

**Note:**

**COURSE CONTENT MAY BE CHANGED, TERM TO TERM, WITHOUT NOTICE. THE INFORMATION BELOW IS PROVIDED AS A GUIDE FOR COURSE SELECTION AND IS NOT BINDING IN ANY FORM.**

## MOODY DISTANCE LEARNING

### Course Number, Name, and Credit Hours

BI-3316 *Major Prophets 1: Isaiah*, 3 credit hours, MDL only.

### Course Description

Examines the book of Isaiah, giving attention to historical background and the critical issues surrounding the book while focusing primarily on detailed analysis of the content. Emphasis is on the theological significance of the purpose and message of the book for both Old and New Testaments.

### Course Goals:

In this course you will:

- Understand the religious, economic, political, and cultural situation into which Isaiah spoke
- Understand the overall message of the book of Isaiah
- Understand the significance of Isaiah for the interpretation of the New Testament, for individual believers, and for the modern-day church
- Understand the nature of Israelite prophecy in its ancient Near Eastern context
- Understand the critical scholarly positions associated with Isaiah

### Course Objectives – At the completion of this course, you should be able to:

Upon completion of this course, you should be able to:

1. Describe the major religious, economic, cultural, and political of eighth century Israel
2. Compare and contrast Israelite prophecy to that of other ancient Near Eastern societies
3. Analyze a passage of Isaiah in its Old Testament and New Testament contexts
4. Discuss the major prophetic motifs found in the book of Isaiah and the way in which they contribute to the overall message and flow of the book
5. Summarize the critical theories associated with the book of Isaiah
6. Apply an aspect of Isaiah to one's personal and ecclesiastical life

## Course Textbook(s) and/or Supplemental Information

### **BOOKS**

Required textbooks for all Moody Online classes can be found on the [Required Textbooks](#) section of the Moody website.

### **ARTICLES AND ESSAYS**

Brueggemann, Walter. "Unity and Dynamic in the Isaiah Tradition" *Journal for the Study of the Old Testament* 29 (1984) 89-107.

Hoffner, Harry A. "Ancient Views of Prophecy and Fulfillment: Mesopotamia and Asia Minor" *Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society* 30 (1987): 257-265. [ATLA]

### **OPTIONAL READING**

Students will be asked to read one of the following articles along with Brueggemann's "Unity and Dynamic in the Isaiah Tradition" in order to complete Assignment 3 below.

Clements, Ronald E. "The Unity of the Book of Isaiah" *Interpretation* 36 (1982) 117-129.

Clifford, Richard J. "The Unity of the Book of Isaiah and Its Cosmogonic Language" *Catholic Biblical Quarterly* 55 (1993) 1-17.

Evans, Craig A. "On the Unity and Parallel Structure of Isaiah" *Vetus Testamentum* 38 (1988) 129-147.

### **SUGGESTED TEXTS**

Rose, Wolter. "Messianic Expectations in the Old Testament" *In die Skriflig* 35 (2001): 275-288.  
[Resources]

Young, Robert. *Young's Analytical Concordance to the Bible* (Peabody: Hendrickson, 1984) ISBN: 0917006291

## Assignments

**All assignments and reading should be completed according to the schedule below. Assignments should be completed in double-spaced, MLA format unless specifically noted.**

### **ASSIGNMENT #1: BOOK REVIEW**

- Write a one to two page critique of Brueggemann's *Prophetic Imagination* (Note: A sample book review has been provided in Course Resources).

### **ASSIGNMENT #2: COMPARISON ASSIGNMENT**

- Produce a two to three page comparison of VanGemen and Brueggemann. You should note major similarities between these two authors. Differences in argumentation and/or terminology should be examined. You should also make a determination concerning which book resonates with them most.

### **ASSIGNMENT #3: REVIEW OF CRITICAL SCHOLARSHIP**

- Develop a two page discussion of critical views of the unity of Isaiah.

**ASSIGNMENT #4: EVALUATION OF THE USE OF ISAIAH IN THE NEW TESTAMENT**

- Produce an analysis of one of three pre-determined verse groupings.

**READING REPORTS**

You are required to read the textbooks and bible scriptures according to the course schedule and to complete a Reading Report by the end of each week. These weekly Reading Reports are in the **Assignments** section of Blackboard.

**DISCUSSION BOARDS**

Significant participation in the discussion boards is required of each student in the course. Postings should be well thought out and should advance the conversations with other students. **Note:** A seven-category discussion board rubric is located in the **Course Resources** section of this course by which your instructor will evaluate your discussion board postings.

**Assessments**

Your grade for this course will consist of:

<i>Assignment #1: Book Review</i>	20%
<i>Assignment #2: Comparison</i>	10%
<i>Assignment #3: Review of Critical Scholarship</i>	10%
<i>Assignment #4: Evaluation</i>	40%
<i>Reading</i>	10%
<i>Discussion Board Participation</i>	10%

Letter grades are determined by the following scale:

Letter Grade	Percentage Equivalent	Letter Grade	Percentage Equivalent
A	96% or higher	C	73 - 76.9%
A-	90 - 95.9%	C-	70 - 72.9%
B+	87 - 89.9%	D+	67 - 69.9%
B	83 - 86.9%	D	63- 66.9%
B-	80 - 82.9%	D-	60 - 62.9%
C+	77 - 79.9%	F	Below 60%

**Course Resources**

Online students have access to the Moody Library. Though students may wish to check out books via inter-library loan, the online database has a number of articles and reviews available for download. You can access the online database by logging into your account at [my.moody.edu](http://my.moody.edu). If you have not previously accessed the library database you may wish to complete the [database tutorial](#).

In addition to the resources available at the Moody Library, you may wish to visit <http://www.biblicalstudies.org.uk> or [www.bible.org](http://www.bible.org). These sites contain content on various topics written by competent biblical scholars. It is also suggested that you download a free version of the NET Bible at bible.org.

The final resource that deserves mention here is iTunes University. Apple has developed a platform for colleges and universities to post audio and video content. There are a number of lectures available on iTunes U, including some on the Old Testament historical and prophetic books. Various schools such as Dallas Theological Seminary, Seattle Pacific University, Duke, and Yale have posted content related to biblical and theological studies. In addition, Covenant Theological Seminary has an Old Testament podcast.

### **Course Copyright Statement**

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