



Course Syllabus

Course name and code: PIO310 Old Testament prophecy

Course name and code (Estonian): PIO310 Vana Testamendi prohvetlus

Course name and code (Russian): PIO310 Ветхозаветные пророчества

Course value: 3EAP

Goals of the course:

1. To give an understanding of the wholeness of the OT prophecy
2. To introduce the personalities of the prophets of the Old Testament
3. To give an understanding of the difference between false prophecy and prophecy from the Lord

Objectives of the course: Upon completion of the course the student will

- be able to explain how the prophets' messages deal with God's justice and love and to analyse their theological depth.
- be able to analyse how historical and cultural conditions have influenced the prophets' proclamations and relate them to the political and social issues of their time.
- be able to identify and discuss how different prophets address the same issues from different perspectives, creating a holistic picture of God's plan.
- be able to analyse how the messages of the prophets express ideas of redemption and hope and discuss their relevance in today's context.
- be able to identify and analyse the literary techniques used by the prophets, including metaphors and symbols, and discuss their impact on the message.

Content of the course:

1. The Prophetic Period
2. The Nature of Prophecy
3. Isaiah

4. Jeremiah

5. Ezekiel

6 Daniel

7. Conclusions

Evaluation method: Graded (A-F)

Class and semester: Elective, spring semester 2025

Course taught by: **Dr. John N. Oswalt** email address:

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_Assignments graded by: Tetyana Radomska email address:

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Course Schedule:

Date: 07.05.2025. Hours: 4. Lecture.

Date: 08.05.2025. Hours: 4. Lecture.

Date: 09.05.2025. Hours: 4. Lecture.

Assessment:

Requirements for receiving credit: Class participation at least 75% and completion of assignments according to the course syllabus.

Means of liquidating academic debts: Students may request an extension in writing to the lecturer before the due date, explaining the circumstances. After the deadline or extended due date, it is not possible to submit assignments.

All written assignments may be sent through the StrikePlagiarism plagiarism detection system. If plagiarism is detected, the student may be required to rewrite the assignment. Plagiarism to a larger extent, may require the retaking of the subject. The student has the right to dispute the teacher's decision by appealing to the Rector's Council.

In accordance with Instructional and Organizational Rule 5.5, if a student fails an online exam that has been accessed for more than two days, the student must pay the Seminary a retake fee (description: retake fee and course title) and send the receipt of payment to the teacher with a request to reopen the online exam. The teacher will not reopen the exam until he/she receives confirmation of payment. More information can be found on the Seminary homepage.

Required reading:

The Books of Minor Prophets

Gerhard von Rad "The Message of the Prophets" in Moodle

Willem A. VanGemeren "Interpreting the Prophetic Word" in Moodle

Assignment 1:

Description: Report of the completion of the reading of books of Minor Prophets.

Percentage of final grade: 10%. *Deadline:* **19.05.2025**

Evaluation criteria:

if the reading is done on time - A,

90% read - B,

80% read - C,

70% read - D,

60% read - E

less than 50% read - F

Assignment 2:

Description: Report of the completion of the reading of book of Gerhard von Rad "The Message of the Prophets" in Moodle

Percentage of final grade: 10%. *Deadline:* **19.05.2025**

Evaluation criteria:

reading completed on time - A;

read 1-3 days late - 90% - B;

read 4-7 days late - 80% - C;

read 8-14 days late - 70% - D;

read more than 15 days late - 60% - E

not read - F.

Assignment 3:

Description: Report of the completion of the reading of book of Willem A. VanGemeren "Interpreting the Prophetic Word" in Moodle

Percentage of final grade: 10%. *Deadline:* **26.05.2025**

Evaluation criteria:

reading completed on time - A;
read 1-3 days late - 90% - B;
read 4-7 days late - 80% - C;
read 8-14 days late - 70% - D;
read more than 15 days late - 60% - E
not read - F.

Assignment 4:

Description: a ten-page reflection paper on The Relevance of the Prophetic Message to Estonian Life Today.

Percentage of final grade: 35%. *Deadline:* **08.06.2025**

Evaluation criteria:

To receive an A, (Excellent) the submitted assignment must meet the following criteria:

1. Well-written, with complete sentences, proper spelling and punctuation;
2. Proper exegesis of the Biblical text;
3. Clear development of thought, with well supported assertions and arguments;
4. Conclusions that are clearly supported by discussion and evidence.

To receive a B, (Very Good) Less clear achievement of the above criteria

To receive a C, (Good) Satisfying achievement of the above criteria

To receive a D, (Satisfactory) Superficial achievement of the above criteria with some inadequacies.

To receive an E, (Sufficient) Minimal achievement of the above criteria with several inadequacies

Receiving an F, (Insufficient) means that the student has not met the minimum requirements for passing the assignment.

Assignment 5:

Description: **Exam.**

Percentage of final grade: 35%.

Deadline: will be posted in the Moodle system during the course.

Evaluation criteria: accuracy and correctness of answers to the questions (A-F).