

**OT 5130 ELIJAH/ELISHA TRADITION**

Fall 2007

Tuesday: 12:40- 3:30 PM

CDSP: 116

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**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** An intensive study of the Hebrew text of the Elijah/Elisha stories (I Kgs. 18 – II Kgs. 10). Weekly Hebrew translation of assigned texts will be followed by an overview of the tradition of interpretation of individual stories in this cycle with particular attention to the historical, literary, and theological elements of each tale.

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES:**

- to apprehend the distinctive features, literary and historical complexities, and difficulties of the Elijah/Elisha traditions.
- to survey the variety across scholarship in the interpretations of the Elijah/Elisha narratives
- to read and grasp the characteristic features of the Hebrew text of the Elijah/Elisha traditions
- to survey a least 6 commentaries and to be able to characterize their contribution to the study of the biblical tradition in general and the Elijah/Elisha narratives in particular.
- to develop (or advance in) the habit of scholarly activity – (abstracts, reviews, expository essays, critical reviews, etc.)

**LEARNING ASSESSMENT**

- weekly Hebrew translation recitations
- weekly writing assignments
- weekly discussion forums in class
- your assessment of your own development of scholarly habits of reading, writing, and critical reflection on this material.

**COURSE READINGS:**

*Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia*

Course Reader – Available at *Copy Central* first week of class

Brueggemann, Walter. *Testimony to Otherwise: The Witness of Elijah and Elisha*. St. Louis: Chalice Press, 2001.

Coelho, Paulo. *The Fifth Mountain*. New York: HarperCollins, 1998.

Overholt, Thomas. *Cultural Anthropology and the Old Testament*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1996

Commentaries as noted on the H.O.