



GOT 535 Exposition of the Minor Prophets

Spring 2021

(Partial Syllabus)

Instructor Information

Dr. Andrew Goodwill

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Office Hours: TBA

Office Location: Student Life Office

The best way to connect with Dr. Goodwill is through email. He will check email daily and do his best to respond within 24 hours. If you do not receive a respond within 24 hours, please assume that the email was accidently overlooked and send a follow-up email.

If your question needs a response sooner than 24 hours, please call/text.

Course Description: A study of the structure and content of the Minor Prophets, with an emphasis on the prophetic themes of each book. The course will also introduce the student to the prophetic genre and its interpretive requirements. (3 credit hours)

Prerequisite: none

Textbook Information:

Required Texts/Materials:

Gary Yates and Richard Alan Fuhr, Jr. *The Message of the Twelve*. Nashville, TN: B&H Academic, 2016.

Students joining the class virtually must have a computer, internet connection, video camera, and a headset with a microphone.

MBU Institutional Outcomes supported by this course.

1. **Biblical Interpretation:** Students will interpret Scripture using the historical-grammatical method with careful attention to the immediate and board biblical context.
2. **Doctrinal Defense:** Students will defend the historical biblical faith.
3. **Historical Understanding:** Students will analyze the influence of philosophical ideas on societal trends throughout history.
4. **Written Communication:** Students will write correctly and cohesively with compelling argumentation.

Course Goals: By the end of this class, I desire the student to...

1. Understand where the Minor Prophets fit in the scope of Biblical revelation (pre-exilic, exilic, post-exilic).
2. Articulate the basic content and themes of each of the Minor Prophets.



3. Form Biblical and logical positions on key issues of interpretation.
4. Develop relevant applications of the Minor Prophets to believers living under the dispensation of the church.
5. Demonstrate how to use preaching topically and sequentially through a Minor Prophet book.

Course Objectives: By the end of this class the student will be able to...

1. Explain the basic timeline and background of the Minor Prophets.
2. Articulate Biblical positions on key issues of interpretation.
3. Develop expository sermons from the Minor Prophets with appropriate application to the current dispensation.

Course Requirements

The follow is a tentative outline of required elements.

Quizzes

The quizzes will cover important

Reading

1. Read *The Message of the Twelve* according to the schedule.
2. Read through Minor Prophets at least three times.
Note: failure to complete the three Bible readings will result in a letter grade deduction from the final grade.
3. Read 300 pages of non-textbook material related to the Minor Prophets (likely completed in research for sermons and projects).

Sermon Summaries

Students will listen to three, instructor-selected sermons from the Minor Prophets and write a 300-word evaluation of the sermons.

Sermon Projects

There will be two different sermons written for this course.

1. 3-4 page topical sermon on one of the following topics in the Minor Prophets: worship or Messiah.
2. 3-4 page sermon on one of the texts selected by the instructor.

Projects

This 10–12 page research paper will cover an issue of interpretation in the Minor Prophets such as identify of Gomer, historicity of Jonah, and interpretation of locust in Joel. The instructor will provide a list of topics from which to choose.



Appendix A

Academic Dishonesty. Academic dishonesty is a serious offense, and it can exist in many forms. For example, the following would be considered a sample of academically dishonest activities that might occur in this class:

- ◆ Sharing advance information regarding the content or answers for a test or quiz.
- ◆ Receiving advance information regarding the content or answers for a test or quiz.
- ◆ Using a previous student's old tests or quizzes as a study guide for this semester's tests and quizzes.
- ◆ Handing in the same paper or substituting a similar paper in more than one class without permission.
- ◆ Plagiarism. Representing the words or unique thoughts of another as your own.
- ◆ Submitting as your own, materials that have been enhanced by another.

Academic penalties for academic dishonesty range from an F grade on the particular evaluation to an F grade in the course. Also, a range of serious disciplinary penalties may apply.

Academic Success Center. Once source for academic help in any course is the Academic Success Center. If you require specific targeted academic help for any reason contact the Academic Success Center located in the Cedarholm Library. If you would like more information regarding targeted academic help, please contact the Academic Success Center director at academicsuccess@mbu.edu.

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, the law requires that all students with disabilities be given a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Academic Success Program Director, in the Library, (ph. 920/206-2340) or email academicsuccess@mbu.edu.

Library Services. The Maranatha Cedarholm Library is committed to providing services to distance education students that are equivalent to residential students. Read about the library services that are available to you through Cedarholm Library. You can search the library resources by clicking on the Library link found under Quick Links on the sidebar in MyMaranatha.

Netiquette: Netiquette refers to the standards of behavior for online communication.

- All communication in discussion forums and through email should be respectful and professional.
- If someone asks you a question in a discussion forum, take the time to respond.
- If a coursemate or the instructor sends you an email, acknowledge that you received it by responding with a quick email.
- Your posts should be related to the course content. If you would like to chit-chat with someone, use email or the Virtual Café
- found on the Collaboration page.
- Don't type your posts in ALL CAPS. This makes the reader think you are yelling.



Technology Problems:

Technology problems are not an acceptable excuse for missing an assignment. Technology will break down and fail at some point. Its failure is a normal process life, not an emergency. As you plan ahead and manage your time, assume that technology will fail, especially if you wait until the last minute to do an assignment!

When you have a problem with MyMaranatha or any other MBU website, please contact support@mbu.edu. If you are having difficulties navigating this course or have questions about how to use technology required for this course, please send me a quick email (andrew.goodwill@mbu.edu).

STRONGER TOGETHER

Our shared commitment to maintaining a safe and healthy campus makes it possible for MBU to continue face-to-face instruction this semester. Your acceptance of personal responsibility for your health (through consistent patterns of personal behavior and hygiene) and your learning (through diligent effort) are essential to advance your education, even amid the inconveniences and sacrifices we are called on to make. Please note the following course policies:

- If you are showing any symptoms of illness, do not leave your room or come to class. Immediately contact the student health center for instructions and assistance.
- If you are not able to attend class in person due to symptoms of illness, please feel free to attend the class virtually. You must notify me before class starts so I can start the Zoom meeting and activate the camera. A link is provided in our MyMaranatha course. If you contact me before class, we will start the Zoom session and a recording will be made available even if you cannot attend live.
- You can only be counted as present for live attendance (in-class attendance or live virtual attendance; i.e. your live face showing on the screen). Unless you are enrolled as a virtual student, virtual attendance will only count in the case of illness, symptoms, or quarantine. This will be verified by the Student Health Center so you must contact them for your virtual attendance to count. Delayed viewing of the recording does not count as present but will help you keep on track academically.
- Sit only in seats designated by faculty to maintain physical distancing.
- Until further notice, masks must be worn whenever you are inside a building, which includes class time. Exemptions on file with the Student Life Office will be honored.
- Use a sanitary wipe to clean your desk or table surface prior to each class. Classrooms are cleaned regularly throughout the day, but you should still wipe off the surfaces you will touch prior to taking your seat.
- If you are diagnosed as COVID-positive and required to isolate while you recover, don't worry! You will be well-supported. Please let me know and we will make every effort to help you keep up academically until you are released to rejoin the class.