellenistic Period*, Philadelphia: Westminster, 1983.

Brueggemann, Walter, *A Commentary on Jeremiah: Exile and Homecoming*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1998.

Craigie, Peter C., Kelley, Page H. and Drinkard, Joel F. Jr., *Jeremiah 1-25*. Word Biblical Commentary. Vol 26; Dallas, Texas: Word, 1991.

Fretheim, E. Terence, *Jeremiah*. Macon Georgia: Smyth and Helwys, 2002.

Habel, Norman C., ed., *The Earth Story in the Psalms and the Prophets*. The Earth Bible 4; Sheffield: Sheffield Academic, 2001.

Hayes, Katherine M., *The Earth Mourns: Prophetic Metaphor and Oral Aesthetic*. Atlanta: SBL, 2002.

Keown, Gerald L. Scalise. Pamela J. and Smothers, Thomas G., *Jeremiah 26-52*. Word Biblical Commentary 27; Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 2000.

Leuchter, Mark, *Josiah's Reforms and Jeremiah's Scroll. History, Calamity and Prophetic Response*. Sheffield: Sheffield Phoenix, 2006.

Northcott, Michael S., *A Moral Climate. The Ethics of Global Warming*. London: Darton, Longman and Todd, 2007.