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<th>CODE:</th>
<th>THO 3160</th>
<th>TITLE:</th>
<th>Pentateuch and Historical Books</th>
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<td>CREDITS:</td>
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<td>TERM:</td>
<td>Fall 2012</td>
<td>PROFESSOR:</td>
<td>Yvan Mathieu</td>
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| DESCRIPTION | After addressing a few introductory questions (What is the Bible? What is the difference between Old and New Testament? What is exegesis? Diachronic and synchronic approaches), we will read a few chosen texts from the Pentateuch (the first five books of the Bible): Prehistory (Gen 1-11), Abraham (Gen 12:1-25:11), the Exodus event (Ex 1:1-15:21), the Sinai Covenant (Ex 19-24). We shall conclude with a brief survey of the deuteronomistic history (Joshua, Judges, 1-2 Samuel, 1-2 Kings). We will address the major questions raised by exegetes regarding the composition of the Pentateuch. |

| OBJECTIVES | - Introduce students to the Bible, to its different parts and to the need for a critical reading.  
- Introduce students to the different exegetical methods so that they will be able to apply them to a given text.  
- Understand certain difficult texts of the Pentateuch that have an incidence upon our choices in life as believers today.  
- Discover that the Old Testament is essential to a correct understanding of the New Testament. It is a not an optional reading for Christians. |

| WORKLOAD | - Three short papers (4 pages each). Each paper is worth 20% of the final mark.  
- Due dates: beginning of the fifth class: October 4  
beginning of the eighth class: November 1st.  
beginning of the twelfth class: November 29  
- Final exam (oral or written) |

| EVALUATION | - Papers: 60 % (3 x 20 %)  
- Final exam: 40 % |

| REQUIRED TEXTS | An annotated edition of the Bible |

Bibliography

The Pentateuch in general


**The Book of Genesis**


BREMNER Jan N., Greek Religion and Culture, the Bible and the Ancient Near East (JSRC 8), Leiden – Boston, Brill, 2008.

BRENNER Athalya - LEE Archie Chi Chung - YEE Gale A. (eds), Genesis (Texts @ Contexts), Minneapolis, Fortress Press, 2010.


GUNKEL Herman, Genesis (translated by M. BIDDLE ; Mercer Library of Biblical Studies), Macon, Mercer University Press, 1997.


HOBGOOD-OSTER Laura, “‘For Out of that Well the Flocks were Watered’: Stories of Wells in Genesis,” in HABEL Norman C. – WURST Shirley (ed.s), The Earth Story in Genesis (Earth Bible, 2), Sheffield, Sheffield Academic Press, 2000, p. 187-199.


