

Course Title: THEO 5912 BIBLICAL THEOLOGY

Second Term 2016/2017 Fri 6:30pm-8:45pm HYS 501
Prof Philip Chia (Email: bth.chiacourse@gmail.com)

Course Description:

This course is a study of the discipline of “Biblical Theology” whereby (1) the historical development of the discipline will be introduced, examined and critically analyzed; (2) recent development of the discipline in the light of modern and postmodern approaches to biblical studies will be introduced and interpreted; and (3) building on the understanding of (1) and (2), this course also attempts to constructively formulate a “glocal” perspective of, and approach to, the discipline that is sensitive to various literary reading strategies of biblical texts, and sympathetic to effects of contemporary and cultural interpretative approaches in biblical studies.

Course Objectives:

1. To have an overview of the historical development of the discipline of biblical theology.
2. To understand the impact of modern and postmodern approaches to biblical studies on the recent development of the discipline.
3. To engage the discipline with various dimensions of the glocal contemporary cultural public life.
4. To attempt a formulation of the discipline that is relevant to the Asian context.

Course Content and Schedule:

The class will meet three periods each week for lectures and discussion. This course consists of three parts: (1) to provide an overview of the historical development of the discipline of biblical theology; (2) to examine the impact of modern and postmodern biblical scholarships on the discipline; and (3) to attempt a constructive formulation of the discipline that is relevant and sensitive to our current Asian context.

Date	Topics	Key concepts/topics	Readings
Jan 13, 2017	Course Introduction, Introduction to the discipline of biblical theology; the theology of the Old Testament; the theology of the New Testament	Discipline, biblical theology, theology of the Hebrew Bible, OT Theology, NT Theology, What is ‘Biblical Theology’?	James Barr, BS Childs, James K. Mead,
Jan 20	No Class	/	
Jan 27	Chinese Lunar New Year	/	
Feb 03	An overview of the historical development of the discipline of biblical theology; Pre-critical, Critical and Post-critical era	Pre-modern, modern and postmodern forms of biblical studies; relations between biblical theology and other disciplines	P=ch 1; B=ch 1; D=ch I; Notes
Feb 10	From Torah to the Enlightenment	Internal theologies of the OT and the NT; Jewish Traditions, Early Christian Church, up to 1500AD	P=ch 1; B=chs 2-4; D=ch I;

Feb 17	First Wave: Enlightenment to WWII	J.P. Gabler, Walther Eichrodt, Gerhard von Rad, etc.	P=ch 2-3; B=chs 2-4; D=ch II; Notes
Feb 24	Second Wave: WWII to the 1960s	Biblical theology movement, Biblical Theology in Crisis, Centre, Dual themes, Organizing principles, system, structure, etc.	P=ch 2-3; B=chs 5-8; D=ch II; Notes
Mar 3	Third Wave: 1970s to 1980s	From Unity to Diversity; Theological Word Studies (TDNT/TDOT); BS Childs, GE Wright, S Terrien, RE Clements, W Kaiser Jr., etc.,	P=ch 2-3; B=chs 5-8; D=ch III; Notes
Mar 10	Fourth Wave: 1980s to 1990s	From modern to postmodern; from historical criticism to postmodern criticism; Nation-State from independent to internationalization;	P=ch 2-3; B=chs 9-11; D=ch III; Notes
Mar 17 Mar 24	No Class Mid-Term test (7:15pm-8:45pm)		
Mar 31	Fifth Wave: 1990s to 2000s	Wisdom theology, Creation theology, Covenant theology, political theology, etc.; www – dot com; from post-cold war; GATT to WTO; Globalisation	P=ch 2-3; B=chs 12-17; D=ch IV; Notes
Apr 07	Sixth Wave: 2000s to 2010s The Challenge: Global and Local Context in Applications	Crisis of global scales - Economics, Environmental Ecology, global financial systems, etc.; effects of Crash of Cultures; the turn from private to public; Post-American Era Biblical Hermeneutics and Theological Interpretations	P=ch 2-3; B=chs 12-17; D=ch V; Notes P = Ch 4
Apr 14	Easter Holiday	/	/
Apr 21	Theology of the Hebrew Bible: Torah, Prophets, Writings Theology of the New Testament: Gospels, Epistles An Open Critical Asian Public Bible? The relevance of biblical theology in Asian Contexts	W. Brueggemann, L. Perdue, J. Goldingay, BS Childs, N Habel, etc., James Dunn; Udo Schnelle; Thomas R. Schreiner; Frank J. Matera; etc.. Neo-American Era?! Biblical ethics; programs of biblical studies; globalized biblical theology; Critical Asian Public biblical theology?	P=ch 2, 3; B=chs 12-17 D= VI and Conclusion

P = Leo G. Perdue, et al., *Biblical Theology: Introducing the Conversation* (Nashville: Abingdon, 2009)
B = Walter Brueggemann, *Old Testament Theology: An Introduction* (Nashville: Abingdon, 2008)
D = James Dunn, *New Testament Theology: An Introduction* (Nashville: Abingdon, 2009)
Br= James Barr, *The Concept of Biblical Theology*. (Minneapolis: Fortress, 1999)
M = James K. Mead, *Biblical Theology: Issues, Methods and Themes* (Louisville: Westminster John Knox Pres, 2007)

Learning Outcomes:

Knowledge Outcomes:

- (1) To be able to outline an overview of the historical development of the discipline of biblical theology.
- (2) To be able to identify key persons and concepts and turning era of the historical and contemporary development of the discipline.
- (3) To be able to explain and contribute to the engagement of the discipline of biblical theology with the contemporary cultural interpretive contexts.

Attitude Outcomes

- (1) To develop students' ability to have a critical and yet sympathetic understanding and appreciation of the historical development of the discipline of biblical theology.
- (2) To develop students' sensitivity to the relevance and challenge of the discipline of biblical theology to the contemporary global and local Asian contemporary cultural dimension of human life.

Learning Activities

This course mainly consists of lectures and student participations through class discussion. Students will be asked to participate in class discussion according to each assigned reading materials.

Lecture (hr) in class	Class Discussion (hr) /course in class	Web-based teaching (hr)	Course Reading (hr)	Written Assignment (hr) / course
3 per week	0.5 hr/ week	0.5 per week	3 per week	15 hr
M	M	M	M	M

M: Mandatory activity in the course

Assessment scheme

1. Book Report: (25%) Submission Date: Apr 7, 2017

Write a 3,000 words of book report on either Leo G. Perdue's or W. Brueggemann's or J. Dunn's book.

2. Mid-Term Test: (25%) Mar 24, 2017

There will be a mid term test on the key concepts of key theologians.

3. Term Paper: (50%) Submission Date: May 5, 2017

Each student is required to submit a research term paper of 5,000 words, on a selected topic relevant to the discipline of biblical theology. Consultation with the Prof. is expected by means of drafting the title, outline, abstract, selected bibliography, etc., which all will be constituted as part of the assessment scheme for the paper. Some examples:

1. Problems of Biblical Theology
2. Issues in Biblical Theology or OT Theology or NT Theology
3. The Challenge of Biblical Theology or OT Theology or NT Theology

Submit a proposed outline by Apr 7. The final paper is to be submitted on May 5. Late submission will not be accepted without prior written approval and may suffer penalty in grade.

Full documentation standard (*The Chicago Manual of Style*) must be strictly observed or suffer grade repercussion.

Students must (1) submit all written assignments via the Webpage of the Chinese University

Plagiarism Identification Engine (VeriGuide) <http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/veriguide>; (2) post a copy onto the Blackboard and give **a hardcopy** together with a print out of receipt and (3) signed Academic Honesty Declaration Statement from Veriguide (received via e-mail after you have submitted your assignment) to **prof mail box at Divinity School of Chung Chi College**.

Task nature	Description	Weight
Book Report	Write a book report on one of the three assigned reading textbooks. (3,000 words & due <u>on or before Apr 7, 2017</u>)	25%
Mid Term Test	A mid term test on the key concepts and key persons in the historical development of the discipline of biblical theology <u>Due date: Mar 24, 2017</u>	25%
Written Assignment	Term Paper (5,000 words & due <u>on or before May 5, 2017</u>)	50%

Learning resources for students

See attached bibliography.

Other suggested readings will be given in class and through the Blackboard.

Feedback for evaluation

A tailored made mid-term course evaluation and end-of-term university wide course evaluation will be conducted in class. Students' comments and feedback on the course through e-mail or within Blackboard or personal meeting with instructor are always welcomed.

Professors' Contact Details

Professor: Dr. Philip Chia 謝品然 (Divinity School of Chung Chi College)

Department Webpage: <http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/theology/>

Professor's office Hour: By appointment

Professor's email: bth.chiacourse@gmail.com

Please use the e-mail and/or Discussion Forum in Blackboard for all course communication

A Facility for Posting Course Announcements

Details for assignment and feedback for written assignment will be posted through the Blackboard or email in due course. All questions with regard to the course could be posted on the discussion forum or via e-mail and/or within the Blackboard.

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Students must submit all their written assignments via Veriguide and hand in a hard copy and a print out of receipt and a signed Academic Honesty Declaration Statement. Relevant information on academic honesty and plagiarism can be allocated
via: <http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty>