Syllabus

The Book of Isaiah in Modern Biblical Studies, 10 credits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course code</th>
<th>BV404</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Area</td>
<td>Biblical studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Level</td>
<td>Advanced level</td>
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Valid from Autumn 2019
Created 2018-03-01
Last changed 2021-01-22

Admission requirements
- Courses in Theology and Religious Studies consisting of a minimum of 120 credits, of which 15 credits must be in Biblical Hebrew.
- Proficiency in English.

Learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding
At the end of the course, the students will be expected to:
- demonstrate in-depth knowledge of the book of Isaiah, with regards to its formation, theology, and reception history;
- show in-depth understanding of the contours of research on the book of Isaiah during the last decades;
- understand different research methodologies and assess how they affect the study of the Old Testament in general and the book of Isaiah in particular.

Competence and skills
At the end of the course, the students will be expected to:
- demonstrate increased ability to interpret selected Hebrew texts from Isaiah in a methodologically astute manner and in close dialogue with up-to-date scholarly research;
- present their results in an independent manner;
- Show increased ability to analyse and translate Hebrew, with focus on grammar and vocabulary.

Judgement and approach
At the end of the course, the students will be expected to:
- understand and evaluate different interpretations based on historical, linguistical, literary, and hermeneutical criteria;
- understand and evaluate the ways in which the book of Isaiah has been employed in different faith traditions,
- discuss in a critical manner the ways in which we today can (or should not) use the book of Isaiah to inform on contemporary issues.

Content
The course strives to deepen the students’ understanding of a wide range of historical, text-historical, narrative, and ideological methodologies that contemporary scholars use when studying the Bible. The book of Isaiah is ideal for this purpose, given its sustained significance in Jewish and Christian traditions.

Course work
Throughout the course, the students will analyse selected texts in the book of Isaiah from exegetical and hermeneutical perspectives, either in the original language or in translation. This study will be carried out in close dialogue with a wide range of scholarly secondary literature. Both aspects of the course aim to familiarise the students with different research methods and ideological perspectives that are involved in the interpretation of biblical texts.

**Examination**
Weekly text seminars of selected texts. (4 credits)
Individual exegetical work of a text of choice from the book of Isaiah, carried out in a methodologically astute manner and in sustained dialogue with primary and secondary sources. (4 credits)
Method Essay (2 credits)

**Grade Scale**
The course will use the following grades: Pass with Distinction, Pass, and Fail.

**Course evaluation**
A course evaluation will be done at the end of or after the course. The result of this evaluation will be accessible for the students. Since this is the first time the course is held, no changes have been made in the course outline.

**Literature (around 700 of choice)**

**Commentaries (around 300 pages of choice)**
Reference Literature


