Instructor: Richard (Dick) Belcher, Jr. (rbelcher@rts.edu)

**Course Description**

The key texts concerning prophet, priest, and king in the OT are translated and discussed in class. There is an emphasis on parsing, syntax, OT meaning, relationship to Christ, and modern meaning.

**Course Objectives**

1) To strengthen a student's ability to translate the Hebrew of the OT.
2) To reinforce Hebrew grammar and syntax through a close reading of the text.
3) To examine the original meaning of the text.
4) To explore the relationship of the text to Christ and its meaning for today.
5) To begin to develop a biblical theology of prophet, priest, and king.

**Grades**

1) There are no quizzes, papers, or exams
2) The grade is solely based on student preparation and class participation
3) To prepare for class:
   a) read the Hebrew text aloud
   b) make your own translation
   c) parse all the verbs
   d) be ready to translate the Hebrew text in class
   e) read two commentaries on the passage making special note of grammatical comments
   f) come prepared with at least four grammatical observations, at least one of which must come from a grammar (Williams, Arnold/Choi, Waltke/O'Connor, Gesenius, etc)
4) The following commentaries can be used (pick two for each book):
   a) Deuteronomy: Craigie, Currid, McConville, Merrill, Keil and Delitzsch, Calvin
   b) Micah: Allen, Smith, Barker/Bailey, Waltke, Mays, Anderson/Freeman, Keil and Delitzsch, Calvin
   c) Jeremiah: Thompson, WBC (multi-authored), Mackay, Lundbom, Keil and Delitzsch, Calvin
   d) Exodus: Currid, Durham, Stuart, Childs, Propp, Keil and Delitzsch, Calvin
   e) Numbers: Currid, Ashley, Budd, Cole, Levine, Keil and Delitzsch, Calvin
   f) Leviticus: Currid, Wenham, Hartley, Rooker, Milgrom, Keil and Delitzsch, Calvin
   g) Judges: WBC, Block, Boling, Keil and Delitzsch
   h) 1 Samuel: Tsumura, Klein, Bergen, McCarter, Keil and Delitzsch
**Schedule**

Feb 1  Introduction to the Course

*Texts on prophets*

Feb 8  Deuteronomy 18:15-22
       Deuteronomy 13:1-5

Feb 15 Micah 6:1-5, 13-15
       Micah 3:5-12

Feb 22 Jeremiah 7:13-16
       Jeremiah 27:1-11, 15-17

*Texts on priests*

March 1 Exodus 28:1-5, 40-43
       Exodus 29:15-21

March 8 Exodus 32:25-29
       Numbers 3:5-10, 6:24-26

March 15 Reading Week

March 22 Leviticus 21:1-9, 21:16-21

March 29 No Class

April 5 Judges 17:7-13
       Judges 18:15-20, 30-31

*Texts on kings*

April 12 Judges 8:22-35

April 19 Deuteronomy 17:14-20
       1 Samuel 8:4-11
Hebrew Readings

April 26  1 Samuel 8:12-22, 10:17-19, 25

May 3  Jeremiah 36:20-32
## Course Objectives Related to MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes

Course: OT 602 Hebrew Readings  
Professor: Richard P. Belcher, Jr.  
Campus: Charlotte  
Date: October 2010

*As the MDiv is the core degree at RTS, the MDiv rubric will be used in this syllabus.

### Articulation (oral & written)

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- Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both oral and written, of essential biblical, theological, historical, and cultural/global information, including details, concepts, and frameworks.

### Scripture

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- Significant knowledge of the original meaning of Scripture. Also, the concepts for and skill to research further into the original meaning of Scripture and to apply Scripture to a variety of modern circumstances. (Includes appropriate use of original languages and hermeneutics; and integrates theological, historical, and cultural/global perspectives.)

### Reformed Theology

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- Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.

### Sanctification

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- Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student’s sanctification.

### Desire for Worldview

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- Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God.

### Winsomely Reformed

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- Embraces a winsomely Reformed ethos. (Includes an appropriate ecumenical spirit with other Christians, especially Evangelicals; a concern to present the Gospel in a God-honoring manner to non-Christians; and a truth-in-love attitude in disagreements.)

### Preach

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- Ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.

### Worship

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- Knowledgeable of historic and modern Christian-worship forms; and ability to construct and skill to lead a worship service.

### Shepherd

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- Ability to shepherd the local congregation: aiding in spiritual maturity; promoting use of gifts and callings; and encouraging a concern for non-Christians, both in America and worldwide.

### Church/World

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- Ability to interact within a denominational context, within the broader worldwide church, and with significant public issues.