

Updated 11-14-19

Introduction to the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament (BIBHB500)

Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary

Spring 2020, Thursday evenings 6:30-9:30 pm

Staff: G. Brooke Lester, instructor; Thehil Singh, teaching assistant

Course Description: "Introduction to the texts of the Hebrew Scriptures--Torah, Prophets, and Writings--with emphasis on the order and contents, cultural settings, literary forms, religious themes, and interpretive approaches."

First Week Attendance Requirement: Students must have attended the first session in order to be able to continue in the course.

Accommodations Policy: Garrett-Evangelical is committed to providing a quality theological education and will provide reasonable accommodations for documented conditions. Students requiring specific assistance such as classroom changes, alternative ways of note-taking, different classroom procedures, or alternative testing formats are urged to request the appropriate accommodations from the director of academic studies/registrar. The director of academic studies/registrar can advise students on other support services and resources, for example, diagnostic testing. Students must complete a request for accommodations using the form available from the director of academic studies/registrar or through MyGETS documenting their condition(s) through appropriate verification methods.

Required Texts:

1. Deryn Guest, Robert Gross, and Mona West. *The Queer Bible Commentary*. ISBN-13: 978-0334054429. Amazon paperback \$62.72; Kindle version \$56.92.
2. Christopher Hays. *Hidden Riches: A Sourcebook for the Comparative Study of the Hebrew Bible and Ancient Near East*. ISBN-13: 978-0664237011. Amazon paperback \$26.62.
3. Common English Bible and Joel B. Green. *The CEB Study Bible with Apocrypha*. ISBN-13: 978-1609260293. Amazon hardcover \$39.59.

Schedule: See Moodle course site after the semester's beginning for details.

- * The course involves an introductory orientation week followed by four 3-week units (Writings, Latter Prophets, Former Prophets, and Pentateuch.)
- * Each of the four 3-week Units includes at least two pieces of independent writing.
- * Each of the four 3-week Units includes collaborative in-class activities.
- * There is a research paper that will be accomplished via two stages:
 - * Complete draft *due at the midterm*, with small-group peer review.
 - * Final draft *due at the penultimate class session*.

A more comprehensive syllabus is forthcoming before the term's beginning.