

Saint Louis Christian College

BOT302 – Isaiah

Michael Pabarcus - Instructor
Three Semester Hours Credit

Spring 2012

Prerequisite: BBI211, BOT101

Tuesday/Thursday
12:00 noon - 1:15 p.m.

Mission Statement

Saint Louis Christian College pursues excellence in the Word and develops servant leaders for urban, suburban, rural, and global ministry.

Course Description

Students examine Isaiah's prophecies in their historical context giving special attention to their theological and Messianic content. 3 Credits.

Course Rationale

This course contributes in part to student achievement of the following Biblical Education Division objectives

1. Given instruction in the Bible and in biblical theology, the student will exhibit a knowledge of the messages of the various Old and New Testament books and the saving message of the Bible as a whole.
2. Shown how to use tools and sound methods for interpreting the Bible, the student will demonstrate the ability to properly interpret, apply and communicate Scripture.

Course Goal

As a result of his or her study, the student will be able to preach and/or teach effectively from the book of Isaiah.

Course Objectives

As a result of this study, the student shall be able to . . .

1. Understand the place of the prophets in Hebrew culture.
2. Comprehend the principles by which the prophets are to be interpreted.
3. Know the historical setting in which the prophet, Isaiah, spoke.
4. Summarize background information to the book of Isaiah.
5. Explain the development of messianic prophecy in Isaiah.
6. Summarize the message of the book of Isaiah.
7. Acknowledge the relevance of the prophets to contemporary society.

Course Requirements

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION - Attendance in class is required. Attendance will be graded according to the following formula and factored into the student's final average (five percent).

Absences	Grade
0-2	No points added or deducted
3	One point deducted from final average
4	Two points deducted from final average
5	Three points deducted from final average
6	Four points deducted from final average
7	Five points deducted from final average

Students with absences over 7 will be in violation of the College's "25% rule" and accordingly will be given a grade of "F" for the course.

Tardies will be noted. Three tardies will be equivalent to an absence.

READING - The textbooks for this course are:

Bible: New International Version.

Beyer, Bryan E. *Encountering the Book of Isaiah*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2007. (ISBN-10: 0801026458).

The student will be required to read the texts as set forth in the attached course schedule. To give evidence that this has been completed the student will be required to submit the attached reading report forms on the assigned date and answer the attached study questions. The study questions will be used to construct the major course examinations.

EXAMINATIONS - Major examinations will be given according to the following schedule: Feb. 14, Mar. 15, May 1-3 (Comprehensive).

DEVOTIONAL PRESENTATION - The student will be required to present a devotion during the semester. This devotion will be 3-5 minutes in duration. It will cover a brief (5-10 verses) section of the book which is being discussed during that class period. This devotion should briefly explain the passage and apply it to modern life. Appropriate passages for these devotions are listed in the course schedule below. Devotions will be graded on the basis of [1] accuracy of exegesis (50%); [2] appropriateness of application (25%); [3] fluency of presentation (25%).

TERM PAPER - The student will be required to submit an eight page paper in which he/she reflects theologically upon a major theme or exegetical issue in the book of Isaiah. The student will choose the specific topic for this project in consultation with the instructor. Appropriate topics include the following:

- Branch Theology in the Book of Isaiah
- The Geography of Judah and Highway Theology in the Book of Isaiah
- Water Technologies and Thematic Development in the Book of Isaiah
- The Usage of the Word *Tohu* in the Book of Isaiah
- The Foreigner in the Book of Isaiah
- The Year of Jubilee and the Book of Isaiah

- Religious Rituals in the Book of Isaiah
- Immanuel in the Book of Isaiah
- The Servant of the Lord in the Book of Isaiah

This paper must be done according to the rules for style set forth in the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers. It must also demonstrate that research has been done in at least ten sources. Internet sources may comprise only half of the student's references. Papers will be graded in light of the following factors: [1] adequacy and accuracy of exegesis (30%) [2] depth of theological reflection (30%) [3] depth of research (10%) [4] structure 15%) [5] style (5%) [6] grammar and spelling (5%) [7] format (5%).
Due: April 12.

Course Assessment

The student's final grade will be determined according to the following formula.

Reading: Textbook	25%
Devotion	5%
Examinations	40%
Term Paper	30%

Course Schedule

Jan. 10 Course Introduction	Jan. 12 Introduction to the Prophets
Jan. 17 The Life and Times of Isaiah Beyer c1	Jan. 19 Introduction to Isaiah
Jan. 24 Isaiah 1:2-31 Beyer c2	Jan. 26 Isaiah 2:1-5:30 Beyer c3
Jan. 31 Isaiah 6:1-13 Beyer c4	Feb. 2 Boatman Leadership Intensive No Class
Feb. 7 Isaiah 7:1-8:22 Beyer c5	Feb. 9 Isaiah 9:1-12:6 Beyer c6
Feb. 14 First Major Examination	Feb. 16 Isaiah 13:1-23:18 Beyer c7
Feb. 21 Isaiah 24:1-27:13 Beyer c8	Feb. 23 Isaiah 28:1-33:24 Beyer c9
Feb. 28 Isaiah 34:1-35:10 Beyer c10	Mar. 1 Isaiah 36:1-39:8 Beyer c11
Mar. 6 Introduction to Isaiah 40-66 Beyer c12	Mar. 8 Isaiah 40:1-31 Beyer c13
Mar. 13 Isaiah 41:1-45:25 Beyer c14	Mar. 15 Second Major Examination
Mar. 20 Lab Week No Class	Mar. 22 Lab Week No Class

Mar. 27 Isaiah 46:1-47:15 Beyer c15	Mar. 29 Isaiah 48:1-52:12 Beyer c16
Apr. 3 Isaiah 52:13-53:12 Beyer c17	Apr. 5 Good Friday
Apr. 10 Isaiah 54:1-59:21 Beyer c18	Apr. 12 Isaiah 60:1-66:24 Beyer c19 Term Paper Due
Apr. 17 Beyer c20-21	Apr. 19 Beyer c22
Apr. 24 Beyer c20-21	Apr. 26 Beyer c22
May 1-3 Final Examination (TBD)	

Course Student Learning Resources (Select Bibliography)

INTERPRETATION

Kaiser, Walter. *Toward an Old Testament Theology*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1978.

Osborne, Grant. *The Hermeneutical Spiral*. Downers Grove: IVP, 1991.

Sandy, D. Brent, and Ronald Giese. *Cracking Old Testament Codes*. Nashville: Broadman, 1995.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Bright, John. *History of Israel*. Philadelphia; Westminster Press, 1981.

Bruce, F.F. *Israel and the Nations*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1963.

Heinisch, Paul. *History of the Old Testament*. Translated by William G. Heidt. St. Paul: The North Central Publishing Company, 1952.

Pfeiffer, Charles. *Old Testament History*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1973.

Wood, Leon. *A Survey of Israel's History*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1970.

Yamauchi, Edwin. *Foes From the Northern Frontier*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1982.

INTRODUCTIONS

Freeman, Hobart. *An Introduction to the Old Testament Prophets*. Chicago: Moody Press, 1977.

Harrison, R.K. *Introduction to the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1969.

Hill, Andrew and John Walton. *A Survey of the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1991

LaSor, William Sanford, et al. *Old Testament Survey*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1982.

Wood, Leon. *The Prophets of Israel*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House 1979.

COMMENTARIES

Alexander, Joseph Addison. *Commentary on the Prophecies of Isaiah*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1953.

Delitzsch, Franz. "Isaiah." In vol. 7: Isaiah. Two volumes in one. Translated by James Martin. *Commentary on the Old Testament*. 10 vols. N.p.: Reprinted ed., Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1973.

Grogan, Geoffrey W. "Isaiah." In *The Expositor's Bible Commentary*, 6 (1986): 2-354. Edited by Frank E. Gaebelien. 12 vols. Grand Rapids: Regency Reference Library, 1972-.

Martin, Alfred, and Martin, John. *Isaiah: The Glory of the Messiah*. Chicago: Moody Press, 1983.

Motyer, J. Alec. *The Prophecy of Isaiah: An Introduction and Commentary*. Downers Grove: IVP, 1993.

Oswalt, John. *The Book of Isaiah: Chapters 1--39*. NICOT. Grand Rapids: 1986.

Oswalt, John. *The Book of Isaiah: Chapters 40--66*. NICOT. Grand Rapids: 1998.

Oswalt, John N. *The NIV Application Commentary: Isaiah*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2003.

Payne, J. Barton. *Encyclopedia of Biblical Prophecy*. New York: Harper and Row Publishers, 1973.

Young, Edward J. *The Book of Isaiah*. NICOT. 3 vols. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1965-72

Young, Edward Joseph. *Studies in Isaiah*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1954.

PERIODICALS

Kaiser, Walter C, Jr. "The Promise of Isaiah 7:14 and the Single-meaning Hermeneutic." *Evangelical Journal* 6 (Fall 1988): 55-70.

Moody, Dale. "Isaiah 7:14 in the Revised Standard Version." *Review and Expositor: A Baptist Theological Journal* 50 (January 1953): 61-68.

Vasholz, Robert Ivan, "Isaiah and Ahaz: A Brief History of Crisis in Isaiah 7 and 8" *Presbyterion: a Journal for the Eldership - Covenant Seminary Review* 13 (Fall 1987): 79-84.

Walton, John H. "Isa 7:14: What's In A Name?" *Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society* 30 (September 1987): 289-306.

Willis, John T. "the Meaning of Isaiah 7:14 and Its Application in Matthew 1:23." *Restoration Quarterly* 21 (1978): 1-18.

Wilson, Robert Dick, "The Meaning of 'Alma (A.V. Virgin)" in Isaiah VII.14," *Princeton Theological Review* 24 (1926): 31.

Young, Edward J. "The Immanuel Prophecy: Isaiah 7:14-16." *The Westminster Theological Journal* 15 (May 1953): 97-124.

_____. "The Immanuel Prophecy: Isaiah 7:14-16." *The Westminster Theological Journal* 15 (November 1953): 16, 23-50.

INTERNET SITES FOR OLD TESTAMENT RESEARCH

- www.bible.org
- www.biblegateway.com
- www.biblenotes.net
- www.biblestudy.org
- www.blueletterbible.org

Course Information

LEGIBILITY - All homework assignments must be legible (typed, neatly written, or printed). Your grade will be dropped if your paper is sloppy and not readable.

ACADEMIC HONESTY - Any cheating or plagiarism will result in a grade of "F" or ZERO being given for the assignment on which it is found.

SPECIAL ACADEMIC CIRCUMSTANCES - Students with a diagnosed learning disability, please see the instructor privately to discuss assessment measures that would enhance your ability to learn.

ADJUSTMENT OF SYLLABUS - The above schedule, procedures, and assignments are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances.

INSTRUCTOR AVAILABILITY – The instructor is available during his stated office hours listed or may be contacted at the telephone numbers or e-mail addresses listed below.

Michael Pabarcus

Campus Contacts: 1-314-837-6777 (x1501) or mpabarcus@slcconline.edu

Home Contacts: 1-314-521-9305 or mikeslcc@hotmail.com

Mobile Contact: 1-314-541-9343

Office Hours	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
7:30-8:45					
8:55-10:10	Office	Office	Church History	Office	Church History
10:15-12:00	Faculty Meetings	CHAPEL	Washington Park Men's Bible Study	Office	CHAPEL
12:00-1:15	Off Campus	Isaiah	Office	Isaiah	Office
1:30-2:45	Office	Office	Office	Office	Office
2:45-4:30					

Isaiah
Term Paper Scoring Guide

	F (60%)	D (75%)	C (82%)	B (90%)	A (97%)
Adequacy and Accuracy of Exegesis (30%)	The exegesis provides an explanation of the chosen texts which contained significant errors.	The exegesis provides a superficial or somewhat erroneous explanation of the chosen texts.	The exegesis provides an accurate but somewhat superficial explanation of the chosen texts.	The exegesis provides an accurate explanation of the chosen texts.	The exegesis provides a comprehensive explanation of the chosen texts.
Depth of Theological Reflection (30%)	The devotion applied the text in a manner which contained significant errors or which left its meaning unclear to the listener.	The devotion applied the text in a superficial and possibly erroneous manner.	The devotion applied the text in an accurate but somewhat superficial manner.	The devotion applied the text accurately and adequately.	The devotion applied the text in a profound and insightful manner.
Depth of Research (10%)	The paper makes use of three or fewer resources.	The paper makes use of five or fewer resources.	The paper makes adequate use of five to ten resources.	The paper makes adequate use of ten or more resources.	The paper makes studied and critical use of ten or more resources.
Structure (15%)	The paper does not follow a logical sequence with smooth transitions.	The paper barely follows a logical sequence with smooth transitions.	The paper partly follows a logical sequence with smooth transitions.	The paper mostly follows a logical sequence with smooth transitions.	The paper clearly follows a logical sequence with smooth transitions.
Style (5%)	The paper does not contain complete and unified paragraphs, varied and consistent sentences, and precise and appropriate diction.	The paper barely contains complete and unified paragraphs, varied and consistent sentences, and precise and appropriate diction.	The paper partly contains complete and unified paragraphs, varied and consistent sentences, and precise and appropriate diction.	The paper mostly contains complete and unified paragraphs, varied and consistent sentences, and precise and appropriate diction.	The paper clearly contains complete and unified paragraphs, varied and consistent sentences, and precise and appropriate diction.
Grammar and Spelling (5%)	The paper does not demonstrate proper usage of grammar, punctuation, mechanics, and spelling.	The paper barely demonstrates proper usage of grammar, punctuation, mechanics, and spelling.	The paper partly demonstrates proper usage of grammar, punctuation, mechanics, and spelling.	The paper mostly demonstrates proper usage of grammar, punctuation, mechanics, and spelling.	The paper clearly demonstrates proper usage of grammar, punctuation, mechanics, and spelling.
Format (5%)	The paper does not demonstrate proper usage of MLA format, and documentation.	The paper barely demonstrates proper usage of MLA format, and documentation.	The paper partly demonstrates proper usage of MLA format, and documentation.	The paper mostly demonstrates proper usage of MLA format, and documentation.	The paper clearly demonstrates proper usage of MLA format, and documentation.

Isaiah
Devotion Scoring Guide

	F (60%)	D (75%)	C (82%)	B (90%)	A (97%)
Accuracy of Exegesis (50%)	The exegesis provides an explanation of the chosen text which contained significant errors.	The exegesis provides a superficial or somewhat erroneous explanation of the chosen text.	The exegesis provides an accurate but somewhat superficial explanation of the chosen text.	The exegesis provides an accurate explanation of the chosen text.	The exegesis provides a thoughtful explanation of the chosen text.
Appropriateness of Application (25%)	The devotion applied the text in a manner which contained significant errors or which left its meaning unclear to the listener.	The devotion applied the text in a superficial and possibly erroneous manner.	The devotion applied the text in an accurate but somewhat superficial manner.	The devotion applied the text accurately and adequately.	The devotion applied the text in a profound and insightful manner.
Fluency of Presentation (25%)	The devotion was presented in a boring manner.	The devotion was presented in a haphazard manner.	The devotion was presented in a mundane manner.	The devotion was presented in a pleasing manner.	The devotion was presented in a compelling manner.

Isaiah

Reading Report Form

Student Name: _____

Date: _____

LORD, who may dwell in your sanctuary? Who may live on your holy hill? He whose walk is blameless and who does what is righteous, *who speaks the truth from his heart.* Psalm 15:1-2

Answer honestly the following questions regarding today's reading assignment.

To what extent did you carefully read today's assigned texts?

- I carefully read the entire assignment (97%)
- I carefully read a portion of the assignment. What percentage? _____
- I skimmed the assignment. (65%)
- I did not read the assignment. (0%)

What was the most interesting thing that you learned from today's reading assignment?

What was the one question which remains unanswered from today's reading assignment?

Encountering the Book of Isaiah

Study Questions

Chapter One

- What are the names of Isaiah's two sons and what do those names mean?
- How does rabbinic tradition suggest Isaiah died?
- Edwin Thiele suggest three factors which may resolve the difficulties in understanding the chronology of the Hebrew kings. What are they?
- Who were the three righteous kings of Judah during the time of Isaiah's ministry?
- Who were the two unrighteous kings of Judah during the time of Isaiah's ministry?
- How many times does the expression "The Holy One of Israel" occur in the Old Testament? How many times does it occur in Isaiah?
- The term, *mashiach*, is applied to what individuals in the Old Testament?

Chapter Two

- How does Isaiah one function within the overall structure of the book of Isaiah?
- How does Isaiah refer to the cities of Judah in Isaiah one?
- Define: redeem.

Chapter Three

- How is the term, *rosh*, used in Isaiah 2?
- What is Jerusalem's elevation above sea level?
- Define: shalom.
- Where are the words of Isaiah 2:1-4 repeated almost verbatim?
- Where are the words of Isaiah 2:1-4 engraved in stone?
- What three aspects are included in the Old Testament usage of the term, the day of the Lord?
- In what passages in Isaiah and the prophets, is the term, branch, used messianically?

Chapter Four

- Does Isaiah 6 constitute his call to ministry? Summarize your conclusion.
- What five prophetic books contain visions God gave his prophets?
- Why was King Uzziah stricken with leprosy?
- What are the four aspects of Isaiah's vision in Isaiah 6?
- Define: seraph.
- What is the significance of the three fold repetition of the word, holy, in Isaiah 6?
- Define: theophany.
- What New Testament passage quotes Isaiah 6:9-10 verbatim?

Chapter Five

- Define: Immanuel
- What Assyrian king ruled during the crisis of Isaiah 7?
- To what promise to David does Isaiah allude in Isaiah 7?
- Define: almah.
- In what three ways is prophecy “filled full” according to New Testament usage of the Old Testament?
- What are the three interpretations of how Isaiah 7:14 is to be understood?

Chapter Six

- What is the “way of the sea”?
- What was the social result of the intricate system of roads in northern Israel?
- What is the significance of the name, Wonderful Counselor, in Isaiah 9?
- What is the significance of the name, Mighty God, in Isaiah 9?
- What is the significance of the name, Eternal Father, in Isaiah 9?
- What is the significance of the name, Prince of Peace, in Isaiah 9?
- What is the significance of the expression, root of Jesse in Isaiah 11?
- What were the three sources of water in Isaiah’s time?

Chapter Seven

- Why would Isaiah take eleven consecutive chapters to turn to God’s work in other nations?
- Why would Isaiah start his prophetic oracles with a message against Babylon rather than Assyria?
- What three aspects are included in the Old Testament usage of the term, the day of the Lord?
- To whom do the references to the morning star in Isaiah 14:12-14 refer?
- What is the Mesha stela?
- List the nations Isaiah address in his oracles against foreign nations?
- What is the significance of the terms, my people and my handiwork as they are used in Isaiah 19?

Chapter Eight

- Why is Isaiah 24-27 referred to as the little apocalypse?
- Define the concept of guilt as it is used in the Old Testament.
- How is the term, Leviathan, used in the Old Testament?
- Contrast the vineyard images in Isaiah 5 and 27.
- What are the four primary themes in Isaiah 24-27?

Chapter Nine

- What is the meaning of the term, Ariel, in Isaiah 29?
- What was the spiritual reason behind the condemnation of political alliances in Isaiah 30?

Chapter 10

- Define: vengeance.
- To what does the book of the Lord refer in Isaiah 34:16-17?
- To what does the way of holiness refer in 35:8?

Chapter 11

- When did Sennacherib rule as king of Assyria?
- When did Merodach-Baladan rule as king of Babylon?
- What are the suggested dates for Hezekiah's reign?
- What are the three interpretations of the data regarding the dates Hezekiah's reign?
- What is the significance of the expression "at the aqueduct of the upper pool" in Isaiah?
- How does Sennacherib boast about his treatment of Hezekiah?

Chapter 12

- How do advocates of multiple authorship in Isaiah divide up the book?
- How does 2 Kings 18-20 support the single authorship of Isaiah?
- Upon what issue does the question of single or multiple authorship of Isaiah hinge?
- What are the three major themes of Isaiah 40-66?

Chapter 13

- How does Isaiah 40 function within the overall structure of Isaiah 40-66?
- Briefly describe the topography of the Judean wilderness.
- Isaiah 40:3-5 is predictive of whose ministry?
- Define the concept of hope as it is used in the Old Testament.

Chapter 14

- How many times does the expression "servant" occur in Isaiah? How many times does it occur in 1-39? How many times does it occur in 40-66?
- Which servant references speak primarily of Jesus?
- How does Cyrus come from the north to serve God's purposes?
- Define: justice.
- What is the Septuagint?
- In what way is the reference to Cyrus in 45:1-7 unique?

Chapter 15

- Who were the primary Babylonian gods?
- What was the Akitu festival?
- Who were the Chaldeans?
- When did the Persians conquer Babylon?

Chapter 16

- What is the theological significance of expressions, house of Jacob and line of Judah?
- Why can the servant song in Isaiah 49:1-7 be understood to refer to Jesus?
- To whom do the references to Rahab in Isaiah allude?
- To what does the image of the cup refer in Isaiah?

Chapter 17

- To what may the expression, root, in 53:2 allude?
- What interesting twist is added to the description of the servant's suffering in 53:4-6?
- Commentators have identified the servant in Isaiah 53 in four different ways. What are they?
- How does the targum of Isaiah refer to the servant in Isaiah 53?
- Who was the first Jewish rabbi to adopt a non-messianic interpretation of Isaiah 53?

Chapter 18

- Define: *hesed*.
- In what New Testament passages do we find allusions to Isaiah 55?
- In what way is Isaiah's announcement to foreign nations in 56:1-8 surprising?
- What three aspects of righteousness does Isaiah take up in 58:1-14?
- What is the interesting omission in 59:16-17?

Chapter 19

- What might the reference to sons in 60:9 include?
- How is 61:1-3 used in the New Testament?
- What are the new names for God's people in 62:4-5? What do they mean?
- Where was the Sharon plain?
- In whom does the Lord delight in 66:1-2?
- What new aspect to his global vision does Isaiah add in 66:18-19?

Chapter 20

- What occurred in the Valley of Gibeon?
- To what does the battle of Midian refer?
- What is the distinction between literary dependence and literary interdependence?

Chapter 21

- How often are allusions to Isaiah found in the New Testament?
- Into what three categories does the New Testament usage of Isaiah fall?

Chapter 22

What are the characteristics of the creation mandate?

What are the characteristics of the great commission mandate?

Define: Centripetal Witness.

Define: Centrifugal Witness.