Course Number(s): OT632(X) or TH621(X)
Course Title: Christology of the Old Testament
Professor: Dr. Thom South (phone: 501-328-5776; email: tsouth@bmats.edu or tsouth@cbc.edu)
Date: Fall Semester, 2011

Course Description:
This course is a special study in Old Testament Theology focusing on what the Old Testament presents about the Messiah (Christ). An examination of the prophecies and promises about the Messiah will be followed by a study of Old Testament types and Christophanies.

Required Textbook:
ISBN: 0-310-20030-X

Course Objectives:
Upon the completion of this course the student should:
1. Be able to trace the teaching about the Messiah through the Old Testament from the Pentateuch to the later prophets
2. Be able to describe the prophetic portrait of the Messiah presented in the Old Testament
3. Be able to defend the fulfillment of Old Testament prophecies in the life of Jesus
4. Be able to describe and discuss the validity of Christophanies in the Old Testament
5. Be able to explain what “types” are in Old Testament studies and describes the types which point to Christ.
6. Understand the distinctions between various approaches to the study of Old Testament Christology
7. Be able to present an exegetical study of Old Testament passages related to the Messiah.

Course Requirements:
1. Reading -
   Required Text - The required text will be read thoroughly by the student. Weekly reading assignments are given in the class schedule. See the class schedule for the specific chapter and/or pages in the textbook and other sources to be read before each weekly class period. Note that the required textbook will be used extensively during the first part of the course. During the discussions of types and Christophanies some reading assignments will be made from supplemental texts and other sources. These sources will be placed on reserve in the library to allow all students access.

Supplemental Books and sources: In addition to the required texts the student will benefit from reading and consulting the following sources:


*Reading Reports* for assigned reading should be turned at the beginning of each weekly class session. Each report should include the reading assignments for the class sessions that day as presented in the class schedule. Reports may be turned in on standard reading report slips (obtainable from the seminary office or professor) or printed with appropriate information (i.e., name of book and author, pages read related to that day’s assignment). The material should be read before the class and then reviewed the day of class so that the student will be familiar with the specific material for each session. Students are responsible for the material assigned for each session and are subject to a quiz at anytime. Additional reading assignments from additional resources and for specific subjects will be made later.

2. Final Exam

Only one exam will be given in this class. The final exam will be a comprehensive test over all the materials presented in the class. Specific details about the exam will be presented in the class as time for the exam approaches.

3. Exegetical Paper

Each student is required to prepare an exegetical paper using one of the Old Testament messianic passages as listed in Kaiser’s book. Instructions for the exegetical papers will be provided the first week of class. The exegetical paper is due October 27, 2011. Oral presentations of the exegetical papers are not required, however, each student should be prepared to participate intently in the discussion related to the passages of his/her exegetical work. Students who have taken Hebrew will be expected to use the original language in the exegetical paper. Students who have not had Hebrew will not be penalized for not using Hebrew exegesis. However, sufficient tools are readily available to students for even English only students to include references to the original languages in the exegesis of the texts. Each paper should be 10 to 15 pages in length. Longer papers will not be graded on the first 15 pages. Shorter papers will have points deducted for not meeting the minimum length requirement.

Students should come to class the second week of class prepared to select the biblical text for the exegetical paper. Each passage will be assigned to only one student and will be assigned on a “first come, first served” basis.

4. Research Paper

A Second research project is required of each student. The topic for the second paper is one of two subjects: *Christophany in the Old Testament* or *Old Testament Types*. The approach of this paper is at the discretion of the student and should result from research of the topic. The legitimacy of both Christophanies and Types is questioned by many students of the Old Testament. Your presentation does not have to agree with the instructor’s views of these topics. Your discussion should include a review of the validity of the topic to Old Testament studies and an evaluation of the biblical texts used for types or Christophanies. This paper should be no shorter than 6 or longer than 10 pages and should conform to the 5th, 6th, or 7th edition of Kate L. Turabian’s *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Themes, and Dissertations* (Chicago: Univ. of Chicago Press, 1973 or 1987). Quality of research and presentation of the topic is more important than the form of the paper. The
criteria for grading the paper is as follows: organization (outline, arrangement of topics) 10%; bibliography (number and variety of sources, format) 15%; format (appearance, grammar, form) 10%; content (presentation of topic 15%, evidence of research 20%, accomplish purpose of paper 20%) 55%; Miscellaneous (promptness to deadline, general observations 10%. Research papers will be due December 1, 2011.

A minimum of 6 resources should be referenced for each paper and included in the bibliographical listing. Academic journals are excellent and expected resources for this paper. Resources for the research may come from the internet, but only 3 internet sources may be used in the paper. For each internet source used, there must be at least three other sources consulted (books and/or scholarly journal articles). [NOTE: Wickipedia and similar sites are not reliable research sources.] At least three scholarly journal articles on the topic should be referenced. Note that Academic/scholarly journals which have been published online are not considered online resources when the original journal is published in hard copy. Internet resources are those which are prepared for online sites and written to an internet audience. All sources referenced for research should be included in the “Selected Bibliography.”

Grading:
Grades will be determined by the following:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exegetical Paper</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research paper</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Weekly Grade</td>
<td>15%</td>
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The weekly grade includes attendance, reading assignments, other assignments, quizzes, classroom deportment, etc.

Class Schedule
The class is scheduled to meet from 2:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. on Thursday afternoons. One break, at least, will be taken during each class period. The tentative weekly schedule may be adjusted to allow for discussion of pertinent topics related to the course subject but not specifically listed in the syllabus.

TENTATIVE CLASS SCHEDULE

*September 1* - Review Syllabus; Writing an exegetical paper; Writing a research paper, Introduction to OT Christology. Kaiser- pages 13-35

*September 8* - PART 1 - MESSIANIC PROMISES IN THE OLD TESTAMENT
  Messiah in the Pentateuch  Kaiser pages 36-64

*September 15* - Messiah in historical and wisdom literature of the Old Testament
  Kaiser - Pages 65-91

*September 20* - Messiah in the Psalms (Part 1)
  Kaiser pages 92-110

*September 29* - Messiah in the Psalms (Part 2)
  Kaiser - pages 111-135

*October 6* - Messiah in Prophecy - 8^{th} - 9^{th} Century Prophets
  Kaiser - pages 136-154; Hengstenberg - chapter 3: The Nature of Prophecy

*October 13* - Messianic prophecies in Isaiah
  Kaiser - pages 155-185
October 20 - Messiah in 6th & 7th Century Prophets  
Kaiser - pages 66-204

October 27 - Messiah in Post-exilic Prophets  
Kaiser - pages 205-230

November 3 - PART 2 - TYPES OF CHRIST IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

November 10 - Types of Christ in the Old Testament (Part 2)

November 17 - PART 3 - CHRISTOPHANIES IN THE OLD TESTAMENT  
Christophany as a study of Old Testament Christology

November 24 -THANKSGIVING BREAK

December 1 - Christophanies in the Old Testament - examination of the texts

December 8 - Final Exam

Miscellaneous Information
Due date - All written assignments are due on the date assigned. Any work turned in late will be lowered a minimum of one letter grade. No work will be accepted more than one week late. All written reports and student assignments must be turned in by December 1, 2011. No written work will be accepted after that date.

E-mail - My e-mail address is <tsouth@cbc.edu, or tsouth@bmats.edu> in case you have questions or need to contact me before or after the class sessions.

Cell phones and pagers should be turned off during class. Texting during class is distracting to the student, classmates and the instructor. Students texting during class will have the points for the daily grade deducted from their grade (1.33% of final grade).

Note: The materials in this syllabus are subject to change at the instructor’s discretion. Any changes will be announced to the students in class.

BEFORE THE FIRST CLASS:
1. Obtain the textbook and read the assignment for week 1.
2. Send an email to the instructor at tsouth@bmats.edu to introduce yourself and your current status. Even students whom I have had previously should submit this assignment to let me know where you are in your studies, your family situation, your employment, etc. Include anything which will help me know you and better relate to you in the classroom.
3. Pray for your instructor and classmates as we prepare for a Christological journey through the Old Testament.