

HB 730 Isaiah
Spring 2014
Wednesday 8:30-11:20 am

Instructor: Paul Kim
Werner Hall 218 (office hours: by appointment preferred)

Course Description

This is an upper-level course of the exegetical study on the book of Isaiah. We will engage in an in-depth study of the book of Isaiah both with regard to its rich contents and various methods/issues for the interpretation. We will also incorporate ways for making constructive applications of the diverse interpretive skills toward ministry and other relevant parish concerns.

In order to meet these goals, this course will take an inductive approach, which implies flexibility and interaction as keys for maximum results. First, we will study the biblical texts primarily. Although to cover the entire 66 chapters in a semester seems counter-productive, a careful reading of the whole will be strongly emphasized. Yet, we will focus on select texts for each class for literary and theological interpretations. Second, the class will also utilize interaction with various questions that arise from the students' readings. Hence, both faithful reading of the Bible and timely completion of the written projects are essential for all the members of the class. Third, while we will attempt to have some exposure to the history of interpretation and current scholarship, the emphasis will be on studying Isaiah for the life of the church and contemporary world. Hence, the format of the class in general will be more like a seminar than a lecture, with constant effort to make discussions theologically challenging, constructive, and creative.

Objectives

- ❑ to build familiarity with the very texts of Isaiah
- ❑ to do hands-on works on the praxis of exegeting selected texts
- ❑ to dialogue with diverse readers and interpreters, both ancient and modern

Textbooks

- 📖 Patricia K. Tull, *Isaiah 1-39* (Macon, Ga.: Smyth and Helwys, 2010)
- 📖 Shalom M. Paul, *Isaiah 40-66* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2012)
- 📖 Ulrich F. Berges, *Isaiah: The Prophet and His Book* (Sheffield: Sheffield Phoenix Press, 2012)
- 📖 Leslie J. Hoppe, *Isaiah* (Collegeville, Minn.: Liturgical, 2012)
- 📖 J. Todd Hibbard and Paul Kim, eds., *Formation and Intertextuality in Isaiah 24-27* (Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature, 2013)

Requirements

1. Faithful Attendance and Participation at All Sessions: assigned readings should be done prior to each class session and students should be prepared to discuss the issues raised in the readings. Please note that the biblical text assigned is the primary source and it is expected that the student will have read the assigned text and be familiar with it, as well as, the secondary readings.
2. Exegesis Papers (two): because this course is an upper-level biblical books-based exegesis course, we will put emphasis on exegetical tasks. Thus, there are *two* exegesis papers as required assignments—you get to do two practices rather than one. Each student will need to choose one exegesis text during the first-half of the semester, and then choose the second exegesis text during the second-half of the semester. It is suggested that the texts will be assigned to students evenly for a balanced discussion and contribution in each session. You should post an abbreviated summary (e.g., 1-2 pages long) on Sakai by 24 hours prior to the class. Then, each exegesis paper (10 pages, double-spaced, Times New Roman 12 font size) is due by the start of the class session, *one week after* the corresponding passage will have been discussed. Late submission will result in grade reduction.
3. Research Report OR Interpretive Performance: whereas the exegesis paper above should be done alone, individually, this project is to be done as a group, collectively. Each group may select one of the two options: (a) topical research report OR (b) interpretive application/performance. For option #a, the group may do a concentrated survey for history of interpretation on a topic (e.g., focus on one chapter/topic of the book by Sawyer, *The Fifth Gospel*, Blenkinsopp, *Opening the Sealed Book*, or Childs, *Struggle to Understand Isaiah*) or research on a selected topic (e.g., LXX, Qumran, etc.). For option #b, the group may take on a topic, metaphor, or theme (either from their exegeted text or from anywhere else in Isaiah) and present in a creative form of performance (e.g., powerpoint, drama, art, music, worship setting, panel, etc.). “Topical research report” should consist of a report paper (suggested amount: typed, single-spaced, and 3-5 pages), whereas “Interpretive application/performance” should have a brief synopsis report (at least 1-page handout, single-spaced) and powerpoint or similar performance in the presentation. Each group must consult and confirm with the instructor regarding this project.
4. Extra Credit: memorize a powerful/inspiring passage from Isaiah in any language of your choice, e.g., English, español, Hebrew, auf Deutsch, en français, and so on. The passage should be minimum of 7 verses or more, please.

Grading

Class Attendance/Participation	25%
Exegesis Papers (2)	50%
Group Research/Performance	25%

Class Schedule

Date	Texts	Articles/Books
Feb 5	Isaiah Scholarship: Past, Present, Future Isaiah 1–12 (2:1-11)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ J. J. M. Roberts, “The End of War in the Zion Tradition: The Imperialistic Background of an Old Testament Vision of Worldwide Peace,” in <i>Character Ethics and the OT</i> (2007), 119-128 ■ Irntraud Fischer, “World Peace and ‘Holy War’” in <i>Isaiah’s Vision of Peace</i> (Palgrave Macmillan, 2008), 151-165
Feb 12	Isaiah 1–12 (7:1-25)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Paul-Eugène Dion, “Ahaz and Other Willing Servants of Assyria,” in <i>From Babel to Babylon</i> (2006), 133-145 ■ Menahem Haran, “Isaiah as a Prophet to Samaria and His Memoirs,” in <i>Genesis, Isaiah, and Psalms</i> (2010), 95-103
Feb 19	Isaiah 13–23 (14:1-32)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Nissim Amzallag and Mikhal Avriel, “The Cryptic Meaning of the Isaiah 14 Masal,” <i>JBL</i> 131 (2012): 643-662 ■ Christopher B. Hays, “Israel as Colonized Poet: His Rhetoric of Death in Conversation with African Postcolonial Writers,” in <i>Isaiah and Imperial Context</i> (2013), 51-70 <p>→ Exegesis Paper</p>
Feb 26	Isaiah 24–35 [25:1-12]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Beth Steiner, “Food of the Gods ... Isa 25:6,” in <i>Formation and Intertextuality in Isaiah 24-27</i> (2013), 99-116 ■ Paul K. Cho and Janling Fu, “Death and Feasting in the Isaiah Apocalypse (Isaiah 25:6-8),” <i>Ibid.</i>, 117-142 <p>→ Exegesis Paper</p>
Mar 5	Isaiah 24–35 [32:1-20]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Mark W. Hamilton, “Isaiah 32 as Literature and Political Meditation,” <i>JBL</i> 131 (2012): 663-684 ■ Reinhard G. Kratz, “Rewriting Isaiah: The Case of Isaiah 28-31,” in <i>Prophets and Prophecy in Ancient Israel</i> (2014), 245-266 <p>→ Exegesis Paper</p>
Mar 12	Isaiah 36–39 [38:1-22]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ W. A. M. Beuken, “The Unity of the Book of Isaiah,” in <i>Reading from Right to Left</i> (2003), 50-62 ■ Joel E. Anderson, “Isaiah 36-39 and 2 Kings 18-20,” <i>CBR</i> 11(2013): 147-167 <p>→ Exegesis Paper</p>
Mar 19	Isaiah 40–48 [40:1-31]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Saul M. Olyan, “Is Isaiah 40-55 Really Monotheistic?” <i>JANE</i> 12 (2012): 190-201 ■ Judith E. McKinlay, “The Usefulness of a Daughter,” in <i>Isaiah and Imperial Context</i> (2013), 85-106 <p>→ Exegesis Paper</p>
Mar 26	Isaiah 40–48 [48:1-22]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Lena-Sofia Tiemeyer, “Geography and Textual Allusions,” <i>VT</i> 57 (2007): 367-385 ■ Mark Leuchter, “The Levites in Exile: A Response to L. S. Tiemeyer,” <i>VT</i> 60 (2010): 583-590 <p>→ Exegesis Paper</p>

Apr 2	Isaiah 49–57 [51:1-23]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Jeremy Hutton, “Isaiah 51:9-11 and the Rhetorical Appropriation and Subversion of Hostile Theologies,” <i>JBL</i> 126 (2007): 271-303 ■ Hendrik Jan Bosman, “Myth, Metaphor or Memory?: The Allusions to Creation and Exodus in Isaiah 51:9-11 as a Theological Response to Suffering during the Exile,” (2009): 71-81 → Exegesis Paper
Apr 9 & 16	MIDTERM RECESS & HOLY WEEK BREAK	
Apr 23	Isaiah 49–57 [52:13–53:12]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Joseph Blenkinsopp, “Who is the <i>saddiq</i> of Isaiah 57:1-2?” in <i>Studies in the Hebrew Bible, Qumran, and the Septuagint</i> (Brill, 2006), 109-120 ■ Ulrich Berges, “The Fourth Servant Song,” <i>OTE</i> 25 (2012): 481-499 → Exegesis Paper
Apr 30	Isaiah 58–66 [61:1-11]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Jake Stromberg, “An Inner-Isaianic Reading of Isaiah 61:1-3,” in <i>Interpreting Isaiah</i> (2009), 261-272 ■ Bradley C. Gregory, “The Postexilic Exile in Third-Isaiah: Isaiah 61:1-3 in Light of Second Temple Hermeneutics,” <i>JBL</i> 126 (2007): 475-496 → Exegesis Paper
May 7	Isaiah 58–66 (66:1-24) CHAPEL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Lena-Sofia Tiemeyer, “Hope and Disappointment: The Judahite Critique of the Exilic Leadership in Isaiah 56-66,” (2014), TBA ■ Konrad D. Jenner, “Jerusalem, Zion, and the Unique Servant of YHWH,” in <i>Enlarge the Site of Your Tent</i> (2011), 169-189 → Exegesis Paper
May 14	Research Reports & Group Presentations	
May 21	Research Reports & Group Presentations	

Lectionary Passages (New Revised Common Lectionary)

Year A	2:1-5	5:1-7	7:10-16	9:1-7	11:1-10	12:2-6	25:1-9
	35:1-10	42:1-9	44:6-8	45:1-7	49:1-7	50:4-9a	51:1-6
	52:7-10	52:13-53:12	55:1-11	56:1-8	58:1-12	60:1-6	62:6-12
	63:7-9						
Year B	6:1-8	9:2-7	12:2-6	25:6-9	35:4-7a	40:1-11	40:21-31
	42:1-9	43:18-25	49:1-7	50:4-9a	52:7-10	52:13-53:12	55:1-11
	58:1-12	60:1-6	61:1-11	61:10-62:3	62:6-12	64:1-9	
Year C	1:1-20	5:1-7	6:1-13	9:2-7	12:1-6	25:6-9	42:1-9
	43:1-7	43:16-21	49:1-7	50:4-9a	52:7-10	52:13-53:12	55:1-11
	58:1-12	60:1-6	62:1-5	62:6-12	65:1-9	65:17-25	66:10-14

Selected Bibliography on Isaiah

COMMENTARIES:

- Barton, John. *Isaiah 1-39* (Old Testament Guides; Sheffield: JSOT Press, 1995)
- Beuken, W. A. M. *Isaiah 28-39* (Peeters, 2000)
- Blenkinsopp, Joseph. *Isaiah 1-39* (Anchor Bible; New York: Doubleday, 2000)
- Brueggemann, Walter. *Isaiah 1-39* (Westminster Bible Companion; WJK, 1998)
- Childs, Brevard S. *Isaiah* (OTL; Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2000)
- Clements, R. E. *Isaiah 1-39* (New Century Bible; Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1980)
- Hoppe, Leslie J. *Isaiah* (New Collegeville Bible Commentary; Liturgical, 2012)
- Kaiser, Otto. *Isaiah 1-12 & 13-39* (OTL; Philadelphia: Westminster, 1972, 1974)
- Oswalt, John N. *Isaiah 1-39* (NICOT; Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1986)
- Seitz, Christopher R. *Isaiah 1-39* (Interpretation; Louisville: John Knox, 1993)
- Sweeney, Marvin A. *Isaiah 1-39* (FOTL; Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1996)
- Tull, Patricia K. *Isaiah 1-39* (Macon, Ga.: Smyth and Helwys, 2010)
- Watts, John D. W. *Isaiah 1-33* (Rev. ed.; Word Biblical Commentary; Nelson, 2005)
- Widyapranawa, S. H. *The Lord is Savior: Faith in National Crisis: A Commentary on the Book of Isaiah 1-39* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1990)
- Wildberger, Hans. *Isaiah 1-12 & 13-27 & 28-39* (Continental; Minneapolis: Fortress, 1991, 1997, 2002)
- Williamson, H. G. M. *Isaiah 1-5* (ICC; T&T Clark, 2006)
-
- Baltzer, Klaus. *Deutero-Isaiah: A Commentary on Isaiah 40-55* (Hermeneia; Minneapolis: Fortress, 2001)
- Blenkinsopp, Joseph. *Isaiah 40-55 & 56-66* (AB; New York: Doubleday, 2002, 2003)
- Brueggemann, Walter. *Isaiah 40-66* (Westminster Bible Companion; WJK, 1998)
- Clifford, Richard J. *Fair Spoken and Persuading: An Interpretation of Second Isaiah* (New York: Paulist, 1984)
- Emmerson, Grace I. *Isaiah 56-66* (Old Testament Guides; Sheffield: JSOT Press, 1992)
- Hanson, Paul D. *Isaiah 40-66* (Interpretation; Louisville: John Knox, 1995)
- Goldingay, John. *Isaiah 56-66* (ICC; T&T Clark, 2014)
- _____. *The Message of Isaiah 40-55: A Literary-theological Commentary* (T&T Clark, 2005)
- Goldingay, John and David Payne, *Isaiah 40-55* (ICC; 2 vols.; T&T Clark, 2006)
- Knight, George A. F. *Servant Theology: A Commentary on the Book of Isaiah 40-55* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1984)
- _____, *The New Israel: A Commentary on the Book of Isaiah 56-66* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1985)
- Koole, Jan L. *Isaiah 40-48* (Kok Pharos, 1997)
- _____, *Isaiah 49-55* (Peeters, 1998)
- _____, *Isaiah 56-66* (Peeters, 2001)
- Oswalt, John N. *Isaiah 40-66* (NICOT; Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1998)
- Watts, John D. W. *Isaiah 34-66* (Rev. ed.; Word Biblical Commentary; Nelson, 2005)
- Whybray, R. N. *Isaiah 40-66* (New Century Bible; London: Oliphants, 1975)
- _____, *The Second Isaiah* (Old Testament Guides; Sheffield: JSOT Press, 1983)
- Westermann, Claus. *Isaiah 40-66* (OTL; Philadelphia: Westminster, 1969)