I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

A study of the wisdom books of Proverbs and Job in their Near Eastern context and the context of biblical theology. Attention is given to their dominant theological emphases and their practical implications for Christian living and service in our times.

II. COURSE OBJECTIVES

Studying both Proverbs and Job in one course provides a unique way to see their complementary theological and practical implications for wise living. At the end of this course, the student will be able to:

A. Describe the general historical-cultural background of the books.

B. Demonstrate an understanding of the poetic language as well as the dominant messages of the books through a detailed study of significant passages.

C. Do proper exegesis through daily practices on the assigned passages of the books.

D. Identify the major themes of the books and their relation to biblical theology, including God's relation to the nations.

E. Apply the messages of the books to our personal lives, to our times and to cross-cultural settings.

III. TEXTBOOKS

A. Required:

*NIV* and *NASB* for comparison and class discussion.

(Hebrew students may substitute either version with the Hebrew Bible.)

Andersen, F. I., *Job* (TOTC, 1976)


B. **On Reserve:** [Some items may not be available in the CIU library due to earlier fire.]

Murphy, Roland E., *Proverbs* (WBC, 1999).

C. **Selected Supplementary Bibliography:**

For future studies, search at least ATLA and Old Testament Abstract (or its relevant sub-sections), etc. in our school computer resources.

Cook, Johann, "Were the LXX Versions of Proverbs and Job Translated by the Same Person?" *Hebrew Studies* 51 (2010): 129-156.


IV. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A. Overview:

1. Required readings in the Course Schedule.
2. Two notebooks (daily assignments).
3. One term paper.
4. Mid-Term and Final Exams.
5. Class participation.

**Important Requirement:** All works must be typed, and a backup copy must be saved. For those who can only handwrite your notebook assignments, you are responsible to photocopy a backup copy before submitting. Failure to produce the backup copy of your work in case of loss in the process of submission (which hopefully will never happen) may be treated as no submission.

**Time Distribution:**
Though our grading is based mainly on the quality of the student’s works and not the quantity of time spent, the following helps you to plan your time. You are expected to spend at least 90 hours of concentrated work outside of classes for the course (about 6 hours per week). Of these hours, 75 will be devoted to daily assignments and exam preparations and 15 for the term paper.

**Grade Distribution:** (total 100 points)

- Notebook I --------------------------- 20 pts.
- Notebook II -------------------------- 24 pts.
- Term paper -------------------------- 12 pts.
- Midterm exam (short) -------------- 10 pts.
- Final exam------------------------- 20 pts.
- Class participation----------------- 14 pts.

** Late submission of notebooks or papers will result in a lower score. Lateness in completing assignments to prepare for classes will also affect your class participation scores (see Details below). Overdue works must indicate the date of submission.

B. Details:

1. Complete assigned readings before class.

2. Your Notebooks will contain all your required written assignments (notes for reading or exegetical studies). Exegetical studies must follow the "Exegetical Method" format (consult its attached Sample). The first notebook is due at mid-term exam and the second at final exam. “Do not include class notes in the Notebooks! Do not use any cover except the Check List.

   For each exegetical study, you **must consult 3 works** (including the required commentaries). This consultation means to treat them as references works and not to read through all their pages. **Indicate the names of all the authors consulted at the end of each assignment. Your Notebooks must also reflect an attempt to use at least once each of the commentaries on reserve during this semester.**
Before submitting your notebook, attach the Assignments Checklist as cover (serving also as Table of Contents) and number the pages accordingly.

3. Your Term Paper (7 to 8 pages) will choose one of the three choices below (option a, b, or c). It is due at Final Exam. Submit only a photocopy, and keep the original. Do not use any folder cover. It must be typed and double-spaced.

(a) **Full Exegesis Paper:**
Do a full Exegetical Method on a selected passage from either Proverbs or Job (approximately 5 to 15 verses, not assigned in the Course Schedule). You must include your selected Biblical verses at the beginning of your paper before your full exegesis section (see the Sample). At the end of the full exegesis write a half-page brief teaching or preaching outline (see the brief sample on the last page of "Exegetical Method" handout). This outline may follow any format that you are accustomed to, but it must include an introduction and a conclusion.

(b) **Teaching or Preaching Outlines:**
Two teaching or preaching outlines on two selected passages of the books (may include passages covered in class) developed solely for the purpose for this course and taught (or preached) during this semester. You must include the full Biblical text of your selected passage at the beginning of each outline. At the end of each outline, indicate the time and location of your teaching or preaching. Briefly describe your audience and give your evaluation of that teaching or preaching experience.

(c) **Research Paper:**
Choose a topic, such as Wisdom for Family Living in Proverbs, Comparing Proverbs and James, the Pentateuchal Background of Proverbs, Job in Recent Research, Job and the Mystery of Suffering. Your research paper can take the form of an annotated bibliographical review or a thematic essay:

(i) **Annotated Review:** Select a group of recent journal articles that relate to a topic for your reading. Provide bibliographical information, summarize the content of each article and briefly give your comments. At the end give a one-page concluding observations.

(ii) **Thematic Essay:** Research on a topic, synthesize the results, and present the thoughts and arguments along the issues related to that topic. You must document your ideas with scholarly resources.

4. The Mid-Term and Final exams will cover reading assignments, lectures and class discussions.

5. **Class Participation:** Your absences, partial absences, lateness in completing assignments, and lateness in submission of works will affect the total points you receive for class participation.
IMPORTANT NOTES:

Academic Success Center

Students with physical, emotional, ADHD, or learning disabilities who need academic accommodations should make requests through the Academic Success Center. These requests will be kept confidential and will be used only to provide academic accommodations. Because many accommodations require early planning, requests should be made as early as possible. You may contact the Academic Success Center by phone at 1-803-807-5611, or by email at academicsuccess@ciu.edu. If you already receive services through ASC please contact that office so they can help make your academic experience in this course as successful as possible.

SSM Stylesheet

The official guide for all written work in connection with this course is the SSM Stylesheet, which is available from the Faculty Administrative Assistant’s office (Schuster 1xx). It is based on the Chicago Manual of Style as summarized in the latest edition of Kate L. Turabian, A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations. It includes guidelines related to grammar and style, organization of papers, abbreviations and numbers, spelling, punctuation, capitalization, quotations, using Greek and Hebrew words, using and citing sources, footnotes, bibliography, and using the internet. The instructor reserves the right to return written work that displays poor spelling, consistent grammatical errors, incorrect style, and/or poor general appearance. The basic parameters are set out in the Stylesheet. If your work is returned for any of these reasons, you may resubmit it within two weeks of its return. If you do not revise and resubmit your work, you will receive a zero for the assignment.

To find an electronic copy of the Stylesheet, you may follow this path:
CIUOnline > Student Life > Seminary Information > Resources > Stylesheet

Online resources related to Turabian include:
- http://www.bibme.org
- https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/717/01/

Plagiarism

CIU SSM expects you to be honorable in your studies and responsible for your own academic work. Dishonesty in assignments, examinations, written papers, or other work is contrary to scriptural principles of Christian living and an affront to fellow students and your instructors. Plagiarism occurs when you present another person’s ideas or words as your own, or when you intentionally or unintentionally fail to acknowledge or cite the source of the ideas you use.

Acknowledging and citing sources involves placing quotation marks around all the material you have taken (or paraphrased) from books, articles, internet sites, other students’ papers, or other work you have not personally produced. It also involves listing full information about that source in a footnote or a parenthetical reference. See the SSM Stylesheet for examples of how to cite sources correctly.

Specific examples of plagiarism include but are not limited to the following:
1. Borrowing the words, sentences, ideas, conclusions, examples and/or organization of an assignment from a source (e.g., a book, an article, another student’s paper, a tape/video, an internet site) without acknowledging the source.

2. Submitting work done by another student—in part or in whole—in place of original work.

3. Submitting assignments received from the Internet, from commercial firms or from any other person or group.

4. Knowingly aiding another student in plagiarizing an assignment as defined above.

You may not submit work that is part of a group consultation unless it is related to an assignment your syllabus specifically indicates is to be completed as part of a group. If you study for an exam with a review group, you may not reproduce any answers that others have written and submit it as your own work. You may not share with others answers to exam questions you have composed in advance. Any of these actions will be considered plagiarism.

Plagiarism will result in academic penalty, and may result in failure in the assignment, failure in the course, and further disciplinary action. When appropriate, your Student Life chaplain will be informed.

V. COURSE SCHEDULE

The assignments are due on the day they appear (to be done before class), though you will collect them in a notebook to be submitted at midterm and final exams. Use Assignments Checklist as Table of Contents when submitting your Notebook.

Aug. 22  Introductory Matters
         Purposes of Proverbs (1:2-7)

Aug. 29  (A) Wisdom and Temptations
         Read: Kidner, pp. 13-29, and "Exegetical Method" (class handout).
         Write: II.B.2, II.B.4 parts of EM (Exegetical Method) on Prov. 1:8-19
         (That is, you are to do the Lexical and the Structural sections of the "Exegetical Method" on these verses, consulting the sample on Ps 100).
         *Important: Read the numbers carefully; it is easy to do the wrong sections! Number your assignment (such as II.B.2, etc.) correspondingly. All assignments are due before class.
         Indicate the sources you consulted at the end of every assignment.  See instruction in the IV.B.2 section above.

         (B) Diligence and Wisdom
         Write: II.B.1, II.B.2, II.B.4 and II.B.5 parts of EM on Prov. 2:1-11.
         *Optional: You may consult M.V. Fox, Proverbs (2000), pp. 28-43 (on reserve), which has a fine section on wisdom terms.

Sept. 5  (A) The Path to Wisdom

         (B) Wisdom in Marriage
         Read: Kidner, pp. 49-52 (take brief notes)
Sept. 12  Prayer Day (Christian Life Week)  
(Thur.)

Sept. 19  (A) Wisdom in Creation  
Read: Kidner, pp. 36-42 (no taking notes)  
Read also Prov. 8:22-31 (and briefly chapters 7 and 9).  
Write: In one to two pages, discuss possible interpretations on the identity of  
"wisdom" in Prov. 8. You need to consult various commentaries.  
(B) The Two Ways of Life  
Write: Do II.B.4, II.B.5 and II.C.2 parts of EM on Prov. 10:6-14.

Sept. 26  (A) Words and Actions  
Write: Do II.A, II.B.1, II.B.2 and II.B.4 parts of EM on Prov. 25:11-22.  
(B) Wisdom and the Word of God  
Read: Chutter, pp. 23-28 (on reserve, take brief notes)  
Write: Do II.C.1 and III parts of EM on Prov. 30:1-9.

Oct. 3  (A) The Structure and Theology of Proverbs  
Read: Kidner, pp. 31-56.  
Alex Luc, "The Titles and Structure of Proverbs," in Zeitschrift für die  
altestamentliche Wissenschaft (on reserve, get a general idea).  
Write: In one page, briefly describe any theological emphases in Proverbs that you  
have observed thus far.  
(B) On the Book of Job  
Read: Job 1:1-2:13, and Andersen, pp. 15-19, 61-64.  
**Obtain your take-home Mid Term Exam in this class.

Oct. 10  Fall Break  
(Thur.)

Oct. 17  Mid-Term Exam due in class along with Notebook 1  
(Thur.)

(A) A Crucial Question for God  
Write: Do II.A, II.B.4 and III.A parts of EM on Job 1:6-18. In III.A, discuss the  
meaning of v. 9.  

(B) Job's Curse of His Birth  
Write: Do II.B.2, II.B.4, II.B.5, and II.C.1 parts of EM on Job 3:1-13  
(In B4, discuss also the progression of thought from v. 3 to v.12).

Oct. 24  (A) Eliphaz' Response  
Write: Do II.B, II.C.1 and III parts of EM on Job 4:12-21.  
(B) Bildad's Response  
Read: Andersen, pp. 19-23, 37-41 (take brief notes)  
Oct. 31  
(Thur.)  
(A) **Job "Darkens God's Counsel" (38:2, 42:3)**  

(B) **Zophar's Response**  
*Write:* Do II.B, II.C.1 and III parts of EM on Job 11:1-12.

Nov. 7  
(Thur.)  
(A) **Faith for Nothing Else?**  
*Write:* Do II.B.2, II.B.4, and C parts of EM on Job 13:13-27. In II.B.2, discuss in detail the textual problems and meaning of v. 15.

(B) **Where Can Wisdom Be Found?**  

Nov. 14  
(Thur.)  
(A) **Elihu’s Response**  
*Read:* Andersen, pp. 50-52 (take brief notes)  
*Write:* Do II.B.1, II.B.4, II.C.1 and III.B parts of EM on Job 34:1-20.

(B) **God’s First Response**  
*Write:* Do II.B.4, II.B.5, II.C.1 and III parts of EM on Job 38:1-15. In II.B.5, discuss the image described in v. 13.  
*Read:* Fox, M. V., "Job 38 and God’s Rhetoric" (on reserve: note esp. the last three pages of the article, take brief notes).

Nov. 21  
(Thur.)  
(A) **God's Second Response**  
*Write:* Do II.B.2, II.B.4, II.B.5, II.C.1 and III parts of EM on Job 40:1-14.

(B) **The Message of Job (I)**  
*Read:*  
(1) Job 39-42.  
*Write:* In two to three pages give a brief summary and reflections after reading the article on reserve.

Nov. 28  
(Thur.)  
**Thanksgiving Holiday**

Dec. 5  
(Thur.)  
(A) **The Message of Job (II)**  
*Write:* In three pages, provide some practical implications of Job's message for Christians and non-Christians today: Discuss at least what can a sufferer as well as a friend of the sufferer learn from the book.  
(You may use resources, but be sure to document all sources used.)

(B) **Remaining Issues; Review and Conclusions**  
No Assignments; finish your term paper.

Dec. 12  
(Thur.)  
**FINAL EXAM - 1:30--3:30 p.m. (partially covers Proverbs).**  
Submit also *Term Paper* and *Notebook 2* with Assignments Checklist #2.
Assignments List #1
(Notebook Cover)

Mark the following list to show whether you have completed all parts of each assignment before or after class (as explained in the Course Schedule). For each assignment, consult at least 3 works and briefly list them at the end of the assignment. Please use this Checklist as your notebook Cover and Table of Contents and number the pages in your notebook (do not use any plastic or hard cover). It will be sent back to you through campus mail.

Please do not include class notes.

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*Number each page in your Notebook and indicate the number in the above column.

*Absences from class and use of commentaries on reserve will be reported later on the Second Assignments List.
BIB 6543 Proverbs & Job (Fall 2013)  
Assignments List #2  
(Notebook Cover)  

Mark the following list to show whether you have completed all parts of each assignment before or after class (as explained in the Course Schedule). For each assignment, consult at least 3 works and briefly list them at the end of the assignment. Please use this Checklist as your notebook Cover and Table of Contents and number the pages in your notebook (do not use any plastic or hard cover). It will be sent back to you through campus mail.

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(Number each page in your Notebook and indicate the number in the above column.)

*You must check the following or will be presumed not meeting the requirements:

I have used at least once each of the commentaries on reserve during this semester for my exegetical assignments:

[ ] I used all. [ ] I used most ____. [ ] I used some ____.

I have also submitted the Term Paper [ ]

I was absent ______ times from this class during this semester.