

Course description

General information		
Instructor	Danijel Berković, Research associate	
Course title	Old Testament Exegesis - Historical Books	
Study Programme	University Graduate Programme in Protestant theology	
Type of course	Mandatory	
Year of study	First	
Number of credits and class hours	ECTS credits	4
	Class hours (L+E+S)	1+0+1

1. COURSE DESCRIPTION

1.1. *Course Objectives*

The objectives of this course are to introduce students to the exegetical analysis of chosen texts from the historical books, especially texts that:

1. deal with the conquest of the promised land (Joshua 2; 6) and the establishment of the Kingdom (1 Samuel 16-18);
2. deal with the division and the fall of the Northern and the Southern Kingdom (1 Kings 12; 2 Kr 17; 22-25);
3. deal with the post-exilic restoration (Nehemiah 1-13);
4. deal with the persecution of the Jews during the reign of Antiochus IV Epiphanes (Judith 1-16; 2 Maccabees 6-7);
5. deal with the prophets Elijah and Elisha (1 Kings 17 – 2 Kings 13).

1.2. *Prerequisite*

There are no prerequisites for this course.

1.3. *Learning outcomes at the Study Programme level*

1. Demonstrate the capacity to independently perform the exegesis of biblical texts and to identify and analyze basic themes in biblical theology.
2. Apply exegetical skills and the knowledge of biblical theology and hermeneutics in solving specific questions within systematic-theological, historical-theological, and practical-theological contexts.
3. Critically and objectively evaluate the applicability of theological knowledge in a constructive contribution to the quality of ecclesial life and Christian engagement in the contemporary society.
4. Develop the skills necessary for interdisciplinary research and for finding research-based answers to the common questions of theology and other scholarly disciplines.
5. Communicate the acquired theoretical and practical knowledge and encourage engagement in congregations and the society at large.
6. Integrate the existing knowledge with new insights and produce new ideas.

1.4. Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the course, the student will be able to:

1. distinguish the main themes of the exegesis of the Historical Books;
2. critically analyze the texts of the Historical Books;
3. apply to the analysis of biblical text the basic elements of the narrative (synchronic) and historical-critical (diachronic) approach;
4. critically evaluate the texts of the Historical Books within the historical context in which they arose, and critically evaluate their various interpretations;
5. integrate the knowledge from the exegesis of the Historical Books with that of the exegesis of other biblical books;
6. recognize, evaluate and communicate the theological relevance of the message of the Historical Books to the issues of contemporary humanity and the world;
7. reach new conclusions about the meaning and the message of the texts belonging to the Historical Books.

1.5. Course Content:

1. Introduction to the course
2. Conquest of Jericho: Joshua 2; 6
3. David anointed king: 1 Samuel 16
4. David and Goliath: 1 Samuel 17-18
5. Political and religious division of the Kingdom: 1 Kings 12
6. Prophet Elijah (1 Kings 17 – 2 Kings 1)
7. Prophet Elisha (2 Kings 2-13)
8. The end of the Northern Kingdom: 2 Kings 17
9. Josiah's reform: 2 Kings 22-23
10. The end of Judah and the destruction of Jerusalem: 2 Kings 24-25
11. Nehemiah's task (Nehemiah 1-7)
12. Emergence of Judaism (Nehemiah 8-13)
13. Judith 1-7
14. Judith 8-16
15. Persecution and martyrdom during the reign of Antiochus IV Epiphanes (2 Maccabees 6-7)
16. Review and final discussion

1.6. Modes of Teaching

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> x lectures x seminars and workshops <input type="checkbox"/> exercises x remote learning <input type="checkbox"/> field teaching | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> homework assignments x multimedia and internet <input type="checkbox"/> laboratory work <input type="checkbox"/> mentored work <input type="checkbox"/> other _____ _____ |
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1.7. Comments

1.8. Course Requirements

Active participation in discussions during class, regular reading assignments. The students are required to write a term paper (5-7 standard pages). The subject of the paper needs to be approved by the instructor.

1.9. Course Assessment¹

Class attendance		Active participation in class	1	Term paper	3	Experimental work	
Written exam		Oral exam		Essay		Research	
Project		Quizzes		Written report		Practical work	
Portfolio							

1.10. Grading structure during lectures and on the final exam

Students' participation will be monitored during the course of the semester. The final grade consists of student's activity in class and the term paper.

1.11. Mandatory Resources

- 1) A. POPOVIĆ, *Povijesne knjige*, Zagreb, Kršćanska sadašnjost, 2015.
- 2) F. CHARLES FENSHAM, *The Books of Ezra and Nehemiah*, Grand Rapids, MI, Eerdmans, 1982.

1.12. Additional Resources

- 1) H. MADL, *Ako budete čuvali Savez. Jošua – Suci – Ruta*, Zagreb, Kršćanska sadašnjost, 1991.
- 2) C. TOMIĆ, *U zemlju obećanja. Jošua, Suci i Ruta* Zagreb, Provincijalat hrvatskih franjevac konventualaca, 1980.
- 3) C. TOMIĆ, *Davidovo doba*, Zagreb, Provincijalat hrvatskih franjevac konventualaca, 1988.
- 4) C. TOMIĆ, *Začeci židovstva. Ezra i Nehemija, Drugi i treći Izaija, Hagaj i Zaharija, Malahija i Obadija, Joel i Jona, Job, Psalmi, Mudre izreke, Pjesma nad pjesmama*, Zagreb, Provincijalat hrvatskih franjevac konventualaca, 1988.
- 5) C. TOMIĆ, *Vrijeme iščekivanja. Prva i Druga o Makabejcima, Tobija, Judita, Estera, Propovjednik, Sirah, Knjiga Mudrosti, Daniel, Baruh*, Zagreb, Provincijalat hrvatskih franjevac konventualaca, 1989.
- 6) W. BRUEGGEMANN, *1 and 2 Kings*, Macon, GA, Smyth & Helwys, 2000.

1.13. Number of copies of mandatory resources relative to the number of students currently enrolled

Title	Number of copies	Number of students
A. POPOVIĆ, <i>Povijesne knjige</i> , Zagreb, Kršćanska sadašnjost, 2015.	2	5

¹ **IMPORTANT:** Along with every mode of Course Assessment an adequate number of ECTS credits needs to be given, so that the total number of ECTS credits matches the number for the course. Empty fields can be used for additional activities.

F. CHARLES FENSHAM, <i>The Books of Ezra and Nehemiah</i> , Grand Rapids, MI, Eerdmans, 1982.	1	5
<i>1.14. Modes of quality control that ensure acquisition of knowledge, skills and competences</i>		
Discussions with students during class, and term paper.		