BIBL 5220 OLD TESTAMENT 2:
PROPHETS AND THEIR LEGACY

North Park Theological Seminary Course Syllabus
Spring 2027, Hybrid/Hyflex Format

Tuesday evenings 7:30-9:00 pm (CST)

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Sophia A. Magallanes-Tsang, Associate Professor of Old Testament
E-mail: samagallanes@northpark.edu (best method of contact)
Office: Nyvall Hall 317

During the semester, please feel free to email me M-F, during business hours (8 am – 5 pm central time). I usually respond to email (and voicemail) within 24 hours, M-F.

Meeting with professor. Students are welcome to schedule an appointment to meet live on video or in person at my office in Nyvall Hall 317. If you are having any difficulties in the course, I encourage you to be in contact early on so we can problem solve together.

To schedule an *online* office meeting via Teams video or an *in-person* office meeting, please Book a meeting time here.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course investigates the biblical story of the people of God in the sixteen prophetic books of the Old Testament, as well as their various narrative and historical settings in I and II Kings. It also includes, then: Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah and Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, and Malachi. The course will provide an understanding of the overarching content (events, characters, and themes) of these books, and their original cultural and historical settings (8th-5th centuries BC). Attention will be given to literary genres, certain critical issues, and inter-biblical connections as they aid interpretation of texts. Historically, it will cover the prophetic preaching from the divided kingdom through the Persian Second Temple restoration. The goal is to further prepare students to appreciate, interpret, teach, and preach from these books in the ministries of the Church.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS & READINGS

Having a good study Bible is assumed (NRSV, NIV, etc.) These textbooks are required:
Brueggemann, Walter. *The Prophetic Imagination. 40th Anniversary Edition.* Minneapolis, MN:Fortress, 2018. [125 pages]
Ching Shao, Rosa. *Jonah: A Pastoral and Contextual Commentary*. Asia Bible Commentary. Carlisle, UK/Manila, Philippines: Langham Global Library/Asia Theological Association, 2019. [81 pages]
Smith, Gary V. *Interpreting the Prophetic Books: An Exegetical Handbook.* Handbooks for Old Testament Exegesis. Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel, 2014. [192 pages]
Tully, Eric J. *Reading the Prophets as Christian Scripture: A Literary, Canonical, and Theological Introduction.* Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 2022. [387 pages]

Options (including e-books) for purchasing the textbooks are available at this North Park textbook link.

These readings are also required and will be posted as PDFs on Canvas:
2 chapters in:

Hess, Richard S. *The Old Testament: A Historical, Theological, and Critical Introduction.* Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 2016.

"Deuteronomy" [29 pages]
"1-2 Kings" [41 pages]

7 essays in:
Sharp, Carolyn J., editor. *The Oxford Handbook of The Prophets.* New York, NY: Oxford University Press, 2016.

Martti **Nissinen**, "Prophetic Intermediation in the Ancient Near East." [17 pgs]
Lester **Grabbe**, "Prophecy and Priesthood." [14 pgs]
H. G. M. **Williamson**, "History and Memory in the Prophets." [16 pgs]
Christl M. **Maier**, "Feminist Interpretation of the Prophets." [15 pgs]
Traci **West**, "The Prophets and Ethics." [20 pgs]
Michael S. **Koppel**, "The Prophets and Pastoral Care." [16 pgs]
Leonora **T. Tisdale** and Carolyn J. **Sharp**, "The Prophets and Homiletics." [24 pgs]

Important notes on course reading & study time:
For a 3-hour course at NPTS, the standard is 1,000 pages of required reading. The above represents about 963 pages of required reading.

Students do not have any *required* Bible reading, but as a value-added benefit, it is *strongly* recommended that students read through the OT biblical texts covered in this course as well (see the course schedule below).

Overall, students should plan to devote at least 3 hours each week, per credit hour, for coursework outside of instructional hours.

SHORT BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Some further helpful sources for the study of OT Prophetic literature include:
- Beitzel, Barry J. *The New Moody Atlas of the Bible.* Chicago: Moody, 2009.
- Birch, Bruce C., Walter Brueggemann, Terrence E. Fretheim, and David L. Peterson. *Theological Introduction to the Old Testament.* Second edition. Nashville: Abingdon, 2005.
- Boda, Mark J., and J. Gordon McConville, editors. *Dictionary of the Old Testament: Prophets.* Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2012.
- Carroll R., M. Daniel. *The Lion Roars: Recovering the Prophetic Voice for Today.* Theological Explorations for the Church Catholic. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2022.
- Chalmers, Aaron. *Interpreting the Prophets: Reading, Understanding and Preaching from the Worlds of the Prophets.* Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2015.
- Freedman, D. N., editor. *Eerdmans Dictionary of the Bible.* Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2000. Gentry, Peter J. *How to Read & Understand the Biblical Prophets.* Wheaton: Crossway, 2017.
- Hays, J. Daniel. *The Message of the Prophets: A Survey of the Prophetic and Apocalyptic Books of the Old Testament.* Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2010.
- Kitchen, K. A. *On the Reliability of the Old Testament.* Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2003.
- Longman III, Tremper. *Old Testament Commentary Survey.* 5th edition. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2013.
- Provan, Iain, V. Philips Long, and Tremper Longman III. *A Biblical History of Israel.* Second Edition. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2015.
- Peterson, David L. *The Prophetic Literature: An Introduction.* Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2012.
- Steitz, Christopher R. *Prophecy and Hermeneutics: Toward a New Introduction to the Prophets.* Studies in Theological Interpretation. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2007.
- Stulman, Louis, and Hyun Chul Paul Kim. *You Are My People: An Introduction to Prophetic Literature*. Nashville: Abingdon, 2010.
- VanGemeren, Willem A. *Interpreting the Prophetic Word: An Introduction to the Prophetic Literature of the Old Testament.* Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1990.
- Walton, John H. *Ancient Near Eastern Thought and the Old Testament: Introducing the Conceptual World of the Old Testament.* Second Edition. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2018.
- Weems, Renita J. *Battered Love: Marriage, Sex, and Violence in the Hebrew Prophets.* Overtures to Biblical Theology. Minneapolis, MN: Fortress, 1995.

DEGREE LEARNING OUTCOMES

The major North Park Theological Seminary degree learning outcomes this course intends to address are: MACF: “Interpret Scripture with historical and theological integrity in relation to Christian formation.” MACM: “Interpret Scripture with historical and theological integrity in relation to one’s ministry.”
MATS: “Interpret Scripture with historical and theological integrity for diverse communities and contexts.”
MDIV: “Interpret Scripture with historical and theological integrity for diverse churches, communities, and contexts.”

LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. **Recognize and describe** the major historical periods, key geographic regions, literary structures, central figures, major events, and core interpretive challenges of *1–2 Kings* and the Old Testament Prophetic Books.
   [Remember, Understand]

2. **Analyze and apply** key theological themes from selected prophetic texts and scholarly readings—exploring their significance for real-world ministry and contemporary discipleship.
   [Analyze, Apply]

3. **Compare and synthesize** diverse academic perspectives on major prophetic themes or passages, constructing a well-reasoned summary that reflects depth and clarity.
   [Analyze, Synthesize]

4. **Evaluate complex exegetical questions**—including literary, historical, theological, and canonical issues—and clearly articulate your own interpretive stance in writing.
   [Analyze, Evaluate, Create]

GRADING

The final grade for this course will be computed according to these percentages:

1.	Midterm Exam	12.5%
2.	Final Exam	12.5%
3.	Exegetical Paper	30% total
	a. Paper topic & bibliography	*2%*
	b. Exegetical issue essay	*8%*
	c. Submitted exegetical paper	*20%*
4.	2 Reading Reports	20%
5.	2 Video Lectures Reports	10%
6.	Class Attendance/Participation	15%

Late turn-in policy for the paper:
Within <u>one week</u> of the paper's due date: I will accept the paper, with up to a 5% penalty on the paper's grade. Within <u>two weeks</u> of the due date: I will accept the paper, with up to a 10% penalty on the paper's grade. Beyond two weeks of the paper's due date: I will <u>not</u> accept the paper.

The North Park Theological Seminary grading scale is as follows:

A	95-100	C	80-83
A-	93-94	C-	78-79
B+	91-92	D+	76-77
B	88-90	D	72-75
B-	86-87	D-	70-71
C+	84-85	F	0-69

COURSE ASSESSMENTS

Midterm Exam: 15% of final grade
A midterm exam study guide is posted at the Canvas Week 1 module. The study guide covers the lecture material from the *first half* of the course: Lectures 2-14. The midterm exam will be posted on Canvas at the Week 9 module.. The completed midterm exam will be due by midnight central time on Thursday 10/23, posted on Canvas. Detailed instructions for taking and posting the exam are posted on Canvas at the Week 9 module.

The midterm exam will consist of objective questions: short answer, matching, fill-in-the blank. The test will be out of 100 points. Every question will flow directly from the study guide. Please take the time to carefully work through the midterm exam study guide in preparation for this exam. No notes or Bible will be allowed when taking the midterm exam (students will be asked to sign a statement to that effect at the top of the exam). There is no time limit for taking the exam, but it should be done in one sitting.

Final Exam: 15% of final grade
A final exam study guide will be posted at the Canvas Week 10 module. The study guide covers the lecture material from the *second half* of the course: Lectures 15-25. The final exam will be posted on Canvas at the Week 16 module. The completed final exam will be posted on Canvas. Detailed instructions for taking and posting the exam are posted on Canvas at the Week 16 module.

The final exam will also consist of objective questions: short answer, matching, fill-in-the blank. The test will be out of 100 points. Every question will flow directly from the study guide. Please take the time to carefully work through the midterm exam study guide in preparation for this exam. No notes or Bible will be allowed when taking the midterm exam (students will be asked to sign a statement to that effect at the top of the exam). There is no time limit for taking the exam, but it should be done in one sitting.

Exegetical Paper: 30% of final grade (3 stages)—*please see the separate course handout ("OT2 Exegetical Paper Instructions"), posted at the Canvas Home Module for detailed instructions.*

2 Reading Reports: 20% of final grade
Students should keep a record of the completion of their weekly reading requirements, using the reading reports. See below for a copy of these reports, and the instructions for filling them out. Digital copies of the reading reports are posted at the Week 1 and Week 10 Canvas modules.

The completed reading reports are due in two stages: the first one (for weeks 1-7) is due posted at the Week 7 Canvas module by Friday 10/20; the second one (for weeks 10-15) is due posted at the Week 15 Canvas module by Friday 12/5.

Video Lectures Report: 10% of final grade
For the weeks that asynchronous lecture videos are due, students will keep a record of their completion of these lecture videos using the video lectures reports. See below for a copy of these reports, and the instructions for filling them out. Digital copies of the video lectures are posted at the Week 9 and Week 15 Canvas modules.

The completed video lectures reports are due in two stages: the first one (for weeks 1-9) is due posted at the Week 9 Canvas module by Friday 3/21; the second one (for weeks 10-16) is due posted at the Week 15 Canvas module by Tuesday 4/29.

Class Attendance/Participation: 15% of final grade
Since this class is delivered in a Hybrid format, students will be assessed on their attendance and participation in class through weekly worksheets and discussions.

ACADEMIC HONESTY
In keeping with our Christian heritage and commitment, North Park University is committed to the highest possible ethical and moral standards. Just as we will constantly strive to live up to these high standards, we expect our students to do the same. To that end, cheating of any sort will not be tolerated. Students who are discovered cheating will receive a failing grade on the assignment and are subject to discipline up to and including failure of a course and expulsion. Our definition of cheating includes but is not limited to:

Plagiarism – the use of another's work as one's own without giving credit to the individual. This includes using materials from the internet.

Copying another's answers on an examination.

Deliberately allowing another to copy one's answers or work.

Signing an attendance roster for another who is not present.

Use of ChatGPT or other AI composition software to impersonate individual assignments.

For additional information, see the Seminary Academic Catalog, pp. 25–26.

ACCOMMODATIONS
Your experience in this class is important to me. North Park is committed to creating inclusive and accessible learning environments consistent with federal and state law. If you have already established your accommodations, please share your accommodation letter with me so we can discuss how your accommodations will be implemented in this course. If you have not yet established services and have a temporary health condition or permanent disability that requires accommodations, please email the Disability Access Specialist or contact by phone (773-244-5737). Student Engagement facilitates the interactive process that establishes reasonable accommodations.

TITLE IX
Students who believe they may have experienced sexual misconduct, sexual harassment, domestic violence, dating violence, or stalking should contact the Title IX Coordinator (773) 244-5664 or TitleIX@northpark.edu to learn more about reporting options, resources, and support services. As members of the North Park faculty, we are concerned about the well-being and development of our students and are available to discuss any concerns. Faculty members are private resources meaning we are legally obligated to share information about the behavior reported above with the University's Title IX coordinator. If you are unsure

whether you want your concerns disclosed to the Title IX Coordinator, we encourage you to contact Counseling Support Services at (773) 244-4897 or counseling@northpark.edu. Please refer to North Park's Safe Community site for reporting, contact information, and further details.

INCOMPLETE GRADES

If, due to extenuating circumstances (specifically, pregnancy, illness, personal and family issues, military assignment, etc.), a student anticipates they will be unable to complete course work within the allotted time, that student may request a grade of incomplete from the course instructor before the last week of class clearly stating the reason(s) for this request. Overscheduling and/or lack of self-discipline are not considered extenuating circumstances. If the request is timely and meets the criteria, student and instructor will submit the incomplete grade form and the grade for that class will be listed as "I" until the last day of the following semester. If coursework is not submitted by the last day of the following semester the listing of "I" will automatically be changed to "F." For the full policy, see page 15 of the Seminary Academic Catalog.

Old Testament Prophets: Course Schedule

Typical Weekly Rhythm

- ☐ Attend Synchronous Class
- ☐ Watch the assigned lecture videos
- ☐ Read the assigned readings

Weeks 1–4: Introduction, Kings, and Isaiah

Week 1 |

ATTEND

- ☐ Lecture 1: *Introduction to the Course*

WATCH

- ☐ Lecture 2: *Orientation to OT Prophets & Prophecy*

READ

- ☐ Tully, chapters 1–3
- ☐ Nissinen, "Prophetic Intermediation in the Ancient Near East"

GET STARTED

- ☐ Begin tracking your reading for **Reading Report #1**
- ☐ Begin tracking lecture viewing for **Lecture Videos Report #1**

- ☐ Begin working through the **Midterm Exam Study Guide** posted in the Canvas Week 1 module

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Week 2: 1–2 Kings & Deuteronomic Background

ATTEND

- ☐ Lecture 3: *An Introduction to 1–2 Kings*

WATCH

- ☐ Lecture 4: *Deuteronomy & Prophecy*

READ

- ☐ Hess, "Deuteronomy"
- ☐ Tully, chapters 4–6
- ☐ Smith, chapters 1–2

OPTIONAL: VALUE-ADDED BIBLE READING

- Deuteronomy 12–13
- Deuteronomy 16–18

Week 3: 1–2 Kings

ATTEND

- ☐ Lecture 5: *1 Kings 1–11: United Monarchy & Solomon*

WATCH

- ☐ Lecture 6: *1 Kings 12–2 Kings 17: Divided Kingdom to the Fall of the North*

READ

- ☐ Hess, "1–2 Kings"
- ☐ Tully, chapters 7–8
- ☐ Smith, chapters 3–4

OPTIONAL: VALUE-ADDED BIBLE READING

- 1 Kings 1–11
- 1 Kings 12–2 Kings 17

Week 4: Isaiah

ATTEND

- ☐ Lecture 7: *Biblical Eschatology & Isaiah (& 2 Kings 18–20), Part I*

WATCH

- ☐ Lecture 8: *Isaiah, Part II*

READ

- ☐ Tully, chapter 9
- ☐ Shao, pp. 1–20
- ☐ Smith, chapter 5

OPTIONAL: VALUE-ADDED BIBLE READING

- 2 Kings 18–20
- Isaiah 1–39
- Isaiah 40–66

Weeks 5–7: The Twelve and the End of Judah

Week 5: Hosea & Amos

ATTEND

- ☐ Lecture 9: *Hosea*

WATCH

- ☐ Lecture 10: *Amos*

READ

- ☐ Tully, chapters 13 & 15
- ☐ Shao, pp. 21–41
- ☐ Smith, chapter 6
- ☐ Maier, "Feminist Interpretation of the Prophets"

OPTIONAL: VALUE-ADDED BIBLE READING

- Hosea
- Amos

Week 6: Joel & Jonah

ATTEND

- ☐ Lecture 11: *Joel*

WATCH

- ☐ Lecture 12: *Jonah*

READ

- ☐ Tully, chapters 14 & 17
- ☐ Shao, pp. 41–81
- ☐ West, "The Prophets and Ethics"

OPTIONAL: VALUE-ADDED BIBLE READING

- Joel
- Jonah

Week 7: Judah's End & Micah | Reports #1

ATTEND

- ☐ Lecture 13: *2 Kings 21–25*

WATCH

- ☐ Lecture 14: *Micah*

READ

- ☐ Tully, chapter 18
- ☐ Grabbe, "Prophecy and Priesthood"

OPTIONAL: VALUE-ADDED BIBLE READING

- 2 Kings 21–25
- Micah

Weeks 8–9: Reading Week & Midterm

Reading Week
No new coursework due.
Use this week to review, catch up, and prepare for the Midterm Exam.

Week 9: Midterm Exam

Monday at 8:00 a.m. Central Time

- ☐ **Midterm Exam posted on Canvas**

Sunday by Midnight Central Time

- ☐ **Midterm Exam due on Canvas**

Exegetical Paper

- ☐ Continue making progress on your **Exegetical Paper**

Weeks 10–13: The Prophets & Exile

Week 10: Nahum & Obadiah; Habakkuk & Zephaniah

ATTEND

- ☐ Lecture 15: *Nahum and Obadiah*

WATCH

- ☐ Lecture 16: *Habakkuk and Zephaniah*

READ

- ☐ Tully, chapters 16, 19, 20 & 21
- ☐ Williamson, "History and Memory in the Prophets"

OPTIONAL: VALUE-ADDED BIBLE READING

- Nahum
- Obadiah
- Habakkuk
- Zephaniah

GET STARTED

- ☐ Begin tracking reading for **Reading Report #2**
- ☐ Begin tracking lecture viewing for **Lecture Videos Report #2**
- ☐ Begin working through the **Final Exam Study Guide** posted in the Canvas Week 10 module

By Friday,
EXEGETICAL PAPER

- ☐ Submit your **Exegetical Paper passage choice and annotated bibliography as one PDF**

Week 11: Jeremiah

ATTEND

- ☐ Lecture 17: *Jeremiah 1–29*

WATCH

- ☐ Lecture 18: *Jeremiah 30–52*

READ

- ☐ Tully, chapter 10
- ☐ Koppel, "The Prophets and Pastoral Care"

OPTIONAL: VALUE-ADDED BIBLE READING

- Jeremiah

By Friday,
EXEGETICAL PAPER

- ☐ Submit **Exegetical Issue Essay**

Week 12: Ezekiel

ATTEND

- ☐ Lecture 19: *Ezekiel 1–32*

WATCH

- ☐ Lecture 20: *Ezekiel 33–48*

READ

- ☐ Tully, chapter 11
- ☐ Brueggemann, chapters 1–2

OPTIONAL: VALUE-ADDED BIBLE READING

- Ezekiel

Week 13: Daniel

ATTEND

- ☐ Lecture 21: *Daniel 1–6*

WATCH

- ☐ Lecture 22: *Daniel 7–12*

READ

- ☐ Tully, chapter 12
- ☐ Brueggemann, chapters 3–4
- ☐ Tubbs Tisdale and Carolyn J. Sharp, "The Prophets and Homiletics"

OPTIONAL: VALUE-ADDED BIBLE READING

- Daniel

Weeks 14–16: Postexilic Prophets, Exegetical Paper & Final

Week 14: Haggai, Zechariah, & Malachi

ATTEND

- ☐ Lecture 23: *Haggai and Zechariah*

WATCH

- ☐ Lecture 24: *Malachi*

READ

- ☐ Tully, chapters 22–23
- ☐ Brueggemann, chapters 5–7 and pp. 121–132

OPTIONAL: VALUE-ADDED BIBLE READING

- Haggai
- Zechariah
- Malachi

Week 15: Exegetical Paper & Reports #2

MAJOR ASSIGNMENT

- ☐ **Submit Exegetical Paper**

ATTEND

- ☐ Lecture 25: *OT Messianic Prophecies: Some Intertestamental and NT Links*

READ

- ☐ Tully, chapter 24

OPTIONAL: VALUE-ADDED BIBLE READING

- Malachi

SUBMIT

- ☐ **Reading Report #2**
- ☐ **Video Lectures Report #2**

Week 16: Final Exam & Course Wrap-Up

Monday at 8:00 a.m. Central Time

- ☐ **Final Exam posted**

Wednesday, Midnight Central Time

- ☐ **Submit completed Final Exam**

APPENDICES

OT2 Reading Report #1: Weeks 1-9

Student Name:

Raw score: / 28 points

For the following weeks of the course when readings are due, please record a number between 0 and 4, according to this scale:
4 = 100% completed
3 = 75-99% completed
2 = 50-74 % completed
1 = less than 50% completed
0 = none of the readings completed

Students are encouraged to make up late readings, but **please note** that for the purposes of grading, readings **cannot** be made up for credit (i.e., please don't go back and change your reading completion number after the due date for a given week)

Weeks:	**Completion # (0-4):**
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	*No reading due*
9	*No reading due*

OT2 Reading Report #2: Weeks 10-16

Student Name:

Raw score: **/ 24 points**

For the following weeks of the course when readings are due, please record a number between 0 and 4, according to this scale:

4 = 100% completed
3 = 75-99% completed
2 = 50-74 % completed
1 = less than 50% completed
0 = none of the readings completed

Students are encouraged to make up late readings, but **please note** that for the purposes of grading, readings **cannot** be made up for credit (i.e., please don't go back and change your reading completion number after the due date for a given week)

Weeks:	**Completion # (0-4):**
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
16	*No reading due*

OT2 Video Lectures Report #1: Weeks 1-9

Student Name:

Raw score: **/ 28 points**

For the following weeks of the course when video lectures are due, please record a number between 0 and 4, according to this scale:

4 = 100% completed
3 = 75-99% completed
2 = 50-74 % completed
1 = less than 50% completed
0 = none of the videos completed

Students are encouraged to make up late lecture videos, but **please note** that for the purposes of grading, lecture videos **cannot** be made up for credit (i.e., please don't go back and change your lecture video completion number after the due date for a given week)

Weeks:	**Completion (0-4):**
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	*No lecture videos due*
9	*No lecture videos due*

OT2 Video Lectures Report #2: Week 10-16

Student Name:

Raw score: **/ 24 points**

For the following weeks of the course when video lectures are due, please record a number between 0 and 4, according to this scale:

4 = 100% completed
3 = 75-99% completed
2 = 50-74 % completed
1 = less than 50% completed
0 = none of the videos completed

Students are encouraged to make up late lecture videos, but **please note** that for the purposes of grading, lecture videos **cannot** be made up for credit (i.e., please don't go back and change your lecture video completion number after the due date for a given week)

Weeks:	**Completion (0-4):**
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
16	*No lecture videos due*