

**Assemblies of God Theological Seminary  
SOUTHEASTERN COLLEGE BRANCH CAMPUS  
Continuing Education Course  
Lakeland, Florida  
November 4-8, 2002**

**BOTB 538 PREACHING FROM HOSEA, JOEL, AMOS**

**Roger D. Cotton, Th.D.**

**Fall 2002**

**COURSE SYLLABUS**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

A careful exegetical study of each of these three prophetic books with emphasis on uncovering the intended theology and then making applications for preaching to the church today.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

Upon successful completion of this course the student should be able to:

1. Discuss the meaning of key passages in each of these books as well as the structure, message, and theology of the book as a whole in relation to the times of the prophet.
2. Apply the principles taught in these books to Christians today.

**TEXTBOOKS**

***Required:***

*The Holy Bible Contemporary English Version.* New York: American Bible Society, 1995.

Hubbard, David Allan. *Hosea: An Introduction and Commentary.* Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1989.

Hubbard, David Allan. *Joel and Amos: An Introduction and Commentary,* Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1989.

***Recommended:***

McComiskey, Thomas Edward, ed. *The Minor Prophets: Vol. 1, Hosea, Joel, Amos.*

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Grand Rapids: Baker, 1992.

Or

Stuart, Douglas. *Hosea - Jonah*. Word Biblical Commentary, vol. 31. Waco, TX: Word Books, 1987.

### **COURSE OUTLINE**

Monday, Tuesday--Amos

Wednesday, Thursday--Hosea

Friday--Joel

### **METHODOLOGY**

Lecture and discussion, readings and interaction, exegetical research and writing

### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

#### **A. Pre-Session**

1. Read Hosea, Joel, and Amos in the CEV.
2. Read the introductions to the commentaries on Hosea, Joel, and Amos in the textbooks by Hubbard.
3. Read the enclosed article on Amos 9:9-15 by Kaiser.
4. Read the enclosed articles by Limburg and De Roche on the so-called "prophetic lawsuit speeches." Type a **2-3 page response** to them including which one seems stronger or do they really differ much in the final application to the Bible passages. Comment on how they affect how you will understand these passages in the prophets from now on.
5. Read at least \_ hour in a few of the best sources on the intent of Hosea 6:1-3, besides Hubbard, and including Stuart (WBC). Turn in a **list** of what you read.
6. Read the enclosed article on Hosea 11:1 by Kaiser and find a few more of the best sources on how Matthew understood this passage to relate to baby Jesus. Type a **2-3 page response** to Kaiser's view giving pros and cons and your own conclusion on what Matthew meant and its relation to what Hosea meant.

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7. Read at least 1 hour in some of the best sources on Peter's use of Joel 2:28-32 in Acts 2. Turn in a **list** of what you read.
8. Read the enclosed chapter on preaching from the prophets by Kaiser.

**DUE: All Pre-Session work must be submitted at the beginning of the first class, Monday, November 4, 2002.**

**B. Session**

1. Punctual attendance at all sessions is expected.
2. Participation in class discussion is important to clarify for each student the issues, principles, and theological concepts being covered.
3. Turn in on **Wednesday, Nov. 6**, a flow of thought diagram of the passage chosen for the exegetical sermon or paper. (Instructions are enclosed and will be discussed.)

**C. Post-Session**

1. Finish reading the commentary textbooks by Hubbard.
2. Type up your own theological outline of the message, in terms of principles and themes, for each of the three books. (Instructions will be provided.)
3. Do thorough exegetical research and biblical-theological analysis of a passage of your choice of about 4 to 12 verses and either type up the results in a paper of 10-12 typed pages OR a thorough sermon outline. (Instructions will be provided.) A bibliography must be turned in of all sources consulted in the research.

**DUE: All Post-Session work must be postmarked no later than February 8, 2003.**

Submit Assignments to:

Dr. Roger Cotton  
Assemblies of God Theological Seminary  
1445 Boonville Avenue  
Springfield, MO 65802

**GRADING PROCEDURE**

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Reading and Class participation	15%
Responses to articles	10% each
Theological outlines of each book	10% each
Exegetical research paper or sermon	35%

**NOTE: Work received after the post-session due date specified in the syllabus will result in a change of grade fee (\$15.00) being charged, even when an extension has been granted by the instructor.**

**SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY**

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**SPECIFIC DATA**

Syllabus prepared by Roger D. Cotton, January, 2002.