

**ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**  
**BOT 538 Stu. in the Prophetical Books: Hosea, Joel, Amos**

Roger D. Cotton

Post Session 2004

**COURSE SYLLABUS**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

A careful exegetical study of each of these three prophetical 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. Preach/teach the principles taught in these books to Christians today.

**TEXTBOOKS**

***Required:***

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

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

***Recommended:***

Hubbard, David Allan. Hosea: An Introduction and Commentary. TOTC. Downers Grove, IL: Inter-Varsity Press, 1989.

\_\_\_\_\_. Joel and Amos: An Introduction and Commentary. TOTC. Downers Grove, IL: Inter-Varsity Press, 1989.

**COURSE OUTLINE**

**Class**

1. **Monday, June 28** Introduction and exegesis of Amos 1-2.
2. **Tuesday, June 29** Amos 3-5; Read Amos in CEV and commentary introduction.

3. **Wednesday, June 30** Amos 6-7; Read 1 hour on OT prophetic ministry
4. **Thursday, July 1** Amos 8-9; Read Kaiser chap 9 on Amos 9.
5. **Friday, July 2** Hosea 1-4; Read Hosea in CEV, commentary, introduction, Rowley on Hosea's marriage, and De Roche article on Rib.
6. **Monday, July 5** **OFF** 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday
7. **Tuesday, July 6** Hosea 5-7; Flow of thought diagram of chosen exegesis passage due, and Hosea 6 readings
8. **Wednesday, July 7** Hosea 8-11; Readings on Matthew's use of Hosea 11.
9. **Thursday, July 8** Hosea 12-14; begin Joel; Read Joel in CEV, commentary introduction.
10. **Friday, July 9** Joel 2 readings, finish Joel, and reading accountability sheet due.

### **METHODOLOGY**

Lecture, discussion, readings, exegetical research and writing.

### **COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

**During Post Session**--Class attendance and participation is expected; maximum allowable absence is one class period. Please talk to the professor about any absences.

1. Read Hosea, Joel, and Amos in the CEV.
2. Turn in on **Tuesday, July 6**, a flow of thought diagram of the passage chosen for the exegesis project. (Instructions will be provided.)
3. Read the introductions to the commentaries on Hosea, Joel, and Amos in the textbook by Stuart and in one other commentary from a list provided in class.
4. Read at least one hour on OT prophetic ministry (recommendations to be given in class).

5. Read Rowley, H.H. "The Marriage of Hosea," in Man of God, 66-97, on reserve.
6. Read chapters 3, 5, and 9 in Walter Kaiser's The Uses of the Old Testament in the New, on reserve. Do an additional hour of reading on Matthew's use of Hosea 11, including pp. 191-192 and 195-211, in Moo's chapter 5 on Sensus Plenior in Hermeneutics, Authority, and Canon ed. by D.A. Carson and John D. Woodbridge. Read an additional hour on Peter's use of Joel 2 in Acts 2 (guidelines will be given in class).
7. Read at least ½ hour in the best sources on the intent of Hosea 6:1-3.
8. Read Limburg, J., "The Root Rib and the Prophetic Lawsuit Speeches." Journal of Biblical Literature 88 (1969): 291-304, and De Roche, "Yahweh's Rib Against Israel," JBL (102/4 (1983) 563-574, on reserve.
9. Read at least 50% of the textbook by Stuart focusing on the more important controversial or difficult passages and significant theological statements.

**After Post-Session – due Tuesday, August 17.**

1. Write a 3-page response of pros and cons, agree/disagree, to one of the above reading assignments.
2. Write a take-home essay synthesis of the course over the flow of the messages of each of the three books as well as the major themes, principles, and passages discussed in class. This must include 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 OR a thorough sermon or teaching outline. (Instructions will be provided.) A bibliography must be turned in of all sources consulted in the research.

Late work will be penalized 2 points per day late including weekends using a 12 point scale (12=A, 1=F) If you will be more than a day late call me. Also, I am flexible on the number of pages as long as the content is there.

**GRADING PROCEDURE**

Class participation	5%
Reading	10%
Reading response essay	10%
Take-home synthesis essay	15%
Theological outlines of each book	10% each
Exegetical research paper or sermon	30%

### **SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY**

- Achtemeier, Elizabeth. Minor Prophets I. NIBC. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 1996.
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- Andersen, Francis I., and David Noel Freedman. Hosea: A New Translation with Introduction and Commentary. The Anchor Bible. Garden City, New York: Doubleday, 1980.
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- Barker, Kenneth, ed. The NIV Study Bible. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1995.
- Beecher, Willis Judson. The Prophets and The Promise. Grand Rapids: Baker, reprint from 1905.
- Braun, Michael A. "James' Use of Amos at the Jerusalem Council: Steps Toward a Possible Solution of the Textual and Theological Problems." Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society 20 (June 1977): 113-121.
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- Brueggemann, Walter. Tradition for Crisis: A Study in Hosea. Richmond, VA: John Knox Press, 1968.
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## **SPECIFIC DATA**

Syllabus prepared by Roger D. Cotton, March, 2004.